

Complaint: Deceptive Lobbying Of Elected Officials To Conduct Trade & Commerce

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Date: Saturday, April 9, 2022, 11:28 AM EDT

Good Morning AG Formella:

I am writing to your office to file a complaint against Casella Waste Systems of Rutland, VT, and its agent, Mr. Thomas Cue, Director of Landfill Development. I have attached recently-obtained documentation to support my complaint. As you can read, Mr. Cue has engaged in an extensive misinformation campaign throughout the State of New Hampshire, on behalf of his employer, Casella Waste Systems. The purpose of this campaign of deception has been to gain political support from New Hampshire town and state elected officials, including but apparently not limited to, NH State Senator Charles Morse. Mr. Cue admits in his communications with the various town selectboards that the purpose of this campaign is to garner their support and assistance for his company's controversial landfill development in Dalton/Bethlehem, NH. This landfill development project is estimated to generate nearly one billion dollars in tipping fees alone.

TITLE XXXI TRADE AND COMMERCE

Chapter 358-A REGULATION OF BUSINESS PRACTICES FOR CONSUMER PROTECTION

According to **RSA 358-A:2 Acts Unlawful.** –

It shall be unlawful for any person to use any unfair method of competition or any unfair or deceptive act or practice in the conduct of any trade or commerce within this state.

The basis for my complaint is that the attached documentation confirms that Mr. Cue has engaged in a pattern of knowingly deceiving elected officials, and in conjunction with the legal department of Casella Waste Systems, as stated by Mr. Cue, according to the December 14, 2021 Town of Pelham meeting minutes. The "Six Facts" or "New Hampshire Solid Waste Capacity Talking Points" documentation, along with the numerous emails and statements by Mr. Cue, falsely portray a "crisis", in terms of NH landfill capacity. This is done so in order to create a false sense of emergency, relative to the waste disposal needs and costs of those local and state officials and the municipalities they represent. However, that depiction of a "crisis" or emergency is simply not a true reflection of reality. As recent as April 7, 2022, NHDES Director of Waste Management Bureau Michael Wimsatt confirmed that there is no capacity crisis in NH, as the state has adequate landfill capacity. See attached audio file.

Obviously, this proposed landfill development has been met with great opposition in the North Country. I have spent untold hours over the past three years, examining documents and educating myself on all matters involving solid waste policy and practice in New Hampshire. As a layman, I realized early on in my advocacy that there is plenty of existing landfill capacity in the state. However, there can be no excuse for a solid waste company, worth hundreds of millions of dollars and having untold resources and data at hand, to be able to justify this blatant distortion of the reality on the ground, relative to landfill capacity in the state. They know the reality on the ground, that's their business. Therefore, it is obvious that the developer and its agent have resorted to a massive campaign of deception, in order to advance its development plans in Dalton/Bethlehem, as a means to circumvent local and statewide opposition, as well to influence legislative measures to address regulatory deficiencies in state statute. Simply put, this is not right and it would appear to be a violation of RSA 358-A:2, relative to deceptive acts in the conduct of trade and commerce in New Hampshire.

I do hope your department will investigate this matter further, as I am certain I have barely scratched the surface relative to what is taking place within our great state.

Thank You!

Jon Swan
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Founder, [Save Forest Lake](#)

*"Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not."
-The Lorax*

Do not allow this proposed development to scar the beautiful landscape of the North Country for generations to come



[Gilmanton NH] Disposal Crisis in NH_5 top questions (Sent by Thomas Joseph Cue, thomas.cue@casella.com).pdf
199.9kB



Wilmot Jan 26 2022.pdf
476.3kB



TOWN OF HEBRON Minutes Page 2 Jan 20 2022.pdf



136.2kB



Town of Pelham Minutes Dec 14 2021 pages 6-7.pdf
114.6kB



Town of Rumney Meeting Minutes January 19 2022 Page 3.pdf
12.8kB



Groton HB177 letter sent by Cue and signed by board April 2021 page 2.pdf
221.8kB



Casellas NH Solid Waste Capacity Talking Points.pdf
88.7kB



Mike Wimsatt On Capacity April 7, 2022.mp3
3.5MB