



**Dalton Conservation Commission
756 Dalton Road
Dalton, NH 03574**

October 21, 2025

The Honorable Kelly Ayotte
Governor of New Hampshire
State House
107 North Main Street
Concord, NH 03301

The Honorable David Rochefort
New Hampshire Senate
State House
107 North Main Street
Concord, NH 03301

**Re: DCC Support for Town of Bethlehem 10/20/2025 Letter: Moratorium on Landfill
Permits and Protection of Local Control**

Dear Governor Ayotte and Senator Rochefort,

The Town of Dalton Conservation Commission would like to formally express our strong endorsement of the October 20, 2025 Town of Bethlehem letter, regarding a proposed moratorium on the issuance of new landfill permits in New Hampshire.

The Dalton Conservation Commission concurs with the Town of Bethlehem in acknowledging and recognizing the gravity and complexity of landfill siting and oversight. We agree that a pause is both prudent and necessary to ensure public health, environmental protection, and fiscal responsibility for future generations.

We agree with and support the Town of Bethlehem in urging action on the following key concerns during the moratorium period:

1. Creation of a Site Evaluation Committee:

We support the establishment of a multidisciplinary Site Evaluation Committee to

provide a more comprehensive, transparent, and accountable review process for landfill proposals. Such a body would help ensure that environmental, hydrological, geological, and community impacts are rigorously considered before any permit decisions are granted.

2. **Assessment of Future PFAS Remediation Costs:**

Municipalities across New Hampshire are already facing mounting concerns related to PFAS contamination. It is essential that the state determine how future remediation costs will be managed and funded before allowing additional landfill capacity. Without proactive planning, these burdens will inevitably fall upon local taxpayers.

3. **Limits on Out-of-State Waste:**

New Hampshire must examine and clearly establish limits on the volume of out-of-state waste being disposed of within our borders. Our state should not become a regional dumping ground at the expense of our natural resources and rural communities.

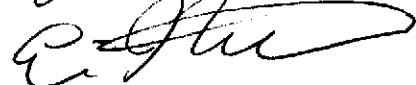
Furthermore, we concur with and support the Town of Bethlehem by **adamantly opposing any proposal that would remove or diminish local control** from municipal land use boards. Local boards—Planning, Zoning, Conservation, and Select Boards—are best positioned to understand the unique environmental, economic, and social impacts landfill facilities have on their communities. Preserving local authority is foundational to New Hampshire's long-standing tradition of self-governance and community stewardship.

We appreciate the Governor's leadership in bringing attention to these pressing issues and Senator Rochefort's continued advocacy for responsible environmental policy. The Dalton Conservation Commission stands in solidarity with the Town of Bethlehem and we, too, are willing to participate in future legislative and regulatory efforts to modernize and strengthen New Hampshire's waste management framework and strengthen environmental protections for the betterment of New Hampshire.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and your commitment to protecting New Hampshire's communities and natural resources.

Respectfully submitted,

Town of Dalton Conservation Commission



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