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**Date:** April 22, 2024 at 11:37:24 AM EDT

**To:** jbkrrn@icloud.com

**Subject: Objection to Use of Muddy Brook Land for a Dump Site of any Waste**

Dear Judy Kohn, Department of Public Health, and  
Board of Selectmen of the Town of Hardwick:

As an Interim Counselor of The Nipmuc Nation, A Confederacy, Alliance, Union for All Nipmuc People and for All Nipmuc Bands and Tribes, of our 10,000 year-old and continuing Homeland Territory encompassing 2500 square miles, 2/3rds of the Land of Massachusetts, being "the People and Land of the Fresh Waters," please be informed that we Nipmucs have always and do respect, honor and care for our Homeland Territory, its lands, fresh waters, animals, birds, trees, vegetation, flora, fresh air, fishing, and farming, etc.

The Town of Hardwick, its citizens, are living on the land of one of our Historic Bands/Tribe and vast Village of Quaboag Nipmucs who occupied the land for over 10,000 years and are still residing there through today. We Nipmucs have the divine, inherent right and responsibility to take care of our land and the land that you now also occupy, as well as its surrounding region.

It is our original and primary duty and directive, the same as of all humans, to respect, honor, and take care of the Mother Earth which our land is part of, and to know that Mother Earth will continue to take care of Us. This Paradise that we all live in now must not be further polluted with any chemicals, medicinal waste, toxants, bacteria, etc., which has and shall harm the Earth, ground, fresh waters, fresh air, and all living beings served thereby. The earth, fresh water and fresh air of the Town of Harwick directly affects the earth and water of surrounding areas and the region. It is for our own human health and those of all other living beings that we are compelled to stop making the Earth ill, as it is our own health and well-being that also has become and shall become further ill as a result. We are each and all part of Mother Earth, One Living Being with millions of living beings, including humans, part thereof.

It is the absolute position, recommendation and urgent advice by The Nipmuc People, Bands and Tribes, and of The Nipmuc Nation, that the Town of Hardwick reject and oppose the use of any of its land for any dumping of any waste, now and in the future. No Town or government nor the Town of Hardwick can ever have control over the true origins and contents of the waste arising out of the many contracts by the proposed waste company, and thus the Town of Hardwick will never truly know what waste is being dumped on them. There are alternate sites on Earth which can be used for dumping of waste, and these sites, while more expensive for transport, will keep all other living parts of the Earth safe and

healthy - the Arctic and the Antarctic. Propose and let the Federal Government step up to fund plans to dump and store all waste far away from humans and all living beings, as part of its Climate Change Policy (better spent funds than on the 65% of the Federal Budget for Defense). Ship it and bury it deep, frozen for millions of years - away from the harm to our children, grandchildren, and Beyond the Next Seven Generations.

Further, we can presume that there exists within the Muddy Brook land, Nipmuc art, artifacts, arrowheads, and even human remains. Significant Battles were fought in that area, particularly the Wampanoags-Nipmuc War of 1675-77 (aka King Philip's War), and there are many artifacts and human remains buried in the lands of that area, of Nipmucs, of Wampanoags, and of English Settlers, which includes Hardwick. The Federal Native American Graves Protection Act of 1990 (NAGPRA) which includes Native American art and artifacts and remains, is applicable here to this issue of using this land as a waste dump, as the State of Massachusetts, its Towns, Hardwick, as well as museums, institutions, colleges/universities, State and Municipal agencies, receive Federal Funds, and must comply. Any individual, and any Tribe, can make a complaint and seek to enforce the protections of NAGPRA, in which the land, grounds are to be protected, and no unauthorized digging, and no organic material nor toxic waste shall be placed on and in the land which affects its archaeological examination which is primarily conducted from the organic material upon and surrounding the land/site. Therefore, it is for the protection of the historical archaeological integrity of the entire Muddy Brook site, that there be no dumping and storage of hazardous waste and waste of any kind. By virtue of NAGPRA, the proposal of use of the Muddy Brook land as a waste dump, must be summarily rejected and denied.

Thank you very much for your conscientious and responsible act(s) to save and protect our Earth and our Lives.

I may be reached at (617) 755-4197, if you have any questions.

Earth Day, 2024!

Best Wishes.....

Kathryn Akuahah Wheaton  
Citizen of The Sovereign People and Government of The Hassanamisco Tribe of Nipmucs of  
The Hassanamesit Reservation, and  
Interim Tribal Councilor of The Nipmuc Nation