

Jon Swan  
Save Forest Lake  
25 Cashman Rd  
Dalton, NH 03598

*Via Email*

Lisa Riendeau, Executive Director  
Androscoggin Valley Regional Refuse Disposal District (AVRRDD)  
3 Twelfth Street  
P.O. Box 336  
Berlin, NH 03570

Re: Opinion and Request Concerning Potential Sale of Mt. Carberry Sanitary Landfill to Casella Waste Systems

June 27, 2025

Dear Ms. Riendeau:

I write to share my concerns and voice my very strong opposition to the very real possibility that Casella Waste Systems of Rutland, Vermont may attempt to purchase the Mt. Carberry Landfill from the Androscoggin Valley Regional Refuse Disposal District (AVRRDD).

This request may seem odd, coming from out of nowhere, yet if you've been following solid waste matters in the state over the past seven years, you should realize by now that Casella Waste Systems and their tenure in our great state as a landfill operator appears to be coming to an end. Thus, my letter to your board and other concerned entities.

With their NCES Landfill in Bethlehem to close by the end of 2026, if not sooner, and no GSL landfill at Forest Lake in Dalton and Bethlehem, why would Casella not try to acquire the Mt. Carberry Landfill? With no realistic path forward for NCES expansion in Bethlehem, due to overwhelming local opposition, past legal agreements, and the town zoning ordinance, Casella may very well find itself homeless in New Hampshire, in terms of owning a landfill with permitted capacity. As you are aware, Mt. Carberry has permitted capacity to 2041, with Phase IIIB expansion plans extending permitted life out to 2049. Also, Mt. Carberry is permitted as an "unlimited service area" landfill, which Casella wants and needs for disposal of its waste collected from south of the Notch, in Massachusetts, and in Connecticut.

I would also remind you and the AVRRDD Board of Directors that your client base is different than Casella's, thus, your customers would be impacted, with tipping fees most likely to increase, and Mt. Carberry's permitted capacity to be more quickly consumed, as a result. As I understand it from Casella's license application, the GSL landfill project at Forest Lake sought 600,000 cubic yards of annual permitted capacity, or what I believe is the equivalent of 2.5 times the size of their NCES Landfill's current permitted annual capacity.

I do not believe the citizens residing in the area would appreciate an extra 90-100 heavy-duty trash trucks and tractor-trailers visiting their roadways every day, Monday through Saturday. Simply put, I

don't believe they would want Casella as a community partner. There's a reason why Bethlehem has consistently opposed NCES expansion, and we have proven that we don't want them constructing and operating a new, unneeded landfill next to Forest Lake. Surely their judgment must be questioned on that 7-year failure of a project. Casella is a company with a long history of fomenting strife and division within a community, proven to be very litigious when they don't get their way. They also have a very poor track record as a landfill operator. This is obviously all my opinion, but the public record facts speak for themselves.

As a North Country citizen, I view the AVRDD Mt. Carberry facility and its permitted capacity as an invaluable asset, to be protected and preserved, for our benefit, not for the benefit of an out-of-state trash corporation, in need of a new landfill due to its failure to properly and safely maintain and operate its existing one in Bethlehem.

I am of the firm belief that there will most likely never be a need for another landfill in New Hampshire. As a society, we must reduce what we waste as consumers and together, I feel we can do that, outside of the influence and pressures of a corporate profiteer focused solely on its bottom line, which is based on waste generation.

Please, say NO to Casella and any offer they may make. The sale of the Mt. Carberry Landfill to Casella would not be in the best interests of your member communities, your customer base, the North Country, nor the great State of New Hampshire. We don't want to be New England's dumping ground, with Berlin as its epicentre. Please, do the right thing.

All of this is my opinion, as a concerned citizen of the North Country and New Hampshire, based on my experience and research. Feel free to contact me at [SaveForestLake@yahoo.com](mailto:SaveForestLake@yahoo.com) or (603) 991-2078 if I may be of any assistance.

Sincerely,



Jon Swan  
(603) 991-2078  
Founder, Save Forest Lake  
Please Help Us To Save Forest Lake!  
<http://www.SaveForestLake.com>

CC:  
AVRDD District Representatives  
City of Berlin  
Coos County Commissioners  
Robert Scott, Commissioner, NHDES  
NH Department of Justice, Office of the Attorney General  
Governor Kelly Ayotte  
NH House Environment and Agriculture Committee  
Other Interested/Affected Parties