

Good Morning,

Our names are Earl and Paula Hughes and we live in Hartland Maine 300 feet from the Hartland Landfill. We are supporting LD 401 and hope that you will too.

We built our home in 1974 and have lived here since. In 1977 the Town opened a Landfill Site to take care of the waste generated by the Hartland Wastewater Treatment Plant and the Tannery. From 1977 to 1988 we lived with unbearable odors, contamination of People's wells, and contamination of land below the Landfill caused by the run off from the Landfill.

In 1988 a Press was purchased to dewater the Sludge and Lime was added to the process. This took care of the odors for 28 years. From 1988 to 2016 we had no odors. However, the damage to our Town still remains.

In 2016, the DEP granted a new license for Special Waste at the Town's request, changing the waste stream and 18 homes and Families were sacrificed to accommodate that new request to take Sludge, CDD, Autofluff, Asbestos, and a Host of Unidentified Waste from other towns. Leather Scraps and Buffing Dust come from the Tannery.

In 1986, the DEP gave a Variance to the Town to allow the Landfill to be closer than 1000 feet to a home. Regulations state that a Landfill can't operate within 1000 feet of a residence. There are 18 homes in this neighborhood under 1000 feet and some are under 300 feet. It has been said that we have the only Landfill with houses this close to it in Maine. They are still operating on that Variance today,

Since December of 2016 we are once again having to endure Gross, Horrific odors, Day or Night. There were over 200 odor complaints placed to the Town and the DEP in 2018.

We are retired and we own our home. Due to the odors, proximity of less than 300 feet to the Landfill, and the toxicity of what is being dumped at the Landfill, it is highly unlikely that we will ever be able to sell our home.

By supporting LD 401 Bill you could turn things around for this neighborhood and the town of Hartland. It could ensure equal protection and meaningful involvement for the residents living in close proximity to the Landfill. Meaningful involvement will enable this community to have our voices heard in the Decision making process and prevent any future horrible situations like we are currently experiencing.

By Supporting LD 401, you can protect Maine Citizens and prevent this from happening in other communities.

In 2019, no one should have to live not being able to have their

windows open in the summer, or not being able to sit outside on a hot summer day, or not being able to look out of your sliding glass doors without seeing Landfill dumping's being pushed closer to the residences.

Please Support LD 401!! Thank you!!!

Earl & Paula Hughes

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