



Town of Brunswick, Maine

INCORPORATED 1739

TOWN COUNCIL

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February 21, 2025

Senator Denise Tepler
Representative Victoria Doudera
Members of the Environment and Natural Resources Committee

RE: LD400 – A-FFF Reporting and Inventory Requirement

Dear Senator Tepler, Representative Doudera, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing on behalf of the Brunswick Town Council to express Brunswick's support of LD 400 to require the State Fire Marshall's Office to compile a state-wide inventory of A-FFF (Aqueous Film-Forming Foam) storage locations and inventories.

The Problem: On August 19, 2024, the Brunswick Executive Airport and surrounding properties that were part of the former Brunswick Naval Air Station (including land outside of the BNAS boundaries) were subject to a toxic spill of 1450 gallons of A-FFF concentrate mixed with 50,000 gallons of water. This toxic mixture has contaminated fresh waterways including the Androscoggin River and coastal watersheds which flow into Brunswick's saltwater working waterfront. The long-term effects on these waterways and the communities in Brunswick and the Mid-coast Region that rely on them are still being investigated.

At Brunswick Executive Airport in recent years there have been 3 A-FFF spills: in Hangar 6 (2012); in Hangar 4 (2019); and, again in Hangar 4 (in 2024). Even with mitigation efforts currently underway, there is no guarantee that harmful spills or leaks will not occur again. Facilities like Maine's airports and fire departments that store AFFF are at risk of leaks and spills as long as these chemicals are in place. No safe removal or disposal options are currently in place for Brunswick Landing.

The Solution: Knowing where A-FFF is stored around the state and under what circumstances will provide the State Fire Marshall with data to efficiently and completely formulate appropriate removal and disposal plans and will reassure our citizens that the State Government is focusing on their health and that of the environment.

Sincerely,

Sande Updegraph
Chair, Brunswick Town Council