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Comments on the August 12, 2024, Pine Tree Landfill-Post Closure Monitoring Review

It looks like remediation is working - slowly in the southwest on some wells

I did have a question about Table 2 PTL water quality 2018-2023 on page 12

The high values are very high on a lot of the wells

The low values have gone down on around 10 of the wells compared with your 2021 report on water quality at PTL from 2016-2020. The high values have not.

The final column in 2023 table gives a five year trend

Out of 28 wells, seven show a downward trend,
19 show **no change** in the last five years after 13 years of remediation
two wells are **up** in the last five years after 13 years of remediation

I'm concerned about the high values, and the characterization that 19 show no change in the last five years. It looks to me like the low values have gone down on around 10 of the wells.

My main question is about PFAs levels in landfill leachate, there is a range between 1,800 nano grams per liter to 2,700 nano grams per liter in the five samples tested. That's quite high. Maine drinking water standards are 20 nano grams per liter

That's also the figure you gave in the presentation last year. Do you have any updated PFAS leachate test results since then?

In this year's report you give groundwater concentrations which are also quite high in some wells

532 nano grams per liter in one
488 nano grams per liter in another, etc.

With a note that DEP is in the process of seeing if more monitoring is needed.

wouldn't it make sense to start testing the offsite wells for PFAS?

And begin work on a remediation plan for PFAS at the landfill?

There's also a concern about the PFAS leachate going into the Bangor waste water treatment system, which I believe doesn't have a way to treat for PFAS at this point.

From there it goes into the Penobscot river

I would also like to find out if Casella used sludge amended soil from their Hawk Ridge facility for the topsoil used that's over the final cover of the landfill.

We know they used sludge amended soil for the cover of the Conventional landfill until the expansion was built over that

which may explain PFAS contamination that we're seeing

I just got this report yesterday, so I may have more follow-through questions at a later time.