

JULY 2004

2004.07.13: MRC ON TRUCK WEIGHTS

In a message from Louder to his Board, the following paragraph:

"First, two appeals of earlier rulings of the Presiding Officer to: a) deny SPO / Casella's request that the appellants appeals be dismissed; and (B) [sic] a denial of appellant Schroder's [sic] request to supplement the record with Pine Tree Landfill's Special Waste Activity Report for April of 2004. Its [sic] sure to make news. The report shows trucks incoming to Pine Tree, Hampden from PERC, with gross vehicle weights exceeding 100,000 lbs. On being made aware of this circumstance, Peter is aggressively investigating a proper role for PERC to play to in [sic] avoiding overweight trucks containing PERC residues. However, we need to careful [sic] not to improperly assume authority."

2004.07.15: BEP MEETING, HEARING REQUESTS FOR HEARINGS

Audio tapes of this meeting were obtained and a summary paraphrase transcript created.

2004.07.16-22: PHOENIX, "DON'T EXPECT PROTECTION"

A number of "citizen and environmental groups" are suggest that "... since Governor Baldacci took office and appointed Gallagher in early 2003, the DEP has become more business-friendly, less transparent in its decision-making, and much more beholden to political whim; and quite a bit of anecdotal evidence exists to give their concerns credence."

2004.07.27-29: MRC / PERC POLICY ON OVERWEIGHT TRUCKS

This is the approximate time, according to Louder statement at Orono workshop on MRC, that a meeting of the "policy committee" of PERC owners formally resolved to ensure that trucks leaving PERC were not overloaded. [NB ** verify date]

2004.07.28: CASELLA PRESENTS AT MRC

Reported in the BDN 2004.07.29 and Penobscot Times 2004.08.05, Sam Zaitlin [former owner of a Scarborough recycling company bought by KTI, a Casella affiliate, and longtime Maine political figure] presented waste reduction and recycling efforts that will be in place with the West Old Town Landfill. Among other initiatives, according to the BDN: "Heat generated from the landfill would be pumped into a greenhouse and likely used to grow hothouse tomatoes. A similar system is being used in New York, where the landfill has a contract with a local supermarket chain."

[NB At the BEP meeting 2004.07.15, serious concerns were raised about the reduction and recycling elements in the Proposal and operating agreements, since no measurable performance standards accompanied them. In rules distributed before the 2004.10.21 hearing of appeals, the hearing officers ruled that reduction and recycling efforts could not be presented as part of the proponents' arguments in favor of the permit.]