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Board of Selectmen
Patricia Consentino
Katherine Dawson
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Joseph Jesseman
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RECEIVED
APR - 3 2015

March 31, 2015

Wayne A. Wheeler, P.E.
Solid Waste Management Bureau
NH Department of Environmental Services
PO Box 95
Concord, NH 03302-0095

RE: Bestway/Casella Disposal Services
Modification to Type I-A Facility Permit
43 Industrial Drive, Belmont, NH

Dear Mr. Wheeler:

The Tilton Board of Selectmen was present at the NHDES public hearing held on March 29, 2015 in Belmont. We found the hearing to be informative but raised some very disturbing concerns; therefore the **Board has unanimously taken the position that NH DES deny the issuance of the facility permit.**

- Environmental damage caused by contaminates leaching into the aquifer far exceeds any potential benefit received from locating a solid waste facility at this site.
- Expansion of the facility puts Tilton residents and businesses at greater risk for the Tilton Northfield Water District to lose our source of potable municipal water. If that were to occur, the negative impact on our quality of life and the financial loss to our community, the Lakes Region and the State of New Hampshire would be devastating! The Exit 20 area is host to numerous commercial and retail businesses as Tilton, which serves as the "Gateway to the Lakes Region", draws millions of visitors to our State throughout the year. If our businesses were forced to close due to contaminated water, it would generate a significant revenue loss to the State (i.e. business profits taxes, business enterprise tax, rooms/meals tax and gas tax) as well as cause high unemployment for our citizens. How can the State irresponsibly afford to lose tax revenue, destroy our property tax base and jeopardize our livelihood? **Clean water and quality of life are the most valuable resources we have in our State**.
- We are also gravely concerned to learn of many instances the existing facility was in non compliance and did not adhere to best management practices for handling hazardous waste spills. This is unacceptable, especially since it sits on top of a protected drinking water source. NHDES must strictly enforce every applicable rule and regulation that

pertains to solid waste management of the existing facility promptly and effectively. There is no amount of emergency management funding that could be set aside if there were a catastrophic event.

- The Board of Selectmen strongly supports the reclassification of the aquifer to a GAA Level Delineated Wellhead Protection Area as soon as possible.

Once again, we are adamant that the risk of contamination to our public source of drinking water surely far outweighs any private benefit. Please give your serious consideration to our concerns and deny the Modification to the Type I-A to the Bestway Disposal Solid Waste Facility Permit.

Thank you,

Tilton Board of Selectmen

Patricia Consentino, Chair

Katherine D. Dawson, Vice Chair

Peter H. Fogg

Joseph M. Jesseman

Jonathan G. Scanlon

cc: Tilton Northfield Water District Commissioners
Tilton Conservation Commission
Northfield Board of Selectmen
Northfield Conservation Commission
Belmont Board of Selectmen
Belmont Planning Board
Sen. Jeanie Forrester, Senate District 2
Sen. Andrew Hosmer, Senate District 7
Rep. Dennis Fields, Belknap District 4
Rep. Brian S. Gallagher, Belknap District 4
Rep. Greg Hill, Merrimack District 3
Rep. Deborah Wheeler, Merrimack District 3
Rep. Jason Parent, Merrimack District 6
Executive Counselor Joseph Kenney District 1
Executive Counselor Colin Van Ostern District 2
Thomas Burack, Commissioner NHDES
Michael J. Wimsatt, NHDES Waste Management Division
Eugene J. Forbes, NHDES Water Division