



STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



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COMMISSIONER

March 30, 2015

Tim Wade, President  
Maine Association Site Evaluators  
[wadelotcare@gmail.com](mailto:wadelotcare@gmail.com)

Dear Mr. Wade:

Thank you very much for your recent correspondence to me on behalf of the Executive Board and membership of the Maine Association of Site Evaluators. I sincerely thank you for your recommendations regarding any transfer of the subsurface wastewater unit from the Department of Health and Human Services to the Department of Environmental Protection, and how such a transfer may hope to provide solutions to certain long-standing issues. Both DEP and DHHS have a singular goal with these proposed transfers and that is to continue to protect the public health as well as our environmental resources. I believe that the transfer will help us to achieve not just dialog regarding contradictory requirements that different programs may have established over the years, but more importantly, and as you appropriately indicate, such contradictions need to be addressed and may most effectively be handled by one agency in lieu of multiple agencies.

I agree with your statement we must be firm that there isn't any compromise of our public health when we are establishing the siting and designing of septic systems, and for those reasons I believe further dialog between DEP and MASE is paramount and I hope such a dialog may be established regardless of the timing of any transfers.

To that end, I am always available to meet with your Executive Board and membership of MASE, and would also offer members of our staff to further the dialog, identify issues and create benchmarks for establishing solutions to contradictions.

Best regards,

Patricia W. Aho  
Commissioner

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