



Memphremagog
Conservation inc.

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate distribution

Attention Publicity directors

Coventry landfill expansion green-lighted, but a victory for the lake with the interdiction on treating 'garbage juice' at the Newport waste treatment plant.

Magog, July 23rd, 2019 – Today, the Act 250 Commission granted certification to *New England Waste Service of Vermont Inc* (NEWSVT), thus allowing it to proceed with its planned expansion of the Coventry landfill site in the United States.

Memphremagog Conservation Inc. (MCI), in collaboration with the group *DUMP* (Don't undermine Memphremagog Purity), composed of Vermont citizens, has been denouncing this expansion project, which threatens the quality of Lake Memphremagog's water (a drinking water reservoir for 175,000 Eastern Townships residents), for months. Numerous regional players, such as the Memphremagog MRC, the cities of Magog and Sherbrooke and provincial and federal members of parliament have also expressed their preoccupations regarding this issue. Anyone can appeal this decision within the next thirty days.

Although the 51-acre expansion has been granted, MCI is nevertheless pleased with the decision to stop the treatment of leachate, also known as 'garbage juice', at the Newport waste treatment plant. This leachate, of which 15,000 gallons per day were treated at the plant, contains numerous chemicals, including PFAS, which accumulate up the food chain and are known to be highly carcinogenic.

Two weeks ago, MCI submitted a communication to the Commission for Environmental Cooperation, an organization that promotes cooperation between Canada, the United States and Mexico, and which deals with transborder environmental issues. MCI is asking this international organization to investigate the expansion of this landfill and the application of the various laws that regulate this issue.

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About MCI:

Memphremagog Conservation Inc. (MCI) is a non-profit organization dedicated to working for the protection, conservation and improvement of Lake Memphremagog and its watershed for the benefit of current and future generations.

MCI works in concert with the various governmental and other organizations, as well as with private citizens to carry out concrete actions.

MCI relies mainly on its scientific knowledge to inform, raise awareness and empower the various actors to ensure the environmental health of Lake Memphremagog and its watershed.

Source :

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