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STATE OF MAINE

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

MEMORANDUM

TO: Senator Richard Rosen, Senate Chair
Representative Patrick Flood, House Chair
Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs

FROM: Senator Tom Saviello, Senate Chair
Representative Jim Hamper, House Chair
Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

DATE: March 22, 2012

SUBJ: Recommendations on the Governor's Proposed Supplemental Budget (LR 2847)

The Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources submits the following comments in connection with the items in LR 2847 that pertain to the Department of Environmental Protection.

PART O: Part O proposes to rename three bureaus with the Department of Environmental Protection and to amend the titles of the bureau directors. We do not support this change being addressed within the budget process. A change in the organization of the department is a policy matter that should be addressed through reference of a bill to our committee.

PART GG and PART A: Part GG proposes to transfer the State Planning Office's duties and responsibilities regarding solid waste management and recycling policy to the Department of Environmental Protection; and to transfer ownership of state-owned landfills and related management duties and responsibilities to the Bureau of General Services in the Department of Administrative and Financial Services. Our comments on Part GG and Part A focus on two issues:

1. In Part A, an initiative in Remediation and Waste Management (0247) transfers \$447,738 for All Other costs from the Planning Office program to the Remediation and Waste Management program in the Department of Environmental Protection for general operations and technical assistance to support recycling and waste management functions. Material dated March 16, 2012 provided to your committee by the Department of Administrative and Financial

Services indicates the amount available for transfer is \$671,729 of which only \$447,738 is allocated and that the remaining \$223,991 may be allocated via financial order. We support allocation of the full \$671,729 to the Department of Environmental Protection for the new duties and responsibilities that they are taking over from the State Planning Office and do not support waiting to make a future allocation via financial order.

2. The Department of Administrative and Financial Services receives an allocation of Other Special Revenue in the amount of \$10,000 to cover the cost of accounting services provided by the General Government Services Center to the Maine Solid Waste Management Fund. It is our understanding that DAFS has administered this fund because a portion of the fund went to the State Planning Office and a portion went to the Department of Environmental Protection. With the transfer of duties from the State Planning Office to DEP, it is no longer necessary for DAFS to administer the fund. Therefore, we recommend the transfer of Other Special Revenue in the amount of \$10,000 to the Department of Environmental Protection.

Please let us know if we can provide any additional information or assistance in connection with the budget items related to the agencies under our jurisdiction.

cc: Members, Joint Standing Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs
Members, Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources