An Act To Address Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances Pollution from State-owned Solid Waste Disposal Facilities

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 203.
Reference to the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources suggested and ordered printed.

Presented by Representative ZEIGLER of Montville.
Cosponsored by Senator BENNETT of Oxford and
Representatives: DUNPHY of Old Town, GRAMLICH of Old Orchard Beach, Senators:
BRENNER of Cumberland, DILL of Penobscot.
Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1.  38 MRSA §1310-N, sub-§11-A is enacted to read:

11-A.  Leachate treatment to reduce perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances.  Beginning July 1, 2025, a solid waste disposal facility owned by the State may not be licensed or otherwise authorized to transfer leachate from the solid waste disposal facility to a wastewater treatment plant unless:

A.  Prior to the transfer the leachate is treated to reduce the concentration of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances to the extent feasible with available technology; or

B.  The wastewater treatment plant receiving the leachate employs technology to reduce the concentration of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances in all of its discharges and residual sludge to the extent feasible with available technology and at least as effectively as could be achieved through treatment of the leachate prior to its transfer.

The department shall adopt rules implementing this subsection, which must include, but are not limited to, allowable concentrations of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances, technology requirements and monitoring requirements.  Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.  For the purposes of this subsection, "wastewater treatment plant" has the same meaning as in Title 32, section 4171, subsection 4 and "perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances" has the same meaning as in Title 32, section 1732, subsection 5-A.

SUMMARY

This bill provides that a solid waste disposal facility owned by the State may not be licensed or otherwise authorized to transfer leachate from the solid waste disposal facility to a wastewater treatment plant unless prior to the transfer the leachate is treated to reduce the concentration of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances or the facility receiving the leachate employs technology to reduce the concentration of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances.  It requires the Department of Environmental Protection to adopt rules to implement the prohibition.