

March 14, 2019

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing in opposition to the confirmation of Jason Brune as the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Conservation. The position as head of DEC should be a person who can bring an objective perspective to protecting our environment, not someone who has a strong background in promoting, working for and lobbying as a spokesperson for the mining industry. Of special importance is his very close and long relationship with and promotion of the Pebble mine project. On social media and in his work he has been a strong advocate for its development despite whatever he told you. His career has been in the mining industry, which means he has the perspective of resource extraction not environmental conservation. He has a conflict of interest in mining decisions because he will undoubtedly go back to working in the industry once his term is over. The bottom line is he cannot be balanced. You would be putting the fox in the hen house to manage the hens.

Thank you for listening.

Marian Allen