

## Lou Mansolillo

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**From:** Lopes, Ed <ETLopes@bbcgrp.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 4, 2024 7:59 PM  
**To:** House Environment and Natural Resources Committee  
**Cc:** Rep. Cortvriend, Terri-Denise; Sen. DiPalma, Louis P.  
**Subject:** Re: House Bill 2024 — H 8071

Dear House Committee on Environment and Natural Resources,

Please accept this message as our support for House Bill No. 2024 -- H 8071 to increase the acceptable level of Arsenic in the soil to 20ppm, which would be consistent with our neighboring State of MA residential limits. Balfour Beatty Communities is the operator of 689 housing units of military housing in support of Naval Station Newport, this change will be favorable to our ongoing re-development and management efforts. For instance, we have been working with the Town of Portsmouth to transfer approximately 3.6 acres of land (former Navy housing location) to the Town for expansion of their Melville School footprint for parking, sports courts, and other needs. We have been hindered in our efforts due to existing background levels of arsenic that exceed 7ppm, but on average are all less than 20ppm. This area previously contained a home built in the late 1800's and was acquired by the Navy around the 1940's. This land area has remained virtually intact since the Navy acquired this home, so the existing arsenic levels are all naturally occurring background levels.

As a RI registered professional engineer I also support this change as the cost of dealing with arsenic remediation adds substantial costs to all development/redevelopment activities.

Regards,

Ed

RI PE Registration 5522

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