

Public Meeting Purpose: Wastewater Discharge Application

At this meeting, DEP is soliciting comments from the public on the proposed American Aquafarms waste discharge license applications, pertinent to the Department's laws and rules regarding wastewater discharge:

- *Pollution Control*, 38 M.R.S. §§ 411 – 424-B;
- *Enforcement generally*, 38 M.R.S. § 451;
- *Water Classification Program*, 38 M.R.S. §§ 464 – 470;
- *Federal Water Pollution Control Act*, Title 33 U.S.C. § 1251 et seq; and
- Applicable rules of the Department of Environmental Protection (06-096 CMR)



Other Comments on Proposed Project

The American Aquafarms project is subject to additional permitting and authorization processes outside the scope of the Waste Discharge permit application, and outside the scope of DEP authority.

For example, the Waste Discharge permit application and this meeting DO NOT INCLUDE:

- Activities related to the project at physically separate facilities (e.g. on-shore)
- Air emissions
- Light, noise and scenic impacts
- Anchorage and navigation impacts

Additional opportunities for public comment to DEP will be posted on DEP's website at:

<https://www.maine.gov/dep/projects/americanaquafarms/index.html>

It should be noted that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) conducts a separate federal permit review process and that pursuant to 38 M.R.S. § 464 (4)(A)(9), the DEP may not issue a water discharge license for those discharges that would, in the judgement of the Secretary of the United States Army, substantially impair anchorage or navigation. At this time, USACE has not received an application for this project. In connection with the USACE review process, and based on and in accordance with review and final decision on applicable state license and permit applications, the Department of Marine Resources would issue a letter stating either the State's concurrence with or the State's objection to the applicant's certification that the project is consistent with applicable enforceable policies of the Maine Coastal Program.

The project also requires an aquaculture lease from the Department of Marine Resources which conducts its own review of the lease application, separate from and in addition to the DEP and USACE permit processes.

