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Subject: Nordic Aquafarms

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To whom it may concern

Has anyone done an analysis of the cost of decommissioning the proposed salmon farm and factory when it has closed perhaps 35 years after it opens? The design proposal I've seen shows a remarkably strong structure--one that might take more to decommission than it will have paid in taxes and hourly wages over its proposed lifespan. That doesn't count the century or more it would take to recover a mature pine forest, assuming the soil could be replaced. Moreover, this and every attempt to create an artificial environment for any mass-produced animals will always be at the mercy of events in the Middle East. The Chicken Barn fiasco of the 1970s followed on the heels of a mid-easter war over oil resources. Count the chicken barns in Waldo County, and then count the chickens in them (probably zero), and ask yourself how many farmers were left holding the bag when heating oil prices spiked. This attempt to insert a salmon factory in a perfectly good environment for eels and alewives is an invitation to disaster, with Belfast taxpayers left holding the bag.

Very truly yours,

Dr. William Burgess Leavenworth, Ph.D., retired environmental historian & mariner, Searsmont.