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From: Tish and Mike M. <mtmanning21@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2020 3:57 PM
To: DEP, Nordic Aqua Farms
Subject: Permit for Nordic Aqua Farms

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Permit for Nordic Aqua Farms

Tuesday, February 18, 2020

To: The Maine Board of Environmental Protection

The Department of Environmental Protection and the Board of Environmental Protection

I am a resident of Belfast. I am writing to ask you to deny the permit for Nordic Aqua Farms to come to Belfast.

Here are some of my concerns:

- From the lower dam down there are 17 recognized wetlands- 10 will be destroyed by this project.
- This project will cut down 55 acres of mature forest. This forest is a home to millions of plants and animals, which we need for biodiversity. The forest is a valuable carbon sink and climate buffer.
- An industrial factory the size of the Gillette Stadium, Fenway Park and 2 TD Gardens will have extremely negative effects on our river and bay.
- The 8 diesel generators required for the project, each with a 67 foot tall smoke stack, are an environmental concern. The diesel generators will be noisy, noxious and require the storage of large amounts of fuel onsite. Diesel generators emit exhaust gasses, producing carbon dioxide (CO₂), nitrogen oxide (NO_x), and particulate matter. Every litre of fuel has 0.73 kg of pure carbon, 2.6 kg of carbon dioxide released per liter of diesel fuel. What will this do to the air we breathe? Who will monitor the emissions of these generators?
- Nordic has no closure plan should this risky venture fail, or when their tenancy ends. Nordic has declined to discuss the setting of a performance bond. The residents of Belfast would be left with the cost of clean-up. As for restoration- could the area be restored to forest? Perhaps after a century.
- The energy required to run a facility this size will increase our carbon footprint and make it impossible to reach Belfast's climate targets, and very hard to meet the state's climate targets.

I am a schoolteacher. I spend my days looking at the faces of young children, and I literally spend hours every day trying to help them have the best future possible. Over the last few years I have become increasingly worried about the future I am helping them toward. With the climate crisis, threats of pollution and overpopulation, we are facing new and important challenges. We need to explore sustainable technology, such as Zero Input Aquaculture, which brings good jobs to locals and protects the environment. I believe the time is here to think outside the old, polluting approaches and protect our home while we find new ways to make, as Zero-Input Aquaculturist Bren Smith says, "a healthy living on a living planet."

Thank you for considering my concerns.

Sincerely,

Letitia Manning