

## Burke, Ruth A

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**From:** Betty Schopmeyer <betty.schopmeyer@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 16, 2020 2:37 PM  
**To:** DEP, Nordic Aqua Farms  
**Subject:** Concerns from Belfast Business Owner

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February 16, 2020

Dear DEP:

I am a resident of Searsport, Maine, and have a business in Belfast. I am very concerned about the impact that the Nordic salmon farm project could have on the community, the Bay, and the quality of life in this area. There are so many factors I could mention, and I know that you know all the facts. My biggest concerns are:

--the 18 degree temperature differential between the huge amount of discharge water and the average temperature of the Bay. We have enough environmental impacts to worry about with rising water temperatures without adding this into the mix.

--the unknowns: Financing? Contents of fish food and waste discharge? Smell? Blasting? Well contamination? Groundwater drawdown? Effect of construction and operations on tourism?

--the less-than-best-practice technology: Why would Belfast permit this factory to come into our area when there are methods for fish farming out there with completely self-contained processes? Why would you settle for a hugely polluting and outdated technology? I understand that Belfast needs tax revenues, but at what cost? It seems to me that you would be taking a big risk as this Nordic project will soon be, or already is, obsolete.

We all want Belfast and the surrounding area to be a thriving community for all. Please don't allow this disruptive pollution-generating project to take the place of attracting clean, sustainable, non-harmful businesses. If this project comes to fruition, I think it will prevent better options from being attracted to the area in the future.

Thanks for considering my concerns.

Betty Schopmeyer