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To: DEP, Nordic Aqua Farms
Subject: Aquaculture in Belfast

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Give a fish to a man; you'll feed him one day,
Teach him how to fish; you'll feed him for life.
Teach him how to raise fish; he'll feed the planet.

The natural resources of seafood in the wild are too low to feed the world's population. In the same way that the resources for meat have not been dependent upon hunting for centuries, the resources of fish and crustaceans can no longer depend solely on fishing. It is therefore necessary to pass from the phase of gathering to that of breeding (for fruits and vegetables, this transition has been made for several millennia).

Instead of refuting aquaculture, it is preferable to integrate it, in order to better usher it into an era of total transparency and qualitative progress.

The arguments in favor of aquaculture are widely documented and accessible, despite the repeated attacks to which it is subjected:

- Stable and local supply of quality food,
 - High nutritional value and health benefits,
 - Management of the water quality,
 - Respect for natural areas and resources
 - Low carbon footprint
 - Rebalance of the trade deficit
 - Economical development
- Etc....

All the rational arguments are in favor of aquaculture.

No animal production is as efficient as farmed fish.

Only plants can compete with farmed fish in terms of carbon footprint.

But, if we consider the consumption of water itself, we find:

- Beef: 1,800 gallons of water is used per lb. produced
- Cereal: 650 gal. per lb.
- Chicken: 500 gal. per lb.
- Fruits: 115 gal. per lb.
- Vegetables: 40 gal. per lb
- Salmon in RAS: 30 gal. per lb.

We must admit the low impact of aquaculture.

On an economical level, when you compare the revenue per acre:

- Cereal: \$700 per acre

- Vegetable: \$2,000 per acre
- Grapes: \$10,000 per acre
- CBD: \$40,000 per acre
- Salmon in RAS: \$400,000 per acre

The balance obviously leans in favor of fish farming.

There is no production that combines as many nutritional benefits, with such a low footprint, in so little space, while providing such an economic resource.

The only arguments that remain against fish farming are irrational, born essentially of the old reflex: “Not in my back yard.”

The citizens who actively critique aquaculture might ultimately choose to use their creative energy to promote and invest in aquaculture’s “blue gold,” thus participating in the consolidation of a responsible and sustainable complement to their community and the world.

This is the reason why, for the past 35 years, I have dedicated my career to the development of this new but noble industry, which contributes effectively to feeding the planet with a uniquely low impact, while ensuring growth and prosperity.

Nordic Aquafarms’ leadership and team are recognized worldwide for their remarkable management and advanced fish farming techniques. They are known to “do the right thing, the right way,” while respecting the institutions of community, the law and the environment. Nordic Aquafarms is also a very successful company that doesn’t hesitate to pioneer, while safely bringing in the highest skilled experts.

Nordic Aquafarms’ project is a tremendous asset for Belfast, Waldo County, the State of Maine, and the USA.

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