

Burke, Ruth A

From: Deborah Capwell <deborahflora@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 02, 2020 9:57 AM
To: DEP, Nordic Aqua Farms
Subject: Serious environmental issues

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Dear members of the BEP,

I'm writing to express my deep concerns re: Nordic Aquafarms' proposal to build a huge fish facility in Belfast. The environmental impact of this project would be major and severe. Many of the specifics have been eloquently articulated by others, so I will just mention a few of them here.

-Cutting 30-40 acres of woodland in this era of climate emergency is a dreadful idea. Not only would we lose an important local resource for carbon sequestration, but all the plants and animals which are part of this ecosystem would be displaced or destroyed. The area, which is a favorite place for local residents to hike, picnic, and recharge would be lost.

-The project is slated to use significantly more water than initially planned. Our water table is finite. Wells would most likely be affected. Also, because of the Maine law of Absolute Dominion, Nordic would have first rights to whatever water is available. That means that Belfast residents might have to ration.

-Even if effluent is filtered, it wouldn't be filtered 100%. What would be the effects of the effluent on the bay? What would happen if the mercury presently settled on the bottom of the Bay were stirred up? What would the effect be of huge amounts of warmer water dumped into the Bay?

As I said above, these are just a very few of the many serious concerns that I and many others have about this project. I am not anti development. I'm happy to welcome smaller businesses to Belfast. But this project is not a good fit for our community. What is being proposed is a huge factory farm. It will more than likely bring more problems than benefit to our community.

Sincerely,
Deborah Capwell

Sent from my iPad