

## Burke, Ruth A

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**From:** Steve Eddy <steve.eddy@maine.edu>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 07, 2020 12:19 PM  
**To:** DEP, Nordic Aqua Farms  
**Subject:** RAS filtration comment

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Dear Maine DEP,

I am writing to clarify a statement made by me and cited in the "Rebuttal Testimony Statement" submitted by Mr. David Black, January 16, 2020.

In his written testimony Mr. Black makes the following statement:

**- The chief technical officer for Nordic Aquafarms explained to me one day in his office that all discharge water from this facility will be run through a .4 micron filter before reentering the bay. Again, at the RAS system run by the University of Maine the minimum water filter is 30 microns, almost 80 times larger than the filters being proposed by Nordic! The manager of that facility stated that filters finer than 30 microns would clog quickly and be of no value.**

My statement regarding filtration efficacy was made in the context of discussing the use of RAS drum filters at the Center for Cooperative Aquaculture (CCAR). We don't use filter screens finer than 30 microns in that application because they would be subject to excessive clogging. However, this statement should not by any means be understood to imply that filtration of wastewater to 0.4 microns, as proposed by Nordic Aquafarms, is not feasible or of no value. The PVDF membrane filtration proposed by Nordic is far more advanced than the drum filters used at the CCAR. PVDF membrane filtration is widely used in wastewater treatment, and it's capable of much finer filtration than rotating drum filters.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have regarding this matter.

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