

## Burke, Ruth A

---

**From:** Lane Fisher <lanefisher@myfairpoint.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 18, 2020 3:26 PM  
**To:** DEP, Nordic Aqua Farms  
**Subject:** Nordic Aquafarm Proposed factory in Belfast, Maine

**EXTERNAL: This email originated from outside of the State of Maine Mail System. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.**

49 Herrick Rd.  
Belfast, ME 04915  
207-338-1008  
[lanefisher@zwi.net](mailto:lanefisher@zwi.net)

February 18, 2020

Board of Environmental Protection  
Attn: Cynthia S. Bertocci, Executive Analyst  
17 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine 04333-0017

Dear members of the Board of Environmental Protection,

I entered this year full of grief about how little time we have left to address climate change and how determinedly “business as usual” ignores this reality. In this context, Nordic Aquafarms’ water- and energy-guzzling proposal to grow fish on land is appalling and frightening. You have their numbers. You also have estimates of the project’s carbon footprint.

The aquifer in this country and worldwide is being destroyed by overdraws, climate change, fracking, and other pollution, and here we’re told we should funnel this precious resource into producing a travesty of salmon: fish that would be gray if not dyed, tainted in taste, and bearing some fractional semblance to the golden health food that has been so successfully marketed.

NAF’s many-times-changed scheme for dumping effluent into Penobscot Bay and its cavalier assessment of the impact are also alarming. When I was a child, I frequently heard that we could never pollute the ocean because it is too large. In college I was told that fish was the only flesh to consume responsibly because it was far down the food chain and so vast in supply, and now we’ve depleted the fisheries. To propose that we can safely dump more effluent because it’s less than what’s already there is absurd. *Cumulative impact* is what’s collapsing our ecosystem at accelerating speed.

Please help lead us into some environmental sanity by refusing permits for NAF.

Most sincerely,

/e/ Lane Fisher

P.S. If, God forbid, you should give NAF a green light, please require that it raise its smokestacks. As a near neighbor who is sensitive to diesel exhaust. I care much less about seeing stacks than breathing their output—but I acknowledge, sadly, that this means sending the harm elsewhere, not alleviating it.