

Burke, Ruth A

From: Sally Grassi <sgrassi363@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 18, 2020 4:54 PM
To: DEP, Nordic Aqua Farms
Subject: Opposition to Nordic Aquafarms - Belfast

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Dear Erin,

My name is Sally Grassi, and I am a resident of Camden, Maine. My husband and I have devoted many volunteers hours over the years to conservation groups who are fighting to keep clean air, clean water and healthy soils for our children and grandchildren and future populations of humans and animals. We moved to Maine almost twenty years ago because of its beauty and its ethics in protecting that beauty.

I am contacting you concerning the Nordic Aquafarms salmon factory being proposed in Belfast on the Little River.

I am appalled that the Nordic Aquafarms proposal includes dumping 7.7 million gallons *every day* of nitrogen rich and warmer than ambient temperature effluent that will also contain unknown quantities of chemicals and drugs including antibiotics, pesticides and cleaning agents, as well as pathogens that will pass through the filtration system into the Penobscot Bay.

I want to swim and eat fish from a *clean* Penobscot Bay.

I want the native species of salmon and sturgeon to thrive in clean, native waters, not effluent.

I want NO MORE PESTICIDES anywhere. Organic farms have proven that we can feed people and animals without the use of harmful chemicals. The aquaculture industry needs to follow suit.

I am also concerned about the use of so much electricity that the existing grid cannot sustain the demand which equals that of Belfast, Northport, Lincolnville, Camden, Rockport and Rockland combined.

We are in a time of climate crisis worldwide. Permitting businesses that intend to pollute AND use extravagant power resources is just not right. Belfast has targets to meet for CO2 reductions. Nordic Aquafarms' massive factory's energy needs will make meeting state targets very difficult. It will place an unfair burden for reductions on residents and businesses.

We are considering moving from Camden to Belfast in the near future. We like the town and it would put us a little closer to our children who live in Freedom and South China. If Belfast decides to allow this pollution, we might rethink moving there.

State policies should incentivize innovative, creative technologies and systems that drastically lower greenhouse gas emissions, and protect the natural world. Protecting the Penobscot Bay from pollution and warming is critical.

Nordic's approach is an outdated model based on receiving a "license to pollute." Belfast, the State of Maine, and the world can no longer afford this approach.

Thank you for considering my concerns. I trust that you make the decision that is the right decision long-term for both Belfast and the State of Maine. Our five grandchildren who live in this beautiful state will thank you.