

Burke, Ruth A

From: John H. Twomey Jr <jtwomey@umassd.edu>
Sent: Sunday, February 16, 2020 3:18 PM
To: DEP, Nordic Aqua Farms; Herbig, Erin; Pingree, Hannah; Planner@cityofbelfast.org; Cole, Dorian
Subject: Fish Farm Proposal - Belfast

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Friends,

I am writing to express my opposition to the salmon farm that is proposed for Belfast, Maine. My name is John H. Twomey and I live in Montville.

The list of problems that this potential salmon farm creates is long and well documented. From disrupting Penobscot Bay in many ways that will have long term implications to having a negative impact on ground water, homeowners in the area and traffic patterns as well, this fish farm project is simply a very bad idea.

Why not put resources into reviving and restoring our rivers, bays and coast? Why not restore the wonderful wild fish populations that once thrived in this area? Why not support the many local men and women who attempt to make their living fishing and lobstering on Penobscot bay? So much could be done and, more importantly, it could be done in a completely sustainable fashion, in a way that does not pollute and degrade our wonderful Penobscot bay, our region and our health!!

The technology does exist to farm raise fish in "closed" systems - systems that do not destroy neighboring ecologies. The system proposed for Belfast is old technology, a technology that actually does more harm than good. Maine should be a leader - protecting our our state's natural resources and, if and when needed, allowing fish farming in only "closed" systems. Frankly, it would surprise few if a fully restored system of rivers, bays and wild fish populations were to supply a far greater, and far healthier, supply of fish than the likes of the proposed salmon farm could ever supply.

I and literally all of my family and friends ask that you act wisely, that you a in the best interest of our bay, our region, our wild fish and our health - that you reject the salmon farm that is proposed for Belfast.

Thanking you in advance ----- John H. Twomey