

Burke, Ruth A

From: Jennifer Collins <jenhussey7500@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 17, 2020 4:21 PM
To: DEP, Nordic Aqua Farms
Subject: Opposition to Proposed Project

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To Whom it May Concern:

My name is Jennifer Collins and I own a home at 104 Bayside Road in Northport, just down the road from Little River in Belfast. My home is on Penobscot Bay, with approximately 380 feet of shoreline. My parents, both natives of Maine, purchased this property in 1979 and built their dream home there in 1997 when my father retired. They passed the home on to me in 2013.

I am writing to express my opposition to the Nordic Aquafarms project at Little River in Belfast. There are many reasons I oppose the project but I will focus only on a couple to keep my letter short.

Our home in Northport was hooked up to Belfast city water when the water line was run to Bayside. This was a godsend for us because the quality of the water from our well was marginal. I am old enough to remember when massive amounts of Belfast city water was used during the week by the poultry processing plant. The water that came out of the taps during the week tasted foul. We bottled many, many jars of water every weekend (when the plant was idle) to consume during the week. I fear that the amount of water from the Belfast city water supply that Nordic is proposing to use is excessive. Can the DEP guarantee that the Belfast city water supply won't be overdrawn and that water quality for those us that rely on Belfast city water won't be affected?

I also have concerns about the discharge into Penobscot Bay. It seems that property owners in Northport are closer to the discharge pipe than those in Belfast. Again, can you make guarantees that this discharge won't harm the Bay? The poultry plant discharged effluent that fouled the Bay and I also seem to remember that all the sewage from Bayside used to be pumped out into the Bay. I don't want to return to the days when we looked the other way while the environment was being harmed. If the water quality of the Bay is compromised my family will no longer be able to swim in the ocean in front of our property. Poor water quality would be devastating for the environment and be horrible for the local economy that relies so heavily on tourism. It goes without saying that poor water quality will also negatively impact my property value and those of all the other homeowners along the Bay near the proposed discharge pipe.

I hope you will carefully consider whether this project is appropriate for all the affected parties and for beautiful Penobscot Bay.

Thank you,

Jennifer Collins

