

Board of Environmental Protection  
c/o Ruth Ann Burke  
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Dear Members of the Board of Environmental Protection.

I am writing you to request Intervenor status in all proceedings and adjudicatory hearings relating to the exercise of your licensing jurisdiction over Nordic Aquafarms, Inc.'s ("NAF") or ("Nordic") applications to construct and operate a land-based Atlantic salmon aquaculture facility in Belfast and Northport, Maine.

I, Beverly Crofoot, live in Northport, specifically the area popularly known as Bayside, legally constituted as Northport Village Corporation (NVC). All property owners in Bayside share the ownership of our three shorefront parks and wharf. In addition my husband and I own shorefront property in Bayside that will be impacted, adversely we believe, if Nordic is licensed by you for this salmon aquaculture facility, as proposed.

We purchased our property in 1977 and it has been our year-round home since. Northport tax maps list it as U06-31.

Our house was built in 1899 for Ira M. Cobe from Chicago who married Annie E. Watts of Belfast. It is one of the few architect-designed houses in Bayside. It is the most elaborate Shingle Style house in the village, incorporating rustic cedar branch railings into the porch overlooking Penobscot Bay. In 1912 the Cobes constructed a large, brick mansion uphill from what we now call our home. The Ralph Flanders family purchased this house from the Cobes and summered here until 1977 when we bought it.

Many found that the purchase of this large house by a family of two strange. But we have become an active and integral part of the community as well as expanding to a family of four. Both children were born in Belfast, where David worked as a general surgeon. Both children have grown to adulthood, married and given us three grandchildren. They all return at least yearly to enjoy their childhood home, the Bay for swimming and sailing, and the community here that they love.

During our kids' school years in Northport and Belfast, I was active as an elected NVC Overseer, later served as President of that Board of seven. And I was in office when the village built the current wastewater treatment plant, partially funded by Maine DEP and the EPA. I was also on the board and the utility committee when NVC requested from the PUC to tie-in to the Belfast Water District. This tie-in to the Belfast water system was required because the village's wells had gone dry.

In 1995 I was part of a group to establish the Bayside Historical Preservation Society. I am still active in this group and published a book IF THESE COTTAGES COULD TALK to help document the significant history of this place. In 1996 the National

Register of Historic Places established the Bayside Historic District. Earle Shettleworth, Maine State historian and retired Director of the Maine Historic Preservation Commission, noted the importance of the Bayside community with these words – “Known originally as Wesleyan Grove, this popular resort started as a Methodist camp ground before the Civil War. After the war, tents gave way to community building and then to highly distinctive individual Carpenter Gothic cottages. As street after street of these little houses were built in the 1870s and 1880s, the Grove became known as Bayside, reflecting a gradual transition from religious to secular. Today the entire area is a National Register historic district...”

Our family is concerned that construction of the extremely large salmon factory, with its significant drain on the Little River aquifer and Belfast’s public water system, will impact adversely the water quality of Penobscot Bay, which is our front yard. Will the Bay’s waters now be safe for fishing and swimming for our grandchildren? Will sailing these waters be enjoyable?

Nordic has indicated that each day’s discharge will amount to 7.7 million gallons. That means there will be a continuous stream (107 million gallons) of discharge water in front of our home – forever! Nordic stated at public information meetings in 2018 that it will take 14 days for this wastewater to leave the immediate area of the Bay near our home and property. It will then ultimately migrate into the Gulf of Maine after impacting all areas of Penobscot Bay.

According to Nordic’s MEPDES permit application, the discharge water will be 15° to 18° Celcius which is 59° to 64.4° Fahrenheit. That means this discharge water will be 5° to 33° degrees Fahrenheit warmer than the ambient water temperatures in this part of the Bay. In addition, the amount of pollutants added to the Bay will be increased. These pollutants will come from the as yet unspecified fish food (216,758 pounds per day), vaccines, medicines and industrial cleaners.

Nitrogen, 1484 pounds daily, will be discharged as part of the NAF effluent. Nitrates are known to cause algal blooms and deplete dissolved oxygen, which is necessary for marine life. Nitrogen levels in wastewater are not regulated by DEP via the discharge permit.

Digging on the floor of Penobscot Bay to install Nordic’s intake and discharge pipes will disturb the mercury presently 20-70 cm below the Bay’s floor. The underwater seawall (5.5 feet high and 8 feet wide) Nordic will build to protect these pipes map radically alter the movement of water and change the direction of the currents. This could cause erosion anywhere along the Northport shore. Nordic has presented no evidence of update current studies reflecting this change to their plans – i.e. the use of an underwater seawall.

For these reasons, I request Intervenor status. We will suffer significant, particularized injuries if Nordic is allowed to install these pipelines in the Bay and discharge waste

water from its fish factory into Penobscot Bay. Our damages will be similar to many other waterfront property owners, but they are particularized to us. Just because Nordic's proposal will adversely impact many waterfront property owners in the area of the pipelines does not diminish our right to intervene to object to these damages. For these reasons, we request Intervenor status.

signed, Beverly Crofoot