

## Burke, Ruth A

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**From:** Susan Dexter <susie.nomad2591@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 18, 2020 5:00 PM  
**To:** DEP, Nordic Aqua Farms  
**Subject:** NAF comment

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To Whom the Environment May Concern-

My name is Susan Dexter, a resident of Belfast Maine where Nordic Aquafarms hopes to construct a huge industrial fish raising operation on the Little River and Belfast Bay. As anyone with even a casual understanding environmental science knows, the specifics of this proposed project would destroy the woodland/wetland/riparian habitats on which it would be sited. It would also pose great risk to the bay ecosystem and to all those who make their living from the bay. Details you know from the abundant scientific testimony.

My concerns go beyond the site location, the local environmental costs (100% certain), and the risks to the local economy. I am outraged that such a fossil fuel dependent, greenhouse gas emitting, and eco-destroying industry is even being proposed, much less considered by those who understand the dire situation we now face. If you've been paying any attention to climate and environmental science, you know that the fossil fuel based industrial economy, which requires endless growth, endless pillaging of nature, and endless pollution, is responsible for the multiple crises (climate change, ecological breakdown, and extinction) that now threaten the planet.

We as a species and culture need to abandon the plunder for profit model. If there is any hope to reduce future impacts and limit the consequent suffering, we need to protect all remaining natural spaces which act as carbon sinks and sources of biodiversity; restore degraded habitats to increase the survival of threatened species (basically all wildlife); and deindustrialize marine and fresh water ecosystems to encourage return of wild species. In other words, it is past time we acted as stewards of the earth on which we depend rather than rapacious conquerers.

Please take your role seriously and deny NAF the permit to destroy and contribute to climate/environmental/extinction crisis.

Thank you.

Susan Dexter