

Re: Attention: Planning Board

Public Hearing

Wed 10/16/2019 4:51 PM

To: Jim Merkel <jimimerkel@gmail.com>

Hello Jim

I have received your comment and will provide such to the Planning Board for tonight's hearings.

Wayne

From: Jim Merkel <jimimerkel@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, October 16, 2019 4:33 PM

To: Public Hearing <public@cityofbelfast.org>

Subject: Attention: Planning Board

Regarding Nordic Aquafarms:

The proposed industrial factory farm must be stopped. If allowed to go forward, this beautiful and diverse, older forest will be destroyed. It will immensely impact wildlife habitat, basically destroying all that exists there.

Even in drilling test wells, Nordic's contractors were able to silt up every creek they crossed. I've documented this and sent pictures to you in my last comments.

The site has abundant "pillows and pockets" signature of land not cleared and plowed for a very long time. This land has been serving as a buffer, green belt and an area that allows for slow recharge of the ground water. The massive extent of soil removal necessary to create stable foundations for massive tanks, will permanently destroy the habitat and hydrology of the site.

The massive silting that will occur during construction and operation, the loss of permeable surface, the loss of carbon sequestration from clearing the forests are all unacceptable. As humanity enters the 6th great extinction, and we are in the middle of a climate emergency, the last thing we need to be doing is clearing land and installing a carbon intensive monoculture.

Nordic has provided no guarantee that their project will not have significant and possibly detrimental effects on the aquatic systems. Additionally, there is no way to know the impacts. By the time the disease from this massive monoculture escape into the wild and begin spreading through the food chain, it will be too late. This at a time when the Penobscot bay is beginning to recover, is unacceptable.

The current models provided by Nordic are elementary and do not include the real current/wind dynamics that exist. An incoming tide and a south wind will bring effluent into



Belfast Bay. An outgoing tide and a North wind, will bring effluent passed Bayside. Nordic needs to provide a detailed and scientifically rigorous study of these plume.

Further, the impacts of pheromones and kairomones on the bay ecology are unstudied and will likely be significant.

I have been watching this process and have been alarmed at the way that the Belfast City attorney and City Planner are directing and cornering the Planning Board. I've been so frustrated in watching what looks like planned orchestration, in every way working on behalf of Nordic Aquafarms. As a tax payer, I am ver very upset and angry that my money is being used to subvert democracy and instead be used as a subsidy for an applicant. Every notice, every item that Wayne Marshall and Bill Kelly prepare, is careful planning to subvert public process and advocate for Nordic. This is offensive and I rebel against this use of my money.

Thank you for hearing my comments.

Jim Merkel
97 Patterson Hill Rd.
Belfast, Me, 04915
207 323 1474

Jim Merkel
97 Patterson Hill Rd
Belfast, Maine, 04915
(207)323-1474
jimimerkel@gmail.com

Author: Radical Simplicity
Director: Saving Walden's World



Attention Planning Board

Lewis Cisle <lcisle@bluestreakme.com>

Wed 10/16/2019 7:47 PM

To: Public Hearing <public@cityofbelfast.org>

Regarding NORDIC Aqua farms:

I am deeply concerned that the proposed factory farm proposed by NORDIC will pose a great threat to the natural environment, the character and the economy of Belfast and its surroundings. I have attended most of the planning board meetings and want to thank many of its members for asking the difficult questions. Many of the audience, including myself, and members of the planning board were told "We have no answer for that. We will look into it." This has made me feel that what they are making this up as they go along. Are we to put the future of our beloved Belfast into the hands of people who by their own admission they don't know what they are doing?

I am deeply concerned that the needs of this mega factory farm will drain the economical and natural resources of Belfast. Leaving nothing to draw more suitable and sustainable businesses to locate here. We also have to consider that the Nordic team is involved in an ongoing lawsuit over "shoddy work on the construction" of their facility in Norway. And that aqua farm is only one tenth the size of what NORDIC proposes for Belfast.

Please deny these people their permits to experiment on our vibrant and lovely community.

Sincerely,

Lewis L. Cisle
243 High St
Belfast Maine 04915
1 207 505 5995

Re: Salmon Farm

Public Hearing

Thu 10/17/2019 11:14 AM

To: William Burford <wwburford@gmail.com>

Dear Mr. Burford

Your comment was received after the Board's meeting of October 16, thus, the Board was unable to consider your comment at that meeting. Your comment will be provided to the Board for their consideration as part of their overall review.

Wayne

From: William Burford <wwburford@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, October 16, 2019 11:30 PM

To: Public Hearing <public@cityofbelfast.org>

Subject: Salmon Farm

The long-term destruction of habitat and water quality by the proposed Nordic salmon farm is 180 degrees off of our responsibilities to our children, the generations e hope for beyond them, and to our own generation's legacy as stewards of the lives they will inherit.

Bill Burford
50 Village Rd.
Belfast, ME 04915
516-443-9594

Re: Opposition to Nordic Aqua Farms

Public Hearing

Wed 10/16/2019 4:48 PM

To: HANNAH TAYS <tays01@gmail.com>

Thank you

From: HANNAH TAYS <tays01@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, October 16, 2019 4:30 PM

To: Public Hearing <public@cityofbelfast.org>

Subject: Re: Opposition to Nordic Aqua Farms

Hi Wayne I live at 17 Searsport Ave in Belfast

Thank you

On Wednesday, October 16, 2019, Public Hearing <public@cityofbelfast.org> wrote:

Dear Ms. Tays

I also need to know what community you live in to provide your comment to the Planning Board. I would greatly appreciate if you could provide me your address.

Wayne

From: HANNAH TAYS <tays01@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, October 16, 2019 1:46 PM

To: Public Hearing <public@cityofbelfast.org>

Subject: Opposition to Nordic Aqua Farms

Dear Planning Board,

Thank you for being interested in the opinions of regular citizens who have neither an axe to grind against Nordic nor anything to gain if the company does come to Belfast.

I am opposed to this project for two reasons-

1) the environmental harm it may and most likely will cause to some extent to our ocean waters and all the creatures who live and make their living there.

2) we don't need it. Belfast is a thriving community that has proven its resilience in good times and bad. The few jobs and the taxes that May eventually come from the company are not worth risking our beautiful town for.

Thank you,
Hannah Tays

Re: What ISN'T known about NAF's environmental impact - Save the Bay

John Morrow <johnrmorrowjr@gmail.com>

Tue 10/22/2019 8:48 AM

To: Public Hearing <public@cityofbelfast.org>

Map-lot 037-129

44 High St. Belfast

On Fri, Oct 18, 2019 at 3:05 PM Public Hearing <public@cityofbelfast.org> wrote:

Dear Mr. Morrow:

I have received your email regarding the Nordic Aquafarm application. I respectfully ask that you provide me your address, which is a requirement for any comment that is entered into the public record. Once I receive your address I can provide your comment to the Board.

Many thanks.

Wayne

From: John Morrow <johnrmorrowjr@gmail.com>

Sent: Friday, October 18, 2019 1:56 PM

To: Public Hearing <public@cityofbelfast.org>

Subject: What ISN'T known about NAF's environmental impact - Save the Bay

Dear Planners and Planning Board:

If only we knew then what damage industrial CAFOs, pulp mills and chemical plants have done to local communities, we would have never accepted their development.

Who really knows about RAS? An inexperienced operator who has yet to produce a single fish from their own development?

A company that purchased another company that was having high kill rates in Denmark? A company of carpet baggers whose story keeps changing and that keeps asking for handouts because they have no committed or repatriated Capital? A company that has said they will spend \$.5B here and \$.4B in CA? Show someone the money and a sustainable plan, not a venture fund's hopes and dreams.

Are they Green Investors or con artists?

Who will bail out Belfast (like MBNA did) when the stink fails, when the environment looks more like a Kentucky pig farm than a pristine waterfall?

Who will clean up the mess left behind (like Stinson) after it sat as an eyesore for 20 years? Sardines, Chicken, Salmon...what's the difference?

Tourists will flock elsewhere just as CAFO towns have found throughout America.

Property values will plummet. They already have near the proposed site and people are staying away from Penobscot Shores as a retirement option.

Don't let past become prologue.

Industrial waste is not "sustainable". Methane to reduce the Nitrogen...to what end? How will the methane be secured? Where? What is the risk of failure, a leak, an explosion? Where does the "kill" go when 20% of "fish crops" die off in mid development?

- Industrial development of this scale is not good for Belfast.
- CAFOs are not safe or good for Maine or Mainers.
- CAFOs are not good for America or Americans.
- Salmon will not feed the World and not an ounce is going to Darfur.
- For a measly 100 jobs, no tax revenue, no US profits, the environmental impact of this Application is changing the Cultural Environment of our community.
- Stop relying on anecdotes from the NAF PR team about who cares and who doesn't care. Everyone with common sense knows the answers, the balance have biased agenda.

Save the sea grass, the elvers, the natural salmon, birds, wildlife AND help save the destruction of our community. The divisive rhetoric is caustic, has ruined the social environment of the town and will continue...all thanks to planning and development that is 100% self-serving.

I am pro-business, but I am AGAINST this proposed development on every level. I've come to my conclusion based upon extensive research. It's OK for you ALL to re-consider the reasonableness of this Application for Belfast. The more we learn, the worse this becomes.

Caveat Emptor.

John R. Morrow (representing 5 residents of like mind)

Re: city of Belfast planning board

Public Hearing

Mon 10/21/2019 11:50 AM

To: Charles Brown <cbsters@hotmail.com>

Mr. Brown

Thanks for providing the address of your residence. I will forward your comment to the Planning Board.

Wayne

From: Charles Brown <cbsters@hotmail.com>

Sent: Saturday, October 19, 2019 4:33 PM

To: Public Hearing <public@cityofbelfast.org>

Subject: Re: city of Belfast planning board

Hi Wayne,

Do you want my actual address? Or another email address? My actual address is 372 N Cobbtown Rd. Lincolnvillle I have worked and lived in Belfast in the past and shop primarily in Belfast. I consider it my home town.

Charles Brown

From: Public Hearing <public@cityofbelfast.org>

Sent: Friday, October 18, 2019 10:25 AM

To: Charles Brown <cbsters@hotmail.com>

Subject: Re: city of Belfast planning board

Mr. Brown

I have received your email. To have your letter/email included in the formal public record that will be considered by the Planning Board I need to have you identify your address. I ask that you send me an additional email that identifies your address.

Many thanks.

Wayne

From: Charles Brown <cbsters@hotmail.com>

Sent: Friday, October 18, 2019 12:17 PM

To: Public Hearing <public@cityofbelfast.org>

Subject: city of Belfast planning board

I am opposed to the salmon farm and everything it stands for. But if you go forward you have a duty to charge A LOT more money. How much profit are they intending to take from our community for our water and polluting our bay? How is the livelihood and livability of Belfast going to decrease (a lot). Are you taking into consideration of the people that will leave who bring money to Belfast. I for one will sell my place. There are so many things to consider other than the little amount of money Belfast will get tax wise. In the end, it will be less than the cost - unless you charge the company 50 percent of their profit. Have they given you all a proper feasibility study? One done independently? How much profit are they walking away with every year?

For the record, I am opposed. But if it goes through, don't throw Belfast away cheaply.

Charles Brown

Re: To the Belfast planning board

Nancy Durand Lanson <nancydurandlanson@gmail.com>

Mon 10/21/2019 11:59 AM

To: Public Hearing <public@cityofbelfast.org>

Thank you.

133 stovepipe alley,
Monroe, me, 04951

Nancy Durand Lanson

On Oct 21, 2019, at 11:54, Public Hearing <public@cityofbelfast.org> wrote:

Dear Ms. Lanson

I ask that you provide me your residential address. The City requires all persons who offer comment to identify their address.

Your comment will be part of the formal public record after I receive your address.

Many thanks.

Wayne

From: Nancy Durand Lanson <nancydurandlanson@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, October 16, 2019 12:19 PM

To: Public Hearing <public@cityofbelfast.org>

Subject: To the Belfast planning board

Good morning, and thank you for being in service to the people tonight.

Whether we are looking at the Little River, the woods or the bay, any disturbance is too much! We have to protect our next generation, by regenerating, not adding more stressed to the environment, plants and fauna, both terrestrial and aquatic. No one in their right mind can believe that uplifting old trees, taking clean water from the river and discharging (even 1% dirtier) in the bay is going to keep things intact. If when I move a rock in the river I can create a small deviation, simply imagine what the project you are looking at will do. The times are calling for leaving our place cleaner than we find it.

Nancy Durand Lanson

address change

Gef Flimlin <flimlin@scarletmail.rutgers.edu>

Mon 10/21/2019 5:13 PM

To: Wayne Marshall <wmarshall@cityofbelfast.org>

Hi Wayne,

I just received a note posted October 9 regarding Nordic Public Meetings to me but in Galloway NJ. Our permanent address is below. Would you please change it in your address book?

Thanks much....Gef

--

Gef Flimlin

Professor Emeritus

Commercial Fisheries and Aquaculture

Rutgers Cooperative Extension

Past President, US Aquaculture Society

52 Perkins Road

Belfast Maine 04915

Cell 609-892-4585

"We are all One."

Re: Nordic Aquafarm 's experimental project

Public Hearing

Thu 10/17/2019 5:55 PM

To: donna short <dscampc321@gmail.com>

Dear Ms. Buskin

I have received your comment and will provide such to the Board for a future Board meeting. The next Board meeting on the Nordic application will not occur until the month of November.

Wayne

From: donna short <dscampc321@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, October 17, 2019 4:44 PM

To: Public Hearing <public@cityofbelfast.org>

Subject: Nordic Aquafarm 's experimental project

Dear Belfast Planning Board, Sometimes I have to remind myself that NAF has still not successfully farmed Atlantic Salmon, and the "experience" they speak of, is primarily with a Danish fishfarm growing yellow tail-(and of course, the scientists they have hired with experience, were available for hire because the company they were working for, went bankrupt!)-not the complex smolt to mature salmon they want to produce in Belfast. And that the nation they are coming from-Norway--would not let them do this in the amount they are asking--66 million tonnes--in Norway for very good reasons. This is a new venture and NOONE knows what even a small temperature rise due to the effluent discharge-7.7 million gal a day--will mean for our Bay.

--too many "ifs" and alot of PR for a small town doing well with a new very large Shipyard, and many inspiring local food and organic farm efforts as well as a thriving tourist and arts culture!

I am strongly against the fish farm and I am in support of local sustainable aquaculture--not industrial size fish factories, like NAF. PLease follow your gut and say no. Sincerely , Meredith Bruskin, 338-5089

From: **Lewis Cisle** lcisle@bluestreakme.com
Subject: Attention Planning Board
Date: October 16, 2019 at 7:47 PM
To: public@cityofbelfast.org



Regarding NORDIC Aqua farms:

I am deeply concerned that the proposed factory farm proposed by NORDIC will pose a great threat to the natural environment , the character and the economy of Belfast and its surroundings . I have attended most of the planning board meetings and want to thank many of its members for asking the difficult questions. Many of the audience ,including myself ,and members of the planing board were told "We have no answer for that. We will look into it." This has made me feel that what they are making this up as they go along. Are we to put the future of our beloved Belfast into the hands of people who by their own admission they don't know what they are doing ?

I am deeply concerned that the needs of this mega factory farm will drain the economical and natural resources of Belfast. Leaving nothing to draw more suitable and sustainable businesses to locate here. We also have to consider that the Nordic team is involved in an ongoing lawsuit over "shoddy work on the construction" of their facility in Norway. And that aqua farm is only one tenth the size of what NORDIC proposes for Belfast.

Please deny these people their permits to experiment on our vibrant and lovely community.

Sincerely,

Lewis L. Cisle
243 High St
Belfast Maine 04915
1 207 505 5995

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR HARD
WORK AND ASKING THE TOUGH QUESTIONS

LEWIS.

