

## **Public Information Meeting**

Nordic held a Public Information Meeting regarding this application (the “PIM”) on October 4, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at the Troy A. Howard Middle School located at 173 Lincolnville Ave, Belfast, Maine 04915. The following parties represented Nordic Aquafarms and presented at the PIM: Erik Heim, President of Nordic Aquafarms, David Noyes and Carter Cyr of Nordic Aquafarms, Attorney Joanna B. Tourangeau of Drummond Woodsum, counsel to Nordic Aquafarms, Elizabeth Ransom, Principal of Ransom Consulting and Nate Dill of Ransom Consulting.

Approximately 175-200 members of the public attended the PIM. Two hundred copies of the Maine Department of Environmental Protection’s Information Sheet Public Participation in the Licensing Process (copy attached) were made available to attendees. Sign in sheets, attached hereto, were available to provide an estimate of attendees.

Robin Dostie, a court reporter and Notary Public in and for the State of Maine transcribed the hearing. The transcript of the PIM is included with this application.

Copies of the PowerPoint presentation slides from the PIM are available on the City of Belfast website at <https://www.cityofbelfast.org/index.aspx?NID=366> Slides are located under “Maine Department of Environmental Protection Permit Process” heading. The PIM was broadcast live on the City of Belfast channel BEL TV and a recording can be viewed here: <https://www.cityofbelfast.org/index.aspx?NID=262>

We understand that the Department has received questions regarding the scope of the notice provided for the PIM. While the notice complied with the abutter notification requirements of Chapter 2 of the Department Rules, transparency is of the utmost importance to Nordic. Going forward, Nordic will continue to voluntarily provide notice of meetings and applications to entities who request it. Nordic will also voluntarily submit copies of DEP applications to the Town of Northport to assist interested parties in reviewing those applications. Finally, Nordic is increasing the size of the notice area (where notice is required by DEP) to include notice to property owners (as shown on readily available Belfast and Northport tax maps) within a one mile radius of the discharge.

# Information Sheet

## Public Participation in the Licensing Process

Dated: April 2018    Contact: (207) 287-7688

### SUMMARY

Maine law charges the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection (D.E.P.) with evaluating license applications for many different activities that affect Maine's environment. Individuals and legal entities may participate at various points during license application processing. Individuals must recognize that the Commissioner's charge may, under certain circumstances, be overtaken by the Board of Environmental Protection (Board). This INFORMATION SHEET, in conjunction with consulting statutory and regulatory provisions referred to in this document, will assist with your understanding of the potential opportunities for participation in the Commissioner's process; other specific provisions that apply to the Board are not addressed in this INFORMATION SHEET. A failure to participate during the licensing process will result in a person's only option for influence over that decision being the filing of an appeal. D.E.P.'s *Rules Concerning the Processing of Applications and Other Administrative Matters (Chapter 2)*, 06-096 C.M.R. ch. 2, was promulgated, in part, to provide guidance on this process.

1. **PUBLIC ACCESS TO INFORMATION.** Records submitted to D.E.P. are generally available to the public under Maine's Freedom of Access Act, 1 M.R.S. §§ 400-414. Other than portions claimed to be confidential by law when submitted to D.E.P., all license application materials are readily available for review and copying at our offices in Augusta, Portland, Bangor, and Presque Isle.
2. **PUBLIC NOTICE.** Maine law requires applicants to publicly make known their intent to submit an application to D.E.P. It is the responsibility of an individual who is interested in following or participating in the license decision-making process to act after seeking out that notice or, if you are an abutter, to act when noticed directly by mail.
  - A. **Public Informational Meetings.** Informational meetings are held by persons prior to submitting a licensing application to D.E.P. for the purpose of informing the public about an anticipated project. These meetings are held at a location near to a proposed project and are by design open to the public. Abutters to the anticipated project location receive notice in the mail of the meeting time and location, and notice is also published in newspapers serving the area of the project.
  - B. **Application Filing.** Prior to filing an application with D.E.P., abutters to the project location receive notice in the mail of the anticipated filing date, and it is also published in newspapers serving the area of the project.
3. **INTERESTED PERSONS.** Individuals can acquire materials submitted to D.E.P., attend public informational meetings, request that a public hearing be held on a filed application, request that the Board take jurisdiction over an application, and provide comments on an application or a draft decision.

- A. **Maximum Participation.** Participation in a D.E.P. licensing decision to the maximum extent possible requires a person to submit a written request stating his or her desire to acquire material related to an application. The individuals who do are known as "interested persons." Once a request is filed, interested persons will be provided with the opportunity to inspect and copy materials on file at D.E.P.; they also receive direct notice of public informational, pre-application and pre-submission meetings, and public hearings. The timing of an interested person's request to be part of the process will determine the number of events potentially available to him or her.
- B. **Public Informational Meetings.** Informational meetings are held to inform the public about environmental impacts that are anticipated from a project. Interested persons may ask questions at such a meeting. Questioners should be aware that answers may not be available during the meeting.
- C. **Pre-application and Pre-Submission Meetings.** D.E.P. often meets with potential applicants to identify regulatory and processing issues that need consideration. Pre-application and pre-submission meetings will typically not be attended by interested persons, in part because such a meeting is not, by law, a "public proceeding" freely open to attendance under Maine's Freedom of Access Law. Although the decision to allow individuals other than an applicant to attend is D.E.P.'s to make, interested persons invited to attend such a meeting should expect only to observe, since public input cannot be received at this time in the licensing process.
- D. **Application Comments.** Interested persons and any other member of the public may submit written comments, including technical information, at any time during the course of an application's processing. It is in that person's interest to submit information early in the process in order to ensure adequate time for consideration by the D.E.P. staff member evaluating the application.
- E. **Draft Order Comments.** Interested persons will receive the Commissioner's draft licensing decision at least five (5) working days prior to final action. Written comments may be submitted on that draft decision. Reasonable notice of when the Commissioner anticipates issuing a final decision on the draft order will also be provided to interested persons.
- F. **Public Hearing Requests.** People may request that a public hearing be held on a filed application within 20 days after its acceptance as complete for processing by D.E.P. Such a request must satisfy requirements found in Section 7 of Chapter 2. The Commissioner will typically order that a hearing be held where credible conflicting technical information appears to exist regarding a licensing criterion.
- G. **BEP Jurisdiction Requests.** People may request that the Board assume jurisdiction over a filed application within 20 days after D.E.P. accepts it as complete for processing. Such a request must satisfy Section 17 of Chapter 2. Board jurisdiction is not available for windpower development projects or general permits for tidal energy demonstration projects.



## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

If you have questions or need additional information on the appeal process, contact the D.E.P. by calling (207) 287-7688. All Maine D.E.P. rules and laws are available via the internet by following the links provided at: <http://www.maine.gov/dep/>.

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**Note: D.E.P. provides this INFORMATION SHEET for general guidance only; it is not intended for use as a legal reference. Maine law governs every citizen's rights.**

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OC/F2003/r.1-2004/r.2-2008/r.3-2018





Nordic Aquafarms Public Information Meeting

October 4, 2018

Sign In Sheet

<u>NAME</u>	<u>EMAIL ADDRESS</u>
Tom Samung	
Eric Chen-Sohal	
Jeff Huley	
Michelle Grogan	
Sam Grogan	
Les Pelletier	
Brona Yelland	
Terrell Engstrom	
Logan Chipman	
Donna Coyle	
Mary Weaver	
John F. Blum	
Dawn Cofort	
Benny Cofort	
Robyn Tarantini	
JASON MITCHELL	
Sue McEwen	
Ethan Hyler	N/A
NATHANIEL BARN	
Miriam Watkins	N/A
Doug Gurnio	
A. Nickerson	
Wine	
Ellie Daniels	
Donna Broderick	
Zafra Whitcomb	
Suzanne Stone	
Marion Brown	
Camille Gaglio	
Frank Gaglio	
Sunny Gaglio	
Wilden Gaglio	
Rebekah Heikkila	
Joanne Moesswilde	



Nordic Aquafarms Public Information Meeting

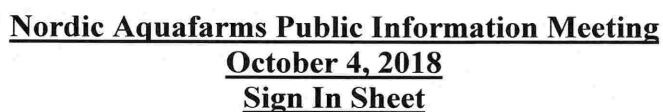
October 4, 2018

Sign In Sheet

NAME	EMAIL ADDRESS
CARMEN BRISTOL	
Jim OWEN	
SID BLOCK	
MICHAEL TIPPEL	
GREGG GULYAN	
GARY GULEZIAN	
Sadie Lloyd	
Janie Phillips	
Andy Stevenson	
Paul Porada	
Betty Sue Easton	
Shelley Fern	
STEVEN FEIN	
Wynne Marshall	
Amy Green	
Emmett Downes	
Judge Johnson	
GAY KEMPTON	
PAUL JERRETT	
Nancy Durand Lanson	
Melith Brooks	
Phyllis Coe Tho	
Stephen Wolper	
Jo Querry	
Stephanie Querry	
KATE HARRIS	
Babette Cohen-Solal	
Armonie Cohen-Solal	
KATHRYN STAGAS	
Robert Duffy	
Chad Mills	
Donna Dubrown	
Daniel Herbert	
Steve O'Keefe	







NAME	EMAIL ADDRESS
Janine Cary	
Bruce Reinmann	
Wendy Reinmann	
A. Waters	
Samantha Langlois	
Susan + Walden Cutting	
Christopher Anderson	
Audra Novine McTague	
GEIR GASEIDNES	
DELAN O'CONNOR	
Paul Bennacki	
Jon Mager	
Josephine Cobley	
Petsy Shell	
Chris Rector	
Shay Conover	
Bill Colcord	
Dorothy Colcord	
Jocelyn Gaseidnes	
DON PERKINS	
Bethany Allgrave	
Jan Dodge	
MARI BISCLAW	

