



Lessard, Susan <slessard@bucksportmaine.gov>

Whole Oceans changes

3 messages

Jason Huffman <jason.huffman@undercurrentnews.com>
To: slessard@bucksportmaine.gov

Fri, Oct 26, 2018 at 8:14 AM

Hey Susan, Apologies for the early morning email. I am writing a story about Whole Oceans that needs to go up soon. There have been some big management changes.

Have they yet purchased the property where the old paper mill sits? Or is there an agreement to lease it? Are you still waiting for a firm commitment from them?

Are you at all concerned?

Was Ben Willauer not one of the company officials most visible in Bucksport?

Give you a call in a bit.

--

Sincerely,
Jason Huffman, senior reporter
Undercurrent News
301-606-8810
jason.huffman@undercurrentnews.com

Lessard, Susan <slessard@bucksportmaine.gov>
To: jason.huffman@undercurrentnews.com
Bcc: Jason Mitchell <jmitchell@wholeoceans.com>

Fri, Oct 26, 2018 at 8:50 AM

I am aware of management changes at Whole Oceans. In any startup multi-million dollar entity, there are phases that development goes through. They are in the process of transitioning from development to operations and they have met with both me and Rich Rotella our Economic Development Director to discuss these. Ben was an important and visible member of their development team. I am including a link for you to his blog that explains his decision. I am confident that the Whole Oceans project will move forward successfully. The 30 day public comment period for their DEP wastewater permit ends on 10/29, and we hope to see a permit issued following that. The project is very supported in this community and we also hope that no outside people or organizations file an appeal of that permit. Following a clear permit, Whole Oceans will complete the sale with AIM for the property. I suggest that you contact Jason Mitchell or Jen Fortier from Whole Oceans. I had the pleasure of seeing the Whole Oceans team at the Maine Development Foundation 40th Annual Meeting last night at which Bucksport received an award - and they came to support us. That is the kind of company that they are.

<https://www.benwillauer.com/blog/leaving-whole-oceans>

I am not in the office today - I have a house closing at 930 this morning that should be over by 10:30. If you need more information after that - you can call me on my cell phone at 356-1839.

Take care -
Sue Lessard

Susan Lessard | Town Manager
Town of Bucksport, Maine | Incorporated June 25, 1792
50 Main Street | P.O. Drawer X | Bucksport, Maine 04416
207.469.7368, ext. 226 (office) | 207.469.7369 (fax)
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6/17/2019

Town of Bucksport, Maine Mail - Whole Oceans changes

***made confidential by law. If you have received this message in error, please notify this office immediately by return email.
Thank you in advance for your cooperation.***

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Jason Huffman <jason.huffman@undercurrentnews.com>
To: slessard@bucksportmaine.gov

Fri, Oct 26, 2018 at 9:15 AM

Thanks Sue. Good luck with your closing!

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Lessard, Susan <slessard@bucksportmaine.gov>

ME0037478 Proposed Whole Oceans Discharge Permit

2 messages

Lessard, Susan <slessard@bucksportmaine.gov>

Mon, Oct 29, 2018 at 2:28 PM

To: "Wood, Gregg" <Gregg.Wood@maine.gov>

Bcc: Jason Mitchell <jmitchell@wholeoceans.com>, Rich Rotella <rich.rotella@bucksportmaine.gov>, Jennifer Fortier <jfortier@wholeoceans.com>

Good afternoon,

The purpose of this email is to support the application of Whole Oceans for a wastewater discharge permit. The Town of Bucksport has been working with the Whole Oceans team for more than a year and a half. The proposed use of the former VERSO mill site in Bucksport is of great benefit to the Town of Bucksport and the region, and is a more environmentally friendly use of that industrial site than the mills or tannery that were its predecessors.

While I understand that there is concern over the use of a virgin site in the Nordic Application for Belfast, I am asking that the Whole Oceans use of a long-time industrial site for an industrial purpose that is more beneficial than previous uses be judged on its own merit and not 'lumped in' to the Nordic application review.

Whole Oceans started its discussions with permitting agencies more than a year ago and has worked hard to understand and address any concerns that the Department has identified. They have done considerable outreach over the past two years to many conservation organizations as well, and are committed to being a good environmental steward of the property and the Penobscot River watershed. They have presented industry standard, documentable evidence for outfall numbers out of an abundance of caution - so that they are not making promises of outcomes that there is no way to benchmark. That does not mean that they will not seek to better those numbers - just that making claims that have no current real-world applications does not provide the transparency and forthright behavior that is a hallmark of this company.

Finally, Whole Oceans is a Maine-based company seeking to help make Maine a world leader in addressing food security, trade imbalance, and providing good paying, environmentally responsible jobs. I encourage you to consider this application based on its own merit, in consideration of its siting on an existing industrial site.

Sincerely,

Susan Lessard
Town Manager**Susan Lessard** | Town ManagerTown of Bucksport, Maine | Incorporated June 25, 1792
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Jason Mitchell <jmitchell@wholeoceans.com>

Mon, Oct 29, 2018 at 3:04 PM

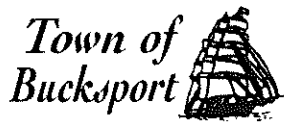
To: "Lessard, Susan" <slessard@bucksportmaine.gov>

Thanks Sue, much appreciated!

Jason Mitchell
Whole Oceans COO

207-751-3530

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Lessard, Susan <slessard@bucksportmaine.gov>

OP Ed

3 messages

Lessard, Susan <slessard@bucksportmaine.gov>

Tue, Oct 30, 2018 at 3:51 PM

To: Jason Mitchell <jmitchell@wholeoceans.com>, Jennifer Fortier <jfortier@wholeoceans.com>

Good afternoon,

Attached is an OP Ed that I am considering sending to the BDN, Ellsworth American and maybe the Republican Journal in Belfast. Before doing so I thought I would sent it to you folks to see if there were any objections to such an article.

Take care -

Sue

Susan Lessard | Town Manager

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**Swimming up stream.docx**

15K

Jason Mitchell <jmitchell@wholeoceans.com>

Wed, Oct 31, 2018 at 10:45 AM

To: "Lessard, Susan" <slessard@bucksportmaine.gov>, Jennifer Fortier <jfortier@wholeoceans.com>

Sue

Good to see you yesterday. We also had fun at the Economic Development meeting with Rich 😊

Jen and I have reviewed your Op Ed and shared with the wider Whole Oceans team. We all think it is well written, very thoughtful and we very much appreciate your support! We'd love to see in in some of the local publications and also the Bangor Daily News!

Thanks for sharing!

Best,

Jason

Jason Mitchell

Whole Oceans COO

207-751-3530

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Lessard, Susan <slessard@bucksportmaine.gov>

Wed, Oct 31, 2018 at 11:34 AM

To: Jason Mitchell <jmitchell@wholeoceans.com>, Jennifer Fortier <jfortier@wholeoceans.com>

Thank you. The BDN has a 650 word maximum for Op Ed pieces so I had to edit it. I have attached the final draft. I am sending it to the Ellsworth American, Republican Journal and the Enterprise too.

It was nice meeting with all of you yesterday.

Take care-

Sue

Susan Lessard | Town Manager

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**Swimming up stream.docx**

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Lessard, Susan <slessard@bucksportmaine.gov>

FW: WWD Comment Review & Next Steps

1 message

Jason Mitchell <jmitchell@wholeoceans.com>
To: "Lessard, Susan" <slessard@bucksportmaine.gov>

Tue, Oct 30, 2018 at 4:10 PM

Sue – FYI – attached is a collated copy of all comments submitted to DEP during the public comment period that ended yesterday.

-----Original Appointment-----

From: Jason Mitchell <jmitchell@wholeoceans.com>
Sent: Monday, October 29, 2018 3:22 PM
To: William Taylor; Andrea C. Maker; Mike Chorske; Joe McElwee
Subject: WWD Comment Review & Next Steps
When: Tuesday, October 30, 2018 3:00 PM-4:00 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada).
Where: 712-770-4675; Access Code 261969

This message originated outside your organization


Team

With today being last day for public comment, I'd like to re-group tomorrow to review all the comments and discuss next steps. Although DEP has the lead to respond to these comments, with my initial review I can see that we will need to provide some input to DEP and it's in our best interest to participate and ensure proper responses.

Bill / Andrea - we look to your guidance on how to influence this within bounds of the process, without over stepping?

(If 3:00 doesn't work I can be available any time after 3:00 tomorrow)

Best,
Jason

 **WO Public Comments (W6955103x7AC2E).pdf**
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