

## EXHIBIT A

### **RESPONSES TO ANY SIGNIFICANT ISSUES RELEVANT TO LICENSING CRITERIA THAT WERE RAISED AT THE MARCH 20, 2018, PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING FOR WHOLE OCEANS**

- Question: The system has 99 percent recirculation, so that means one percent will be going back out. How many gallons of water will be going out per day, and how much of that will be river water?
  - Answer: The discharge will be 4 million gallons per day. Of that, 3 million gallons will be saltwater and 1 million will be freshwater.
  
- Question: If it's not a fish diet, what are they going to be fed?
  - Answer: It is very easy to raise Atlantic salmon without fishmeal. You can have zero wild fish input if you're using trimmings meal from fish processing plants. The goal is to be as sustainable as possible with as low of a fish-in, fish-out ratio as possible. In fact, zero is very achievable. Norwegian industries are feeding 75 percent grains to their fish out of total feed ingredients. Whole Oceans will focus on their Omega-3 content and the lipids source. The sustainability issue is huge, and there are a lot of choices that can be used.
  
- Question: Have you purchased any of the land or buildings across the street from the mill site? If not, do you have any future plans for expansion?
  - Answer: The bulk of the property we have acquired will be the mill site. Across the street is a parking lot north of the fitness center, which we have acquired. Everything else across the street to the south of that is still retained by the current owner, and we have no use for those structures at this point so we have no intention of acquiring them.
  
- Question: We had a mercury problem in the Penobscot River. How adequate will the filtering systems be in getting that mercury out?
  - Answer: This is something we are fully aware of. As part of our firewall, there will be absolutely no mercury that will enter our system. This will be the highest-grade quality fish you can buy anywhere, and there will be no mercury. Further, we can also ensure that there will be no mercury in the feed.
  
- Question: Can you describe what BOD and TSS are?
  - Answer: BOD is Biochemical Oxygen Demand, which is the amount of oxygen-demanding material in the effluent. TSS is Total Suspended Solids. These are both the typical parameters the DEP looks at when they evaluate a discharge to a water in the state. You want to keep these numbers down.

- Question: What kinds of solids?
  - Answer: Suspended solids that may not be taken out in the filtering process. It is typical for a municipality to have a TSS parameter, just as we would.
  
- Question: You said the fish will not be GMO. Will the food that is fed to the fish be GMO?
  - Answer: We are targeting no, but we have not made a final determination yet. There is currently no organic label for US seafood. What's under discussion is to use only fishmeal and fish oil for the organic certification. No terrestrial proteins and no grains. There needs to be a balance between organic and sustainability. Our goal is to create a sustainable, non-GMO feed.
  
- Question: What is the harvest process? How are these animals harvested?
  - Answer: The nice thing about raising fish in aquaculture systems, is that you control the life and can treat the fish with great welfare in managing the densities. When they are pushed from the production tank to the finishing tank you can control the densities so they are not tired. You then try to do a rested harvest.
  
- Question: You mentioned the wishes of the Wabanki Nation will be respected. Have you had any conversations with the Penobscot Nation?
  - Answer: At this time, we have not yet talked with the Penobscot Nation. We are scheduled to get together with them at some point. However, we have a high priority to respect the river.
  
- Question: Are you going to have any settling ponds at the facility? Can you describe the filters and the filtration process?
  - Answer: We are not going to have any settling ponds at the facility.
  
- Question: What will your total power consumption be? Will you utilize power cogeneration?
  - Answer: While we do not have an exact number tonight of what our total power consumption will be, we want to have as small a carbon footprint as possible. All of our systems use as little power as possible. We will also be able to capture some energy from the gravity flow from Silver Lake. The farm has solar panels on top. Ultimately, that will be our goals as that fits into our financial plan and economics. Our philosophy is to get our carbon footprint down as low as possible.
  - This water is only being pumped once. All of the rotation and movement of water is done through one particular lift, and that lift is as minimal as possible. That lift could be as little as only 4 or 5. Will utilize gravity as much as possible.

- Question: Where are the eggs originally coming from?
  - Answer: There are a variety of suppliers that we can choose from, but at the moment our eggs are likely going to be sourced from Iceland. However, over time we would like to develop our own stock and will be working with local partners to do so. We want to start this work right away.
- Question: What is the expected rate of mortality?
  - Answer: Mortality depends on life stage. There will be a 5-10 percent mortality rate from egg to smolt, but could be upwards of 20 percent. From smolt onwards it ranges from 3-11 percent. Our numbers will hopefully be lower than that, though.
- Question: Are you working with the FDA?
  - Answer: Yes.
- Question: Where are you going to process the fish? What happens after harvesting?
  - Answer: As part of our pre-placement agreement, we ship a head-on gutted product (minimally processed at the facility) to the distributor's facility somewhere on the east coast. They will stay as domestic fish.
- Question: Are you working with Monterey?
  - Answer: Absolutely, yes.
- Question: Out of the 50 new jobs you expect to create, how many of those will be trade jobs? Will any of those be plumbers?
  - Answer: Plumbing will be our highest requirement for trade jobs. Out of the 50 new jobs, approximately 15 will be trade jobs. Of those 15 trade jobs, one-half to two-thirds will be in the plumbing sector.
- Question: Will you offer training for the people you hire?
  - Answer: Yes, it is essential. In order to perform the work, you have to be familiar with the systems.
- Question: At some point, the filters will need to be changed. The old ones will be toxic as they will be capturing mercury and other toxins. Where will the old filters go, or what do you plan to do with the old filters?
  - Answer: We will work closely with the DEP to dispose of the old filters properly.