

NOVA SCOTIA AQUACULTURE REVIEW BOARD
60 RESEARCH DRIVE, BIBLE HILL, NS B6L 2R2
Aquaculture.Board@novascotia.ca

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By Nova Scotia Aquaculture Review Board at 11:58 am, Sep 19, 2023

INTERVENOR STATUS APPLICATION

Instructions - download this document prior to filling it in.

Please submit this form to the Aquaculture Review Board (Board) no later than **ten (10) days** after the publication date of the public hearing notice. You may attach additional pages if necessary.

Intervenor Status Applications will only be processed if they are received by the Board on or before 16h30 pm (local Nova Scotia time) on the deadline date.

A person applying for intervenor status for multiple applications must complete and submit individual Intervenor Status Applications forms for each application.

Pursuant to s.23 of the *Aquaculture Licence and Lease Regulations*, the Board will decide on this Intervenor Status Application within ten (10) days of receipt and will notify you of the decision no later than five (5) days after the decision is made.

All information provided to the Board on this form and any additional pages submitted (the "form information") will become a part of the record of the hearing. Should your application for intervenor status be accepted, the form information may be disclosed to the other parties to the hearing.

You are also advised that the form information may be subject to an access request under the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* ("FOIPOP") and may, as a result, be released unless the information is exempt from disclosure under FOIPOP.

Please refer to the *Aquaculture Licence and Lease Regulations*, s.23 (attached) for more information on Intervenor Status Requests.

Application

Please read the entire application before responding. **(Print clearly or type).**

- Please identify the aquaculture lease application that you are requesting intervenor status for:

Lease Number:

1205x 1432 1433

Hearing Date:

February 5 2024

- Name of Applicant:

Region of Queens Municipality

- Civic Address:

249 White Point Rd
Liverpool

- Mailing Address:
(if different than above)

Box 1264
Liverpool
B0T 1K0

- Phone Number(s):

[REDACTED]

- Email Address*:

dnorman@regionofqueens.com

- Preferred method of communication: ☐ email* ☐ Mail ☐ Other: _____

*Unless otherwise notified, email will be the preferred method of communication

8. Specifically describe how the proposed aquaculture activities may substantially and directly affect you:

Region of Queens Municipality's (RQM's) branding 'Queens Coast - Seek Nature's Rewards' speaks to that which is most valued in our area, our coast. This branding is based upon our area's natural beauty, pristine coastlines and the relative ease by which residents and guests can experience Queens County's natural assets.

Liverpool Bay is a core assets to RQM as a public, natural resource that supports local fisheries, boat building/repair, tourism, healthy living and a marina. It is one of the primary attractions for new residents, businesses and visitors.

Industrial scale operations in close proximity to our coastlines detract from and deteriorate our natural environment and are contrary to our marketing brand. Thus, the proposed expansion of Open Net Pen Fish Farms in Liverpool Bay is anticipated to substantially and directly affect RQM's citizens, existing businesses and visitors from economic, social and environmental perspectives.

9. Describe your existing uses, if any, of the proposed lease site, and state whether the identified uses are recreational or commercial:

RQM represents the citizens of Queens County. For this reason 'our existing uses' include their interests as well.

The existing Coffin Island site (AQ#1205) and proposed expansion extends in waters within 250m of Coffin Island. A provincial Nature Reserve and home to species at risk, this historically important and attractive island is regularly visited by recreational boaters, kayakers and artists for photography, hiking, swimming, bird watching, and sight seeing. There are several small cabins (former fish shanties) owned by many generations of local families.

Other recreational uses of the three proposed lease areas are boating, stand up paddle boarding, bird watching, sight seeing and 'peace of mind'.

Commercial uses of the three lease areas include the commercial fishery. The most important fishery is the lobster fishery, however other activities ie marine plant harvesting also contribute to our economy.

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10. Describe your existing uses, if any, of the area surrounding the proposed lease site, and state whether the identified uses are recreational or commercial:

Beach Meadows Beach, a municipally owned property identified as 'protected' under the Nova Scotia Beaches Act, is located within 500 m of requested expansion 1205x.

Because this is a popular beach for locals and tourists for sightseeing, swimming, walking, dog walking, weddings, surfing, wake boarding, standup paddle boarding, photography, beach combing, etc., RQM has recently made significant financial investments into the promotion of and construction of accessible infrastructure. This includes public washrooms, change rooms, outdoor showers, sidewalks, boardwalks and a MOBI Mat on the beach. The back beach and creek side are particularly popular for families with young children because of its warm, shallow water. A destination beach for locals and tourists, it is one of Liverpool's major draws for newcomers, including business owners and medical professionals. These uses are both recreational and commercial in nature.

This beach is already being negatively impacted due to the presence of the existing fin fish farm. An expansion of the open net pen farm with more pens and fish will further increase this impact as washed up buoys, styrofoam, fish waste (excess food and feces), increase at the ocean's edge.

With an increased number of fish farms in Liverpool Bay the potential for contamination of our shorelines and beaches with antibiotics and pesticide laced waste due to sea lice in our water also increases (recreational).

11. Please provide any other information which you consider relevant to your application for intervenor status including any affiliations, if any:

While it is understood the responsibility of RQM stops at the water's edge, due to the extremely close proximity of the operations to the shoreline, the impacts will affect the uplands within our jurisdiction.

Extensive high level land use planning covers all of Queens County. The goal of planning is the creation of orderly, healthy and sustainable communities. This involves careful consideration when establishing new industrial, residential, commercial, recreational, conservation and institutional zones.

Creating three large 'marine' industrial zones of approximately 40 ha each within Liverpool Bay is highly conflicting and contrary to all planning logic.

The impacts of expanded, industrial scale fish farming in Liverpool Bay is anticipated to impact our tax payers and visitors, adjacent property owners and all users of our shorelines, parks and beaches that we own. All will be subjected to increased noise, light and water pollution from the fish farm sites.

These proposed industrial expansions will have a negative impacts on our citizens' quality of life and transform the character of all communities surrounding the bay. It is for this reason Region of Queens is making application for intervenor status at the hearing.

12. Declaration

By signing and submitting this form, I acknowledge that I have read, understand and accept the above statements regarding the collection, use, and disclosure of the personal information provided on this form. I also hereby certify that the information provided on this form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Mayor Darlene Norman

Signature of Applicant

19-Sep-2023

Date

HOW TO SEND YOUR APPLICATION TO THE BOARD:

Upon completing the application form, you have two choices on how to submit your application to the Board.

- To send this document electronically after filling in the form, either click on the "Send Via Email" button OR [click on this link](#) to save it and open an email for you to attach it to.
- To print the document on your printer and send via Canada Post or courier, select the "PRINT" button .

Send Via Email

PRINT

Additional Information on Intervenor Requests

Excerpt from the Aquaculture Licence and Lease Regulations

Request for intervenor status

23 (1) *A person may request intervenor status from the Review Board.*

(2) *A request under subsection (1) must be in writing in a form determined by the Review Board and must be submitted to the Review Board no later than 10 days after the date that notice of the adjudicative hearing is published under Section 19.*

(3) *No later than 10 days after the date it receives a request for intervenor status, the Review Board must decide whether to grant or refuse the request.*

(4) *The Review Board must grant intervenor status to any person requesting it who, in the opinion of the Review Board, is substantially and directly affected by the hearing.*

(5) *A decision made by the Review Board with respect to intervenor status is final.*

(6) *No later than 5 days after deciding on a request for intervenor status, the Review Board must provide notice of its decision to the person requesting intervenor status and, if the request is granted, to each of the parties to the proceeding.*

In making decisions on intervenor request, the Board will reference the regulated factors below to determine whether the intervenor applicant is directly and substantially affected by the hearing pursuant to section 23(4) above.

Excerpt from the Aquaculture Licence and Lease Regulations

Factors to be considered in decisions related to marine aquaculture sites

3 *In making decisions related to marine aquaculture sites, the Review Board or Administrator must take all of the following factors into consideration:*

(a) the optimum use of marine resources;

(b) the contribution of the proposed operation to community and Provincial economic development;

(c) fishery activities in the public waters surrounding the proposed aquacultural operation;

(d) the oceanographic and biophysical characteristics of the public waters surrounding the proposed aquacultural operation;

(e) the other users of the public waters surrounding the proposed aquacultural operation;

(f) the public right of navigation;

(g) the sustainability of wild salmon;

(h) the number and productivity of other aquaculture sites in the public waters surrounding the proposed aquacultural operation;