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By Nova Scotia Aquaculture Review Board at 3:02 pm, Sep 19, 2023

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

INTERVENOR STATUS APPLICATION**Instructions**

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).**

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

Lease Number:

AQ#1205x, AQ#1432, AQ#1433

Hearing Date:

Feb 5 - 9, 2024

2. Name of Applicant:

South Queens Chamber of Commerce

3. Civic Address:

154 Main St
Liverpool NS
B0T1K0

4. Mailing Address:
(if different than above)

PO Box 1378
Liverpool NS
B0T1K0

5. Phone Number(s):

[REDACTED]

6. Email Address*:

secretary @southqueenschamber.com

7. Preferred method of communication: ☒ email* ☐ Mail ☐ Other: _____

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

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

The South Queens Chamber of Commerce (SQCC) represents 87 small businesses and individuals in the Liverpool Bay Area. Member businesses include Business, Financial, Family and Professional Services, Education, Real Estate, Legal, Hotel & Tourism, Entertainment and Music, Restaurant & Bars, Sports & Recreation, Retail, Construction, Beauty, Health & Wellness, Government and Not for Profit Organizations, Transportation, Publishing, Agriculture & Environmental Services, and Community Supporters.

The SQCC believes that should the proposed expansion of ONPFF in Liverpool Bay be approved that many of its member businesses will be directly and substantially affected due to the deterioration of Liverpool Bay, spoiled scenic views and lost tourism revenue.

In 2019, members of the SQCC had members vote (in favour or opposed) to "Open Pen Fish Farming in the Bay of Liverpool". 100% of those voting members voted "AGAINST" Open Pen Fish Farming in Liverpool Bay. See attached.

Liverpool Bay is the local, natural resource that underpins our economy and our livelihoods. It is a relatively small bay and scale-appropriate industries are much more likely to succeed and be sustainable because they respect the capacities of the resources. Follow the stories of large commercial industries in other places. Make comparisons. Look at their history. Understand the limitations of local environments and resources before inviting exploitation by out-of-province or foreign interests. We are asking you to do what is socially, environmentally and economically via for our community.

The viability of many of Liverpool's small businesses is dependent on tourism and new residents moving to the area. People are attracted to Liverpool (Nova Scotia in general) in large part by our beautiful and pristine coastlines. Recreational and eco-tourism are two of the fastest growing sectors of tourism. Liverpool's recent influx of new residents are for many, a quality life decision. Regulatory policy and decisions which do not value the health or protection of our marine ecosystems will quickly translate into fewer tourists, residents and lost revenues and a lower tax base.

While Kelly Cove Salmon (KCS) and the NS Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture would like us to believe that the expansion of open net pen fish farming (ONPFF) in Liverpool Bay will "create jobs"—we say this is an excuse to bring a polluting industry into our community. Any jobs to be created by this expansion are likely to be low paying jobs, of which there are ample available in Queens County. KCS claims to require an increase in salmon production in order to justify building a processing facility in NS. Again, creating low paying jobs that will be of little interest to local workers and likely to result in the need to import workers should the processing facility ever even materialize. And in the long term, there are no guarantees that these jobs would even stay in Nova Scotia, let alone Liverpool, especially with technological advances make it possible to feed fish by pushing a button from anywhere in the world.

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

The following SQCC member uses the proposed lease sites for commercial and recreational purposes:

1) Liverpool Adventure Outfitters (LAO) is located at the Milton Canoe & Camera Club, 137 West St. Milton NS, along the Mersey River. L.O.A offers Paddle and Full Day Picnic tours in Liverpool Bay and Coffin Island. Should the proposed expansion of fish farms proceed, believes that the location of the pens and deterioration of water quality and marine life is likely to impact the quality of guest tours and interest in paddling in Liverpool Bay.

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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:

The following SQCC members use the area surrounding the proposed lease sites for commercial and recreational purposes:

- 1) Bear Cove Resources operates in East Berlin, Queens County, N.S. harvesting local, storm-logged seaweeds under License issued by the Nova Scotia Department Natural Resources and Renewables. The seaweed is composted, processed and packaged on-site and marketed as a soil amendment and seaweed fertilizer, under the trade name Storm-cast. Organic growers demand clean, chemical-free products. Bear Cove Resources is facing increasing demand for their products as farmers, gardeners, landscapers and coastal landowners look for options of increasing soil quality and integrity. Bear Cove Resources is extremely concerned that the proposed expansion of ONPFFs in Liverpool Bay will negatively impact their commercial operation due to decreased water and seaweed quality and potential chemical contamination.
- 2) As previously stated (R9) Liverpool Adventure Outfitters (LAO) offers Paddle and Full Day Picnic tours in Liverpool Bay and Cofin Island. Should the proposed expansion of fish farms proceed, they believe that the proposed locations/expansion of the fish farm pans and impacts to water quality and marine life is likely to impact their ability and their guests interest in paddling Liverpool Bay.
- 3) The Point on the Mersey by RumClo Developments is a real estate, subdivision underway on property adjacent to the proposed AQ# 1433 ONPFF site. The Point Development will include 124 detached and semi-detached units (permanent and seasonal) many with water frontage and water views. RumClo Developments strongly opposes the Cooke Aquaculture expansion of salmon farms in Liverpool Bay. RumClo Developments will be investing \$30 Million into their initiative which has a strong focus on green living. RumClo Developments considers ONPFF as both undesirable to look and harmful to the environment. They believe that the expansion of salmon farms in Liverpool Bay will have a negative impact on their sales as it will directly interfere with scenic views and the ocean lifestyle they are promoting.
- 4) Covey Island Boatworks (Lunenburg County Shipwrights Incorporated, est 1973) is an award-winning builder of custom and semi-custom power and sailing vessels since 1973. In 2016 Covey Island Boatworks opened a boatyard in Port Mersey Commercial Park, situated in Herring Cove on Liverpool Bay, Brooklyn, including a 16,000 sq facility, offering both products and services to boat owners. The boatyard employs skilled workers who specialize in repairs and custom building of vessels for private and commercial use including lobster boats, motor yachts and sailing cruisers, and are distributors of boat motors, gear and accessories. On choosing to expand the operations at the Port Mersey location, Al Hutchinson, President of Covey Island Boats says: "Over the past several years, demand has skyrocketed for new boats in the commercial fishing industry, with a 3-4 year wait for a this point. This is an opportunity for us to fulfill a need, especially for lobster fishermen". Covey expects to expand up to 15-20 workers at this location. We are opposed to the expansion of KCS's net pen operations in Liverpool Bay which would negatively impact many of our boating customers. Covey Island Boatworks has concerns with the proposed fish farm expansion, "the scale of the 40ha sites would restrict safe boating access particularly for sailing vessels, and their presence would have an immediate negative impact on the appeal of the bay for visiting boaters, many traveling from international ports, who may choose to bypass this bay for more attractive locations along the South Shore." We have some customers from the US and Europe who spend considerable time here, while having their boats worked on by our company, not being able to boat in the affected areas will impact their decision to come to our yard for work."
- 4) TydeKite is a kite flying event company founded in 2017. TydeKite has the largest collection of kites in Nova Scotia, including 2D, 3D, professional quads, 140ft kites, colorful images, designed and weighted for the individual. On 8 Oct. 2023, One Sky One World Fest. - TydeKite will host an international kite flying day for Peace, Love, Friendship and Environment at Privateer Park, Liverpool, NS. These are the type of businesses that Liverpool works to attract to our Town, not fish farms.

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

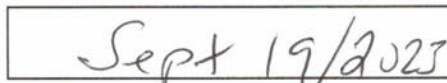
Our primary concern is the people, the existing businesses of Queens County and our most precious resource, Liverpool Bay... an environment and natural resource valued for fishing, tourism, recreation, wild catch fisheries' ecosystems and nurseries, health and cleanliness of beaches, clean air and water, a balanced natural interface between landscape and seascape, wild species protection and preservation of a way of life and livelihoods that are threatened by noise, air and water contaminations.

In summary, KCS does not have the "Social License" to occupy Liverpool Bay. Social License is a privilege to use a shared resource, granted when the affected party, in this case, SQCC members sees a fair trade-off in social benefits, for the concessions offered to an industry or development, and the environmental costs, including quality of life and displacement of existing activities. All the above need to be factored into the equation. Access to and use of Liverpool Bay needs to be kept within the jurisdiction of the people of Queens County and not handed off to multi-national corporation without first prioritizing traditional and current uses by the people of our community.

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.


Signature of Applicant


Date

For Internal Office Use Only

Notice Date: _____

Date Received: _____

Decision Date: _____

Decision: ☐ Approved ☐ Denied

Decision Notes: _____

Applicant Notification Sent: _____

Notification to Parties Sent: _____

June 13/2019

Re: **Open Pen Fish Farming in the Bay of Liverpool**



THO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Open Pen Fish Farming in the Bay of Liverpool has been a widely and vigorously discussed topic in South Queens lately. The board of the South Queens Chamber of Commerce (SQCC) was asked by several of its members to take a stand on this issue.

The Board of SQCC took the approach of sending out a questionnaire to all its members **if they are opposed or in favour of "Open Pen Fish Farming in the Bay of Liverpool"**

On behalf of the Board of South Queens Chamber of Commerce and all its members I am reporting the results of the anonymous survey:

100% of the returned votes of the members of the SQCC have cast their votes "AGAINST" Open Pen Fish Farming in the Bay of Liverpool.

Based on the results the SQCC is representing the will of our members by sharing these results and confirming that our members have voted against Open Pen Fish Farming in the Bay of Liverpool.

Thank you,

South Queens Chamber of Commerce

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;