

McNamara, Cade

From: John Friedenbach <friedenbach@hbmwd.com>
Sent: Friday, February 18, 2022 3:55 PM
To: CEQAResponses
Cc: 'David Noyes'; scott.thompson@nordicaquafarms.com; lynette.mullen@gmail.com
Subject: Nordic Aquafarms Project draft EIR comments
Attachments: Nordic CEQA response HBMWD.pdf

Kindly include our attached comments on the draft EIR for the Nordic Aquafarms project.
Thank you,

John Friedenbach
General Manager
Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District
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HUMBOLDT BAY MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

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February 18, 2022

Cade McNamara
County of Humboldt
Planning and Building Dept., Planning Division
3015 H Street, Eureka, CA 95501

Via email: CEQAResponses@co.humboldt.ca.us



RE: Draft EIR for Nordic Aquafarms

Dear Mr. McNamara,

I am writing to express our support for the Nordic Aquafarms project. As you may be aware, the Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District was formed in the 1950's to attract industry and supply water (untreated surface water) from the Mad River to two pulp mills which were located on the Samoa Peninsula. Our District entered into contracts with the two pulp mills to provide up to 65 MGD (million gallons per day) of untreated water from the Mad River. Both pulp mills constructed and maintained on-site clarifiers to remove/reduce the turbidity from the industrial water prior to utilizing it in their pulp making process. As you also know, the first pulp mill ceased operation in the mid 1990's and the second in 2009.

Since that time, our District, through its public engagement process which we call our Water Resource Planning effort, has been seeking alternate beneficial uses of our excess water. The three focus areas as determined by that public process are: 1) Local Sales; 2) Instream Flow; and 3) Transport. Our Board has allocated 20 MGD to Local Sales; 20 MGD to Instream Flow; and 35 MGD to Transport. Nordic Aquafarms would be considered local sales and the District has the ability to provide the required water needs, both industrial and domestic.

The Nordic Aquafarms project would revitalize not only our industrial water system but our community as well by providing jobs and aquaculture.

Respectfully,

John Friedenbach

General Manager

cc: David Noyes, Scott Thompson: Nordic Aquafarms