

From: [CEQAResponses](#)
To: [McNamara, Cade](#)
Subject: FW: Comment
Date: Wednesday, February 09, 2022 6:14:09 PM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)



Laura McClenagan

Executive Secretary
Humboldt County Planning and Building Department
3015 H Street | Eureka, CA 95501
Phone: 707-268-3702 | Fax: 707-268-3792
Email: lmcclenagan2@co.humboldt.ca.us

From: Rees Hughes <rees.hughes@humboldt.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, February 09, 2022 12:11 AM
To: CEQAResponses <CEQAResponses@co.humboldt.ca.us>
Subject: Comment

To Whom It May Concern,

I can't pretend that I fully understand everything included in the DIER report but after spending a long evening wading through the document, it is clear that GHD independently concludes that the aquaculture facility (based upon the design and mitigations) would not significantly negatively impact Humboldt's environment. I was impressed by the thoroughness of the scope of the DIER -- from impacts on groundwater, water intake, stormwater runoff, hazardous materials, traffic, habitat modification, air quality, increased population and much more.

I also read and considered the cautionary concerns raised by Baykeeper (et al). I do think that it is important to aggressively monitor both the intake and the outfall for negative impacts with the understanding that adjustments would be made in the event that issues arise.

I toured the site of the facility late last summer curious to see for myself the scope and details of the project. It is a massive undertaking and includes cleaning up the complete mess left behind by the variety of pulp mill operators. That by itself is a huge bonus! Nordic uses an incredibly innovative approach that does not utilize the discredited approach to farming salmon that relies on massive pens in the ocean. Their use of immense, land-based closed tanks seems to address many of the traditional concerns about farmed salmon.

Of course, we all would love to see the wild salmon stock recover enough to meet consumer demand. But it is just not possible especially as demand continues to soar.

Based upon the homework that I have done, I am on board. If we are going to continue to overpopulate the world and overfish our oceans, I believe that this careful but bold and creative approach to raising salmon is an important response with important local benefits and minimal risks. It also seems that Nordic has been an honest and responsive partner with the community which I hope will continue.

Rees Hughes
1660 Brigid Lane
Arcata, CA 95521
826-0163