

## McNamara, Cade

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**From:** Humboldt Prosperity <humboldtprosperity@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 18, 2022 4:58 PM  
**To:** CEQAResponses  
**Cc:** Ryan Rice  
**Subject:** Nordic Aquafarm Comment  
**Attachments:** 22-2-18 Nordic Aquafarms Comment.pdf

Dear Cade McNamara,

Please find the attached comment letter from Humboldt Prosperity Alliance regarding the Nordic Aquafarm Draft EIR.

Thank you.

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February 18, 2022

Cade McNamara  
County of Humboldt Planning and Building Department, Planning Division  
3015 H Street  
Eureka, CA 95501  
via email: [CEQAResponses@co.humboldt.ca.us](mailto:CEQAResponses@co.humboldt.ca.us)

Dear County of Humboldt Planning and Building Department,

Humboldt Prosperity Alliance supports Nordic Aquafarms' land-based aquaculture project planned for the Samoa Peninsula. This project is an extraordinary example of economic development that provides both economic and environmental benefits to our community.

Humboldt Prosperity Alliance is a nonprofit organization dedicated to protecting and promoting the well-being, security, and success of Humboldt County's businesses and landowners.

As we progress through the Twenty-First Century, Humboldt County must take every opportunity to use our available resources to build a modern and sustainable economic future. By converting the old pulp mill site into a modern aquaculture facility, Nordic Aquafarms' is proposing what is really the ideal project.

The resources required for Nordic's operations - seawater, freshwater, industrial land, wastewater capacity, etc. - are readily available and even currently underutilized. In addition, Nordic's approach to aquaculture is carefully designed and tested to be environmentally sustainable. This means that not only will the abandoned mill site be cleaned up, but it will be replaced by a modern facility that will provide both direct and indirect economic benefits to our community. Directly from the jobs, purchases, and taxes this project can provide, and indirectly by creating a new aspect to the fishing and seafood industry of our community. The Nordic project will draw other aquaculture and related businesses into the community as well as potentially provide opportunities for Cal Poly Humboldt and College of the Redwoods students.

In reviewing the Draft EIR, it is clear that Nordic is very focused on the welfare of fish and the overall environmental sustainability of the aquafarm. By using new technologies to reduce the footprint of land-based aquafarms, and by ensuring that it is practically impossible for local fishery resources to be impacted, Nordic is proposing an environmentally sound project.

Throughout the long process of bringing the project to this point, Nordic has been very open to the community, explaining the project through numerous public meetings and site visits, and even attending informational events hosted by Humboldt Prosperity Alliance. The thoughtful consideration of community members' concerns is noteworthy. Every perspective was given careful and thorough consideration.

We encourage you to recognize the extraordinary opportunity the Nordic Aquafarms' project offers our community. This is the chance to take an abandoned mill site, which, while a valuable part of the Twentieth Century economy, is now more blight than asset, and turn it into an economically and environmentally sustainable part of Humboldt County's future economy.

Sincerely,

*/s/ Ryan P. Rice*

Ryan P. Rice  
President, Humboldt Prosperity Alliance  
humboldtprosperity@gmail.com