



**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
**COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT**

825 5th Street, Suite 111, Eureka, CA 95501-1153  
Telephone (707) 476-2390 Fax (707) 445-7299

August 18, 2020

Malinda Matson  
Economic Development Representative Northern & Coastal California  
915 Second Avenue, Room 1890  
Seattle, WA 98174-1012

**RE: Your US Economic Development Administration  
Industrial System Rehabilitation Project  
Grant Application Support**

Dear Ms. Matson,

I am writing to express the County of Humboldt's strong support for the Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District request for funding through the *EDA Grant Program*, and to also share the County's enthusiasm for its proposed project to rehabilitate its industrial water system (IWS).

The use of the District's IWS to provide raw water to industries in Humboldt County located on the Samoa Peninsula will benefit our local economy in many ways. This development is strategically aligned with the County's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) and will strengthen the county's ability to attract and retain jobs and capital investment in our county.

One stakeholder to benefit will be Nordic Aquafarms whose project will produce approximately 200 construction jobs for 3 to 5 years with a capital investment exceeding \$400 million. Their project will also create and sustain approximately 150 operational jobs, many of which will be science professionals.

It is anticipated that Nordic Aquafarms will act as a catalyst to attract and expand aqua culture around Humboldt Bay and thereby contribute a larger multiplier effect than that which would be experienced by a single business entity. Other similar businesses have already begun to investigate the feasibility of locating on the Samoa Peninsula. Nordic is among many other water dependent businesses who will benefit from this project and who require reliable industrial water supplied by the Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District.

With these points in mind, we strongly support the Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District's efforts to bolster the regional economy by ensuring industrial water availability on the Samoa Peninsula and possibly to other industrial sites in the county in the future.

Regards,

Estelle Fennell

Chair, Humboldt County Board of Supervisors



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cc: Governor's Office of Business & Economic Development  
Senator Mike McGuire, Chair, Senate Governance and Finance Committee  
Assembly Member Cecilia Aguiar-Curry, Chair, Assembly Local Government Committee  
County of Humboldt Board of Supervisors