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Humboldt County Planning Commission

Re: Nordic Aquafarms FEIR, Board consideration of 7/28/22

Dear Board Members,

Initially I was in support of the Nordic Aquafarm project. It would provide jobs and the company was committed to cleaning up the former mill site. As I have learned more, however, I have become alarmed about it..

The project is enormous in size and any failures will have potentially devastating impacts on our environment.

Our coast is predicted to have a large subduction zone event in the future which will cause a wall of water to wash over the peninsula. Non-native Atlantic salmon will surely escape and enter our coastal waters and potentially wreck havoc on our native salmon and other marine life.

The amount of electricity required by the Aquafarms is massive - equivalent to that used by the cities of Eureka and Fortuna?! If the offshore wind farms are not built, where will this energy come from? It is my understanding that Nordic Aquafarms in the FEIR is committed to renewable energy.

I am always dismayed when, as with the former mill site,companies can and do abandon their property when it is no longer profitable. If that became the case with the Nordic Aquafarms have they committed to cleaning up the site?

I am not knowledgeable about the threat of viruses from farmed fish escaping into the wild but it's my understanding that it is a possibility. This would threaten our native marine life and the livelihood of our local fishermen and women.

I urge you not to support this project.

Nancy R. Ihara Manila, California