



STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



JANET T. MILLS
GOVERNOR

MELANIE LOYZIM
COMMISSIONER

April 21, 2022

Elizabeth Ransom
Ransom Consulting, LLC
400 Commercial St., Suite 404
Portland, ME. 04101
Elizabeth.Ransom@ransomenv.com

*Sent via electronic mail
Delivery confirmation requested*

**RE: American Aquafarms Applications for Maine Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (MEPDES) Permit and Maine Waste Discharge License (WDL) Applications
FB01 #ME0037567 / #W009242-6G-A-N
FB02 #ME0037575 / #W009243-6G-A-N
Return of MEPDES/WDL Applications**

Dear Ms. Ransom:

The Department of Environmental Protection (Department) has received the letter dated April 19, 2022, from Department of Marine Resources (DMR) Commissioner Patrick Keliher. In this letter, the Commissioner states that, pursuant to *Research and aquaculture leases*, 12 M.R.S. § 6072(5) and *Aquaculture lease regulations*, Ch. 2.08 (6)(D), no further action will be taken on the current aquaculture lease application submitted by American Aquafarms to DMR.

In response to this action by DMR, the Department is exercising its discretion to return the above listed applications for a Waste Discharge License accepted as complete for processing by the Department on June 9, 2021. *See* 06-096 C.M.R. Ch. 2, § 11(D) (“If the project requires a submerged lands lease from the State, evidence must be supplied that the lease has been issued, or that an application is pending.”).

If it submits a new application to DMR in the future, American Aquafarms may reapply to the Department for a Waste Discharge License.

If you have any questions regarding the matter, please feel free to call Cindy Dionne at 207-446-3820.

Sincerely,

Melanie Loyzim
Commissioner, Department of Environmental Protection

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American Aquafarms

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cc: David Madore, Deputy Commissioner, MEDEP
Patrick Keliher, Commissioner, DMR
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Alex Rosenberg, USEPA
Anna Harris, USFWS
Brian Kavanah, MEDEP
Gregg Wood, MEDEP
Kevin Martin, MEDEP
Laura Jensen, AAG
Rob Mohlar, MEDEP
Angela Brewer, MEDEP
Henry Sharpe, Frenchman's Bay United
David Kallin, Drummond Woodsum
American Aquafarms Interested Parties List