



North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

California North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board 5550 Skylane Boulevard, Suite A Santa Rosa, CA 95403 (707) 576-2220

Notice of Public Hearing
of
Proposed Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R1-2023-0019
for
Nordic Aquafarms California, LLC

NPDES No. CA1000003 WDID No. 1B20161NHUM

Humboldt County

On the basis of preliminary staff review and application of lawful standards and regulations, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) proposes to adopt National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R1-2023-0019 for Nordic Aquafarms California, LLC (Facility) which will be a new NPDES permit. Humboldt Bay Harbor, Recreation and Conservation District (HBHRCD) is proposed to be a co-permittee in the NPDES permit in respect to the intake system and ocean outfall, which HBHRCD owns and operates.

This item will be open for public comment between **July 24**, **2023** and **August 23**, **2023**. Comments and questions regarding the draft Order should be directed to Justin McSmith at <u>Justin.McSmith@Waterboards.ca.gov</u>

Public Hearing Procedures

A public hearing to consider comments and objections to the proposed permit is scheduled for the Regional Water Board's **October 5-6, 2023** Board Meeting, or as announced in the Regional Water Board's agenda. This public meeting is currently scheduled to take place in-person and via video and teleconference at 531 K Street, Room 208, Eureka, CA 95501, but the format may be changed in the future. Please

HECTOR BEDOLLA, CHAIR | VALERIE QUINTO, EXECUTIVE OFFICER

follow the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board website for information on how to participate in the meeting and any updates regarding this agenda item.

Live video and audio broadcasts of the public hearing will be available via the internet and can be accessed at the CalEPA Public Meeting Live Webcasts page (https://video.calepa.ca.gov/). The public hearing will be recorded.

Please be aware that dates and venues may change. You can access the current agenda for changes in dates and locations at North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board Meetings,

(https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/board_info/board_meetings/)
At the public hearing, the Regional Water Board will consider whether to affirm, reject, or modify the proposed permit.

In order for the Regional Water Board to consider any written evidentiary material concerning this hearing, any documents, including written technical reports and other evidentiary material, must be submitted to the Regional Water Board email at NorthCoast@waterboards.ca.gov attention: Justin McSmith, no later than 5:00 pm, on August 23, 2023. All documents that are received timely will be distributed to the Regional Water Board members and interested persons. These records will also become a permanent part of the administrative record for this public hearing.

Except at the discretion of the Regional Water Board Chair, written material received after the above date will not be accepted. If the Chair chooses to accept late written material, that material will not be incorporated into the administrative record if doing so would prejudice any party or the Board. The Chair may choose to modify this rule upon a showing of severe hardship (California Code of Regulations, Title 23, sections 648.1 and 648.4).

The Regional Water Board will accept written comments and evidence, and oral testimony at this hearing. Written comments and evidence must be submitted to the Regional Water Board **no later than 5:00pm on August 23, 2023**. Oral comments or testimony at the hearing may summarize or explain timely submitted, or late-accepted written evidence but shall not introduce new evidence. The time limit for oral testimony or comments will be set by the Regional Water Board Chair and are subject to change. These time limits normally allow no more than 20 minutes each for Regional Water Board staff and Dischargers. Other interested persons may also provide testimony at this public hearing. However, any testimony given by someone other than staff or the Discharger is limited to 5 minutes. A timer may be used, and speakers are expected to honor time limits. Where speakers can be grouped by affiliation or interest, such groups will be expected to select a spokesperson to avoid unnecessary or repetitive testimony.

Document Review

The Proposed Permit and related documents are available at the <u>Regional Water</u> <u>Board's website for tentative orders for Board decisions</u>

(https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/board_decisions/tentative_orders/). Additionally, the Proposed Permit and file may be inspected or copied at the Regional Water Board office, 5550 Skylane Blvd, Suite A, Santa Rosa, California. To make an appointment for document review, please call (707) 576-2220.

Valerie M. Quinto Executive Officer July 24, 2023

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