



Office of the Warden

March 24, 2020

Honourable Keith Colwell
Minister of Fisheries & Aquaculture
Province of Nova Scotia
PO Box 2223
Halifax, NS
B3J 3C4

Re: Cermaq Application for Leases off the Coast of MODG

Dear Honourable Minister,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Council of the Municipality of the District of Guysborough (MODG) in relation to Cermaq's proposed investment in open-pen salmon sites within Chedabucto Bay and potentially other areas along our coast.

From our earliest meetings with Cermaq, our Council has stressed the importance of building public support for this development. In particular, we have stressed the importance of the Guysborough County Inshore Fisherman's Association (GCIFA) and the need to work directly with fisherpersons from our community, to get them on side, if it was Cermaq's wish that our Council would support them.

Clearly this has not happened!

The GCIFA have been clear in terms of their concerns related to the introduction of open-pen cages for salmon. The GCIFA today made a presentation to representatives of our Municipality and, unfortunately these concerns have not been addressed to their satisfaction. The GCIFA has requested Council support in opposition to the location of open-pen salmon cages in Chedabucto Bay and along our coast and Council wishes to officially register our support for the position of the GCIFA.

This is not a position we take lightly, however it is Council's view that the concerns related to potential impacts on our inshore fishery cannot be overlooked. If you wish to discuss this matter further, please feel free to contact me at your convenience.

Regards,

Warden Vernon Pitts
MODG

c. Honourable Lloyd Hines, MLA
Mr. Eugene O'Leary, President, GCIFA