

## **Findings and Decision- Renewal Application of Acadian Seaplants Limited for AQ#0175**

### **1. Overview:**

On December 20, 2018, the Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture (NSDFA) received an application from Acadian Seaplants Limited to renew Aquaculture Licence and Lease #0175 (AQ#0175), as described below:

Table 1. Description of Aquaculture Licence and Lease #0175

<b>Type:</b> Landbased	<b>Site Number:</b> AQ#0175
<b>Applicant:</b> Acadian Seaplants Limited	<b>Current Species:</b> European oyster, Irish moss, Dulse
<b>Location:</b> Charlesville, Shelburne County	<b>Proposed Term:</b> 10 year Licence

### **2. History**

AQ#0175 was first issued on April 2, 1991 for a ten-year term (March 1, 1990 to February 29, 2000). AQ#0175 was amended on August 12, 1993 to authorize the cultivation of Irish moss. AQ#0175 was renewed on January 28, 2000 for a five-year term (February 28, 2000 to February 28, 2005). AQ#0175 was renewed on February 10, 2005 for a five-year term (February 28, 2005 to February 28, 2010). AQ#0175 was renewed on August 5, 2009 for a five-year term (July 10, 2009 to July 10, 2014). AQ#0175 was amended on June 1, 2010 to authorize the cultivation of Dulse. AQ#0175 was renewed on May 1, 2014 for a five year term (July 9, 2014 to July 9, 2019).

### **3. Procedure**

#### **3.1 *Performance Review***

A performance review of the information submitted by the operator in support of their renewal application was completed. This review recommended that the site be renewed based on the technical and biological assessment. This performance review is required pursuant to Subsection 72(c) of the Aquaculture Licence and Lease Regulations and was completed on June 11, 2019.

#### **3.2 *Public Comment Period***

Notice of the application for the renewal of AQ#0175 for the 30-day public comment period was published on NSDFA's website (<http://novascotia.ca/fish/aquaculture/public-information/>) for the period of April 4 to May 3, 2019. Notice of the application was also published in the Royal Gazette Part I on April 3, 10, 17, 24, and May 3, 2019.

#### **3.3 *Submissions***

Zero submissions were received by NSDFA during the 30-day public comment period.

#### 4. Factors to be considered

The site has demonstrated consistent levels of production and employment. AQ#0175 is a land-based aquaculture operation. The production history of the operator, and the proposed production levels for the renewed tenure, suggest that the proposed continuation of the operation is viable. The site has a record of compliance with respect to the Act, Regulations, guidelines, and policies of the Department. The nature in which the operator intends to continue operating the site is consistent with the Act, Regulations, licence requirements, guidelines, and policies of the Department.

The technical information submitted with respect to the renewal application indicates that the proposed continuation of the operation is technically viable. The cultivation systems used to produce marine plants at the site have proven successful. All other aspects of the application information submitted, and the subsequent review of this information supports the renewal of this licence

#### 5. Decision

Based on the considerations above, Aquaculture Licence #0175 shall be renewed for a period of 10 years (July 9, 2019 to July 9, 2029).

The Licence and Lease documents shall be prepared in accordance with the standard operating documents of NSDFA, and shall be made publicly available subject to the provisions of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.



**Brennan Goreham**  
**Aquaculture Administrator**  
**Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture**



**Date**