

Findings and Decision- New Aquaculture Application of Smallfood Inc.

1. Overview:

On March 13, 2019, the Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture (NSDFA) received an application from Smallfood Inc. for a new Aquaculture Licence #1434, as described below:

Table 1. Description of Aquaculture Licence #1434

Type: Landbased	Location: Dartmouth, Halifax County
Number: AQ#1434	Species: Aurantiochyrium species
Applicant: Smallfood Inc.	Proposed Term: 10 year Licence

2. History

AQ#1434 is a new licence. The operator, Smallfood Inc. has never held a licence with NSDFA.

3. Procedure

3.1 Performance Review

An internal review of the information submitted by the operator in support of their licence application was completed. This review recommended that the licence be issued based on the technical and biological assessment.

3.2 Network Review

AQ#1434 was sent for review on July 15, 2019 to the following agencies: Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture, Nova Scotia Department of Communities, Culture and Heritage, Nova Scotia Department of Environment, Nova Scotia Department of Municipal Affairs, Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Environment and Climate Change Canada, and the Canadian Food and Inspection Agency.

3.2 Public Comment Period

Notice of the application for the renewal of AQ#1434 for the 30-day public comment period was published on NSDFA's website (<http://novascotia.ca/fish/aquaculture/public-information/>) for the period of January 9, 2020 to February 7, 2020. Notice of the application was also published in the Royal Gazette Part I on January 8, 15, 22, 29, and February 5, 2020.

3.4 Submissions

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

4. Factors to be considered

The nature in which Smallfood Inc. intends to develop and operate this landbased site is consistent with the Act, Regulations, licence requirements, guidelines, and policies of the Department. The commencement of aquaculture operations at this location is expected to result in employment.

Based on the information provided, the applicant's proposal was determined to be technically viable. The information provided suggests that the proper infrastructure will be put in place for the proposed method and scale of the operation. All other aspects of the application information submitted and the subsequent review of this information supports the issuance of this licence.

Smallfood Inc. will be required to prepare a Farm Management Plan before stocking this site. The Farm Management Plan will outline operational aspects of the proposed aquaculture site and be subject to approval by the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture.

5. Decision

Based on the considerations above, Aquaculture Licence #1434 is hereby issued to Smallfood Inc. for a period of ten years (April 1, 2020 to April 1, 2030). The Licence documents shall be prepared in accordance with the standard operating documents of NSDFA, and shall be made publically available subject to the provisions of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.



March 6, 2020

Brennan Goreham
Aquaculture Administrator
Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture

Date