

Decision – Application to Administrator

Application Summary:

Application Reference Number:	REF#574
Aquaculture Site Number:	AQ#1185
Application Class:	Class III
Application Type:	Assignment
Abstract:	Application to assign licence no. 1185 to 4512617 Nova Scotia Ltd.
Applicant Name:	Innovative Fishery Products Inc.
Date Received by Department:	September 16, 2025
Location:	St. Bernard
County:	Digby
Site Type:	Land-based
Operation Type:	Commercial

Current Licence / Lease Information:

Method(s) of Cultivation:	Facility
Species:	Bar clam, Bay quahog, Soft-shell clam, Razor clam, American oyster, European oyster
Term of Licence:	September 2, 2020 to September 1, 2030

Decision:

Decision Issued:	Approved
Signature and Date:	Robert Ceschiutti, Aquaculture Administrator

Definitions:

The following are terms, acronyms and definitions that may appear in this document:

Act means the Nova Scotia Fisheries and Coastal Resources Act

Department means the Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture

Regulations means the Nova Scotia Aquaculture Licence and Lease Regulations

Site History:

Aquaculture licence no. 1185 was initially issued to Innovative Fishery Products Inc. on September 1, 2000, for a 10-year term (September 1, 2000 to September 1, 2010), for the land-based cultivation of Bar clam, Bay quahog, Soft-shell clam and Razor clam, in a facility located in St. Bernard, Digby County. In January, 2011, the licence was renewed for a 5-year term (September 1, 2010 to September 1, 2015). In October, 2015, the licence was renewed for a 5-year term (September 2, 2015 to September 2, 2020). In October, 2020, the licence was renewed for a 10-year term (September 2, 2020 to September 1, 2030). In April, 2021, the licence was amended to add the species American oyster and European oyster.

Outcomes of Performance Review:

Pursuant to Section 40 of the Regulations, the Administrator (or an appointed employee) may conduct a performance review of the associated aquaculture site in accordance with Sections 89 and 90 of the Regulations.

No actions were taken by the administrator in response to the Performance Review conducted in response to receipt of this assignment application.

Consultations on Application to Administrator:

Pursuant to Clause 32(a) of the Regulations, the Administrator must undertake consultations with any of the following as required under the laws of the Province or of Canada with respect to the application:

- A department or agency of the Government of Nova Scotia
- A department or agency of the Government of Canada

As such, consultations were undertaken with the following departments or agencies:

Government of Nova Scotia:

- Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture

Factors to be Considered:

Under Section 17(2) of the Regulations, in making decisions related to land-based aquaculture sites, the Administrator must take all of the following factors into consideration:

- a) The Contribution of the Proposed Operation to Community and Provincial Economic Development;
- b) The Technical Viability of the Proposed Operation;
- c) The Ability of the Applicant to Carry Out the Proposed Operation;
- d) Any Previous Record of the Applicant Related to Aquacultural Operations.

All of the above factors have been taken into consideration prior to making the decision on this application. The following is a summary of the outcomes of the Departmental review and any consultation undertaken (where indicated above). This summary is not intended to be an exhaustive account of the results following review and consultation.

The contribution of the proposed operation to community and Provincial economic development

The application to assign this site did not appear to have any novel impacts (positive or negative) to the economic development of the community or Province.

The Technical Viability of the Proposed Operation

There were no proposed changes to the operation of the existing land-based facility. The historical information on record indicated that that the proper infrastructure is in place for the proposed method and scale of operation and is deemed technically viable.

The Ability of the Applicant to Carry Out the Proposed Operation

There were no concerns raised regarding the financial viability of the applicant or their proposed operation with respect to this assignment application. No issues were raised during review of their assignment application.

Any Previous Record of the Applicant Related to Aquacultural Operations

The proposed assignee, 4512617 Nova Scotia Ltd. has no previous record with the Department related to aquacultural operations.

Decision:

Based on the factors considered above, the application to assign licence no. 1185 is hereby approved.

Implementation:

The licence documents shall be prepared in accordance with the Department's standard operating documents. The decision shall be deemed implemented once the licence documents have been signed by all parties. The licence shall be made publicly available subject to the provisions of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, once the decision has been implemented.