Alab, Info

From: Gerard Connaghan [redacted]
Sent: Sunday 1 November 2026 15:32
To: Alab, Info
Subject: Aquaculture Licences Appeal Board judgement regarding application for cultivation of Pacific oysters in Ballyness Bay.

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I write regarding the above matter and wish to strenuously disagree with any proposal to licence this activity within the confines of Ballyness Bay,for the following reasons:
1.I am a life long resident of Falcarragh and am intimately aware
of the role Ballyness bay plays in the life of all local residents.It is a pristine natural harbour with a fully developed ecosystem and bird life that should not be disturbed.The people who use this facility on a daily basis do not support this development and it is notable that the persons applying for this permit do not themselves live with the hinterland of this bay.If local democracy means anything,then the entitlement of the local population to the continued use of their pristine natural sea area should be respected over the corporate interests behind these applications.
2.Damage to Ballyness bay,which would be inevitable, with the clearly evident rusting metal support structures necessary for such a project being clearly visible to the naked eye at anytime other than at full tide.The main present and future industry in Falcarragh is reflected in it's tourism activity and potential andin it's engagement with the Wild Atlantic Way concept. The financial worth of tourism in this area greatly exceeds the marginal employment benefits afforded by approval of this aquaculture licence. Approval of this licence will undoubtedly damage the current tourism activities in the area both now and in to the future.As 20th century life evolves with fewer places of undeveloped natural beauty surviving, the Ballyness Bay area is one such area deserving preservation, and government activities should be better applied to enhancing and supporting
these activities for future generations.At it's simplest, local democracy and it's decision making, as expressed by the inhabitants of this area, should be respected over corporate driven interests that are purely profit driven and short term in nature.
3.These plans impinge on the area of special conservancy as oulined in existant plans and will negatively affect wildlife and habitat at Ballyness Bay,an important overwintering site for wildfowl and other biodiversity.
For these, and for a multitude of otherwise expressed reasons, this licence application shouled be denied and withdrawn,consonant with the expressed wishes of the local population who use and care for this facility on an ongoing basis.
Sincerely,D. Gerard Connaghan[redacted]