

July 31, 2015

Ms. Ana Rua  
Project Manager, Special Initiatives  
NYS Empire State Development  
150 Motor Parkway, Suite 311  
Hauppauge, NY 11788  
Ana.Rua@esd.ny.gov

Dear Ms. Rua,

I am writing in full support of Manna Fish Farm's NYS consolidated funding application with no reservations whatsoever. Sustainable food production is of growing importance as human populations increase globally. It is not only a question of ensuring that the quantity of food needed is available, but also that it is nutritious. Seafood, and particularly fish, provides some of the best nutritional benefits to humans. In addition, research has shown that aquaculture production has great benefits of in terms of reduced greenhouse gas emissions compared to other land-based animal production. Here at The New School, we are excited about Manna's initiatives and commitment to sustainable aquaculture in NY. We feel that it will not only lead to economic benefits for local economies on Long Island that have been impacted by declining wild fisheries, but also usher in a new era of local and sustainable food production for the greater metropolitan region. Our faculty, administrators, graduate and undergraduate students are ready to provide their expertise and enthusiasm to Manna Fish Farms to make it a success for our community.

Sincerely,



Konstantine J. Rountos, PhD  
Part-Time Lecturer and Fulbright Fellow  
Environmental Policy and Sustainability Management (EPSM)