



University of
New Hampshire

College of Life Sciences and
Agriculture
Department of Biological Sciences

Rudman and Spaulding Halls
46 College Road
Durham, NH 03824-2617 USA

July 24, 2018

Ms. Cara Longworth, Long Island Regional Director
Empire State Development
Long Island Regional Office
150 Motor Parkway
Hauppauge, NY, 11788

Dear Ms. Longworth

I am writing in enthusiastic support of Manna Fish Farm's applications (Application numbers #82763 and #82810) for Round 8 grants from Empire State Development through the LI Regional Economic Council. These grant applications are very important to the community, as they will help provide innovative aquaculture jobs and support the working waterfront by revitalizing the Shinnecock Inlet Fish Dock.

Manna Fish Farm is leading the way in developing offshore aquaculture, so vital to the food security of our country. Currently over 90% of our seafood is imported from foreign countries, some of which are not required to follow the same protective standards mandated by our Food and Drug Administration and Environmental Protection Agency. Therefore, it is imperative to increase domestic aquaculture production in sustainable and economically viable manners and Manna Fish Farm is setting an excellent example of exactly how this should be accomplished. Integrated Multitrophic Aquaculture increases production efficiency, minimizes inputs and reduces impacts on the environment.

Shinnecock is the second largest port in New York state and revitalizing the waterfront is essential to commercial fishing and other related operations. The addition of Manna Fish Farm to the area provides an enormous opportunity for economic growth with marine-related themes including restaurants, education centers and fishing/aquaculture infrastructure and technological support.

I believe that these applications represent a valuable investment in the future of Long Island and I strongly support their full funding.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David Berlinsky".

David Berlinsky Ph.D.
Professor
Department of Agriculture, Nutrition and Food Systems