



MICHAEL J. FITZPATRICK
Assemblyman 8th District

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May 20, 2019

Gene W. Kim, PhD
Nation Program Leader for Aquaculture and
USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture

Dear Dr. Kim:

I am writing to express my support for Manna Fish Farms and Stony Brook University's Center for Integrated Electric Energy Systems (CIEES) proposal entitled "**RENEWABLE ENERGY TO INCREASE RECIRCULATING AQUACULTURE SYSTEM (RAS) EFFICIENCY AND EXPAND U.S. AQUACULTURE PRODUCTION**".

This proposal addresses a major constraint to U.S. recirculating aquaculture industry and to develop an environmentally and economically sustainable commercial aquaculture production system. Using innovative technology and integrating renewable energy, the project will make sustainable shrimp aquaculture a reality in the New York Metropolitan area. A comprehensive public aquaculture education, training and outreach program will also be created to support this project.

Manna Fish Farms, Inc. is a women-owned U.S. aquaculture company that was established in 2013. The company is paving the way for offshore aquaculture development in the U.S. Mid-Atlantic region, and is taking a leadership role in breaking barriers to support offshore marine aquaculture in the Long Island region.

As the Assemblymember representing the 8th Assembly District, I support this grant proposal as an innovative and necessary approach for the sustainable and cost-effective development of offshore marine aquaculture in the U.S.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Fitzpatrick
Member of Assembly