

Exhibit C

Emails from Neil Sims

In re: Permit No. FLOA00001

Sender: mstevenson@centerforfoodsafety.org

Kristine Cherry - NOAA Federal

From: Kristine Cherry - NOAA Federal
Sent: Friday, May 8, 2020 12:55 PM
To: Danielle Blacklock - NOAA Federal
Subject: Fwd: Question on NOAA Lead Agency role under Executive Order on Promoting American Seafood Competitiveness and Economic Growth

Hi Danielle,

Chris got this email from Neil, and we wanted to send it your way to perhaps give him a call and clarify the EO impacts on his project. Let me know if you have any concerns.

Best,
Kristine

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Chris Oliver - NOAA Federal <chris.w.oliver@noaa.gov>
Date: Fri, May 8, 2020 at 8:05 AM
Subject: Fwd: Question on NOAA Lead Agency role under Executive Order on Promoting American Seafood Competitiveness and Economic Growth
To: Kristine Cherry <kristine.cherry@noaa.gov>, <fisheries.pco@noaa.gov>, Brianne Smith <Brianne.Szczepanek@noaa.gov>

This is Alesia

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Neil Sims <neil@ocean-era.com>
Date: May 7, 2020 at 7:57:31 PM EDT
To: Chris Oliver - NOAA Federal <chris.w.oliver@noaa.gov>
Cc: Paul Doremus - NOAA Federal <paul.n.doremus@noaa.gov>
Subject: Question on NOAA Lead Agency role under Executive Order on Promoting American Seafood Competitiveness and Economic Growth

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Dear Mr Oliver,

Thank you very much for the notification on the Executive Order. This is tremendously exciting for those of us who have been striving for years – decades – to develop offshore aquaculture in the U.S.

I have a question on the E.O.'s reach, please. Our company (formerly known as Kampachi Farms, LLC) is leading a National SeaGrant project (the "Velella Epsilon" project) to permit and operate a demonstration fish farm net pen in Federal waters, at a proposed site some 40 nautical miles offshore of Sarasota, FL. Ever since the Louisiana Court decision voiding NOAA jurisdiction over aquaculture in the Gulf of Mexico, the SE Region's EPA office has assumed Lead Agency role for this permit. They oversaw development of our EA, and held a public hearing on our permit in January. We are hopeful that our permit will issue sometime this summer.

We are deeply concerned that the E.O.'s designation of NOAA as the lead agency for permitting may now confound these efforts, by removing EPA's authority to lead the permitting process. Could your office please explore how this might be avoided, and how EPA could continue to shepherd our permits through to completion for this project?

We are also funded under the SeaGrant project to use the goodwill generated from the Velella Epsilon demonstration pen to pioneer the permitting process for a commercial offshore fish farm. We intend to begin the commercial permit application process as soon as we have the demonstration net pen permit in hand. We would be pleased to work with NOAA as lead agency on that commercial permit, but we simply do not want to see the progress that we have made to date on the demonstration pen permit (over the last three years) voided by the E.O.'s inadvertent implications.

Please let us know if you would like any further information.

Thank you, and aloha,

Neil

Neil Anthony Sims

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