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BRICKLIN NEWMAN DOLD, LLP

BEFORE THE HEARING EXAMINER  
OF PIERCE COUNTY

TAYLOR SHELLFISH FARMS

Appellant.

APPEAL APPLICATION NO. 612676

NO. AA16-07

APPELLANT TAYLOR  
SHELLFISH FARMS  
SUMMARY OF EXPERT  
TESTIMONY

Pursuant to the Prehearing Order issued by the Pierce County Hearing Examiner in this matter, Appellant Taylor Shellfish Farms submits the following summary of testimony for the experts that it may call at the public hearing.

1. Dr. Jeffrey P. Fisher, Ph.D., Principal  
ENVIRON International Corporation  
5232 Kinney Road SW, Suite 100  
Olympia, WA 98512  
Tel: (360) 352-5387  
Cell: (206) 669-5443

Mr. Fisher will discuss the known impacts from geoduck culture on ecological function, how it compares with other types of shellfish aquaculture and other environmental factors with respect to the degree of disturbance created from the aquaculture practices, and the potential for the effects from the culture activities to negatively affect biological resources of importance to salmonids and other marine-dependent life. Based on the weight of existing evidence from numerous studies, Mr. Fisher will address whether the temporary changes that are caused by geoduck culture operations result in net environmental benefits or harm, and whether the uncertainties that remain regarding the significance of the environmental impacts from the culture practices

APPELLANTS SUMMARY OF EXPERT TESTIMONY - 1

**GordonDerr.**

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1 are biologically meaningful with respect to the degree of disturbance in the ecosystems  
2 where geoduck are cultured and the best management practices that are applied. With  
3 respect to the Foss Farm site, Mr. Fisher will convey his opinion as it relates to the  
4 existing habitat at the site, and whether there is evidence to suggest that environmental  
5 harm or benefits have occurred at the site from Taylor Shellfish Farm's ongoing  
6 operations, and the expectation of what would likely occur should operations by Taylor  
7 Shellfish continue at the site.

8 2. Dr. Jonathon (Joth) Davis, Ph.D.  
9 Taylor Shellfish Farms  
10 S.E. 130 Lynch Road  
11 Shelton, WA 98584  
12 Tel: (360) 426-6178  
13 Fax: (360) 427-0327

14 Mr. Davis is a primary researcher in bivalve culture and has extensive knowledge  
15 of culture techniques and their associated potential impacts. Mr. Davis will testify to the  
16 impacts from intertidal geoduck culture and will convey his opinion as to whether there is  
17 evidence to suggest that intertidal geoduck culture harms or benefits the environment and  
18 ecological functions. Mr. Davis will testify to issues related to population dynamics,  
19 genetic interactions between wild and cultured geoducks, hatchery and nursery  
20 techniques, and farming methods.

21 3. Mr. David Troutt, Director  
22 Natural Resources Department  
23 Nisqually Tribal Community  
24 4820 She-Nah-Num Drive S.E.  
25 Olympia, WA 98513  
Tel: (360) 438-8687

Mr. Troutt will testify that properly conducted aquaculture can provide significant  
environmental benefits. Reproduction of farmed shellfish forms the basis of the food

1 chain in Puget Sound. Shellfish form the backbone of the ecosystem in Puget Sound and  
2 are critical to the recovery of listed salmon and orca populations.

3 Mr. Troutt will also testify that the presence of edible shellfish is an indicator of  
4 environmental quality. The shellfish are dependent upon clean water to survive. Mr.  
5 Troutt will also testify that shellfish are filter feeders, and this filtering of the adjacent  
6 waters can, in fact, improve water quality.

7 Mr. Troutt will testify that if the following are considered and managed appropriately,  
8 shellfish aquaculture is a positive element in our ecosystem

- 9 • That properly conducted shellfish operations do not degrade environmental  
10 quality and can actually improve environmental quality.
- 11 • These operations can and must be sensitive to key habitat features of the  
12 beaches and be managed in a way to avoid impacts to eel grass beds and  
13 key fish-spawning areas.
- 14 • The operations also need to be consistent with treaty fishing rights and not  
15 present access issues to traditional fishing grounds.

16 4. Mr. David P. Findley  
17 Associate-Engineering Geologist, L.G., L.E.G.  
18 Golder Associates, Inc.  
19 18300 NE Union Hill Road, Suite 200  
20 Redmond, WA 98052  
21 Tel: (425) 883-0777  
22 Fax: (425) 882-5498

23 See Attachment A, Letter from David P. Findley, Golder Associates, Inc. to Taylor  
24 Shellfish dated August 30, 2007.

25 5. Mr. Lynn Goodwin  
750 Mountain View Road  
Quilcene, Washington 98376-9526  
Tel: (360) 765-3530

Mr. Goodwin was employed with Washington State Department of Fisheries as a  
fisheries biologist and biological leader of the subtidal shellfisheries unit from 1966 to

1 1994. As lead biologist with the State, he was responsible for development of the  
2 geoduck aquaculture program. He has extensive historical knowledge of geoduck  
3 aquaculture farming methods, potential environmental impacts, and geoduck population  
4 dynamics. Mr. Goodwin can also testify on the State's prior assessment of potential  
5 environmental effects of intertidal geoduck culture.

6 Dated this 19<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2007.

7 GORDONDERR LLP

8  
9 By: 

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12 Attorneys for Appellant, Taylor  
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