

Dave Garforth Public Testimony - 9-30-04.txt

From: Dave.Garforth@nutreco.com%INTER2 [Dave.Garforth@nutreco.com] on behalf of Dave.Garforth@nutreco.com
Sent: Thursday, September 30, 2004 9:39 AM
To: Benham, Katherine
Subject: Public/Industry input to NOSB meeting in Washington

Dear Katherine Benham,

I would like to attend and make a submission to the NOSB Meeting Oct 12-14th on behalf of the Organic Aquaculture Industry in Ireland and specifically from our own Company - Marine Harvest Ireland and Skretting (sister feed company).

Since 1996, we have been involved in the development of organic aquaculture working closely with agencies such as Naturland and Irish Organic Farmers and Growers. To date, there are some 12-15 certified organic aquaculture sites involved in salmon and trout production. A number of subsidiary processors, fish smokers and ourselves as principal feed supplier are also certified as organic producers. To date, organic salmon represents 25% of total production.

Skretting Ireland has been producing organically certified salmon feed since 1996. We produce feed for a number of organic species including, salmon, trout and sea bass. Certification of our farming and feed operations has been to a number of different European Cert.

Agencies/Private Labels - Naturland, France AB (through Qualité France), Bio Suisse and Irish Organic Farmers and Growers Assn. Because of the multiplicity of Standards that we have been certified to in farming and feed - (although all are IFOAM accredited) we feel that we can make a valuable industry contribution to the work of the NOSB Livestock (and Materials) Committees.

More recently, Marine Harvest with assistance from Marine Harvest America have begun distributing organic salmon in the U.S under Naturland certification and whilst this is work in progress (both the labeling of organic products in the U.S) and market we are extremely excited about this development and

I am unfamiliar with the procedure for both making a submission to NOSB (timeframe/format) and also seeking representation on the Task Force for the Livestock Committee.

Can I ask if it is possible for you to send information about representing Marine Harvest/Skretting at the Meeting, on making a submission to the Public input of the meeting and the protocol (if open) for seeking representation on the Task Force from our Company?

Many thanks,

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