

**MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT  
WATER AND SCIENCE ADMINISTRATION**

**NOTICE OF TENTATIVE DETERMINATION AND PUBLIC HEARING**

**Cecil County**

**Application for State Discharge Permit 24DP3895, NDPES Permit MD0068080:**

AquaCon Maryland, LLC, c/o MDSW, 100 N. West Street, Easton, Maryland 21601, has submitted an application for a new permit to discharge a maximum daily average of 1.9 million gallons per day of Atlantic Salmon purge water from a land-based salmon rearing facility located at Commodore Blvd., Port Deposit, Maryland 21904 to the Susquehanna River, a Use II-P waters.

The Department proposes to issue the permit with the following limits on Outfall 001: biochemical oxygen demand (BOD5)(30 mg/L monthly average, 45 mg/L daily max), total suspended solids (TSS) (30 mg/L monthly average, 45 mg/L daily max), dissolved oxygen (DO) (5.0 mg/L minimum), pH (range of 6.5 – 8.5), total nitrogen (17352 lbs/year), total phosphorus (1735 lbs/year), and required offsets for all nitrogen and phosphorus discharged. Monitoring without limits is proposed for temperature, fish processed, and salinity.

The permit also contains special conditions to use sufficiently sensitive test methods, to implement a Facility Management Plan with aquaculture best management practices for solids management, material storage structural maintenance, recordkeeping and training, requirements for notification and approval of any chemicals and additives that may be present in the discharge, identification of outfall, notification of start of discharge, nutrient offset plans, and a geosmin study plan. The permit also contains requirements to apply for coverage under the General Permit for Seafood Processors.

This facility is located in a census tract with an Environmental Justice (EJ) Score in the 56th percentile of all tracts in Maryland. This EJ score has been calculated considering a combination of the following factors: pollution burden exposure, pollution burden environmental effects, sensitive populations, and socioeconomic indicators (<https://mdewwp.page.link/EJ>).

The Department has scheduled a public hearing on the tentative determination for the above permit and has scheduled the hearing for **5 p.m.- 8 p.m., December 16, 2024** at the **Town of Elkton Mayor and Commissioner's Meeting Room in the Elkton Town Hall, 100 Railroad Avenue, Elkton, MD 21921.**

Persons who wish to present information regarding the tentative determination may speak at the public hearing, submit written comments at the public hearing, or submit a written statement to the Department no later than **December 23, 2024**. All comments will be considered in making a final determination.

Written comments should be addressed to the **Maryland Department of the Environment, Water and Science Administration, 1800 Washington Blvd., Baltimore, Maryland 21230-1708, Attn.: Mr. Paul Hlavinka, Chief, Industrial Stormwater Permits Division** or be emailed to [paul.hlavinka@maryland.gov](mailto:paul.hlavinka@maryland.gov). A copy of the draft permit, draft fact sheet, and permit application may be downloaded from the Department's website at <https://mdewwp.page.link/wwpportal>. At that webpage, search for State Number 24DP3895, click "More Info," and then select the desired document(s) to download. The supporting information for the tentative determination, including the draft permit and fact sheet, may alternatively be reviewed by contacting Mr. Hlavinka at the above address or by telephone at (410) 537-3631 or 1-800-633-6101 or by emailing [paul.hlavinka@maryland.gov](mailto:paul.hlavinka@maryland.gov) to schedule an appointment. Copies of documents may be procured at a cost of \$0.36 per page.

Any hearing-impaired person may request an interpreter to be present at the public hearing by giving ten working days notice to Mr. Hlavinka at the address or telephone number listed above.

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Newspaper: **The Cecil Whig**