

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

NOAA and USDA are interested in identifying alternative dietary ingredients for aquaculture that will reduce the amount of fishmeal and fish oil contained in aquaculture feeds while maintaining the important human health benefits of farmed seafood. The agencies expressed particular interest in plant-based proteins and possible opportunities for greater use of seafood processing waste and other agricultural by-products in aquaculture feeds.

We would like to suggest that the developing field of microalgae-energy production may provide useful sources of waste or excess protein and possibly valuable oils that can be used as animal feedstuff ingredients. The entire field of algae-energy is growing extremely rapidly. The production of cost-effective liquid fuels to substitute for our dwindling supplies of petroleum-based products may depend in part upon finding uses for the co-products derived from algae cultivation. These include algal biomass from which the plant lipids have been extracted for use in producing biodiesel, as well as waste nutrients present in anaerobic digester sludge and other valuable sources of nitrogen and phosphorus that have potential uses in agriculture and aquaculture.

We urge NOAA and the USDA to consider adding these types of by-products to the list of possible alternative feed sources for aquaculture, and to consider supporting directed research in these areas as well.

Sincerely,

James M. Carlberg  
President  
Kent SeaTech Corporation