



NSW Aquaculture Association Inc  
Serving the Aquaculture Industry since 1994

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NSW Department of Planning & Infrastructure  
GPO Box 39  
Sydney NSW 2001

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**SSI 5657, Commercial Shellfish Aquaculture Leases Jervis Bay, NSW**

On behalf of the members of the NSW Aquaculture Association we are pleased to offer our support for Fisheries NSW to establish Commercial Shellfish Aquaculture Leases within Jervis Bay, NSW. We support the establishment of all three leases, the 10 hectare lease off Vincentia and the two 20 hectare leases off Callala Beach, Jervis Bay, NSW.

Currently over 75% of the seafood consumed in Australia is imported, with over 85% of the seafood consumed in NSW imported. To reduce our reliance on imported seafood we need to turn towards aquaculture. The NSW commercial fishing industry is not expected to increase from current sustainable catch levels and potentially may reduce after the current reorganization. NSW needs more aquaculture to increase its seafood security and this proposal will contribute towards this aim.

Once approved these three leases will not only provide an opportunity to increase our seafood security which is so desperately needed, but provide an opportunity to increasing local employment with immense benefit for the local community generally.

As per the EIS the leases will have little impact, with no nutrient input (feeding) of shellfish, little visual pollution with only navigation buoys positioned on the corners, and with the mooring, anchor and backbone ropes kept under tension there is little risk of marine fauna entanglement. The NSW Aquaculture Industry is regulated to employ "*Aquaculture Best Industry Practice*" to ensure the environment of NSW is protected and the aquacultured produce from NSW is the cleanest, greenest, safest, sustainable seafood that money can buy. We all support the regulatory authorities, as just one small rogue aquaculturalist can have devastating consequences for the whole Australian aquaculture



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industry. The NSW Aquaculture Association Inc. has full confidence in the regulatory authorities: Fisheries NSW together with the NSW Food Authority will ensure the produce from lease to plate is cultured, harvested and sold safely for the environment, the community, the farmer and the consumer.

The members of the NSWAA fully support Fisheries NSW to establish these leases and make them available for tender to shellfish growers.

Yours faithfully

Robert B McCormack  
Secretary NSW Aquaculture Association Inc.