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9 February 2017

Independent Review of Aquaculture Licensing  
C/O Deirdre Morgan – Secretary to the Independent Review Group  
Department of Aquaculture Food and the Marine National Seafood Centre  
Clonakilty  
Co. Cork.

Dear Ms Morgan

I wish to make the following submission to the Independent Review of Aquaculture Licensing:

Our company specialises in the supply and servicing of fish processing machines for fish processing factories and stunning and bleeding machines for fish farms. The success of our customers and their ability to purchase and maintain machinery directly affects the success of our business. One of our most important customers is Marine Harvest Ireland. We depend heavily on Marine Harvest Ireland to stay in business as we employ 5 people full time.

If more salmon farming licences were issued we could employ more people and grow our business. Delays in issuing Aquaculture licences or licence refusals means that our customers can only operate on a seasonal basis rather than all year round. This has a bearing on our cash flow and ability to take on more staff.

Our business and the jobs we create are based in rural Sligo – an area still suffering the effects of the financial crisis which caused many business closures. Every job created in this area is vital in helping to retain services – shops, schools, etc. – supported by local people. We also support many local sports clubs and charities through sponsorship and donations. This helps enhance the social environment in which we operate.

The jobs created by us and by our fish processing customers are based in the rural Ireland, all along the western seaboard – an area with very few options for employment. Any improvement in the issuing of licences to the Aquaculture industry will benefit these areas which rely heavily on employment created by fish processing companies.

The more business that we and our customers can do the greater the return to the exchequer.

Marine Harvest Ireland have adapted their salmon harvesting to the latest technology in harvesting equipment which they have purchased and installed aboard their Well boat where the salmon are



pumped into a swim-in stun and bleed system as outlined below. This is the most modern, humane way of processing salmon and eliminates the old stressful handling of the fish as before.

**Good welfare leads to good quality!**

Baader offers a most humane and efficient method for stunning and bleeding salmon/trout and many other fish species, utilizing percussive stunning and bleeding technology.

This welfare-friendly solution is a key process in the provision of optimum fish quality and next stage fish processing.

The unique Baader SI, automated harvest system takes advantage of the fish's natural behaviour where they swim into the stun/bleed machines, with the absolute minimum of stress.

Baader supplies a complete range of machines and supporting modules specifically suited to the harvesting requirements of the client. This includes everything from single stun/bleed combined machines to advanced multi-channel systems incorporating automated fish delivery.

Low stress harvesting ensures:

- Higher flesh quality in the harvested fish reduces flesh gaping and blood spotting in filets.
- Longer pre-rigor time - up to 20 hours, results in reduced wastage when fish are machine processed (gutting, heading, skinning and filleting) after stun/bleed harvesting.
- Up to 20 – 30% shelf life improvement
- Improved processing efficiency and reduced wastage during further processing (gutting, heading skinning and filleting).

BAADER offers complete modern project solutions to industry, including process design for factories or vessels and may include: automated harvesting, gutting, heading, filleting, skinning, trimming, final inspection to sizing and grading).

The Aquaculture industry is thriving in other European counties. Baader, the German company that we represent in Ireland cannot understand why Scotland, Norway and the Faro islands are expanding rapidly, growing bigger by the day and the Irish salmon farming industry is getting smaller. Issuing more licences will allow Irish companies to expand in the same way.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Eddie Carr', written in a cursive style.

Eddie Carr & Co  
Managing Director