

**From:** [Pyke Johnson](#)  
**To:** [Sonja Cady](#)  
**Subject:** Project # 2022103702  
**Date:** Friday, January 12, 2024 10:46:33 AM

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Dear Ms. Cady:

Please direct the comments below to the hearing examiner for the above project:

I am an Olympia resident, living on the eastern shore of Henderson Inlet, near the proposed geoduck farm. I am vehemently opposed to this project and have previously submitted comments on why I feel the project should be disallowed. I attended the Webinar on Tuesday until the power went out. Based on that attendance, I have a few more comments to make.

I was quite surprised that the county presenter, Scott McCormick, had not visited the site of the proposed geoduck farm. For an issue of such intense interest by residents of the affected area, I find this a dereliction of duty. I would like to think that Thurston County cared more about its residents. I was also struck by the apparent lack of knowledge Mr. McCormick had about the microplastics issue. He said that the evaluation of microplastics contamination was not an area of expertise that his department possessed. Given that microplastics in our waters is a very big concern, I would think that, at the very least, an environmental impact study would be warranted.

The Taylor Shellfish spokesman informed us that instead of plastic tubes being used for housing geoduck seedlings, mesh tubes would be used. It seemed to me that Taylor has relatively little experience using mesh tubes for geoduck farming. What is the environmental impact of this type of geoduck housing? The spokesman also indicated that mesh netting might be necessary to protect the geoduck seedlings from predators. They said that using netting with mesh tubes was new technology and that not a lot was known about impacts to the environment. Henderson Inlet has recently become a feeding ground for sea lions. Up to three dozen sea lions can be seen and heard on the west side of the inlet, where there are commercial geoduck farms. I am sure these farms are feeding grounds for the sea lions. I feel certain that if the farms are extended to the east side of the inlet, more sea lions will be attracted to the site, necessitating the use of protective netting. The sea lions are also a nuisance to residents, making it dangerous for kayaking. They are also very loud, given their constant barking.

Presenters during the webinar frequently referred to Henderson Inlet as Henderson Bay. I would think that these "experts" would at least get the name of the area correct.

Again, I am strongly opposed to this project, and would ask that the development license be denied. Thank you very much for your consideration.

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