Northumberland Fishermen’s Association
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On behalf of the Gulf NS Fleet Planning Board

- Fleet Planning Board represents every fishermen in Gulf Nova Scotia.
- We are also representing PEIFA Prince Edward Island Fishermen’s Association.
- We represent nearly every fishermen in the southern Gulf of St. Lawrence. Very soon it will everyone. Before long it will be nation wide.
- We all are very concerned for our futures.
- Gulf NS = 620 lobster licenses.

In Gulf Nova Scotia there are currently 620 Lobster Licenses

- Class A: 612 Licenses
- Class B: 8 Licenses

33 of the 620 lobster licenses are owned and operated by First Nation communities.
Gulf Nova Scotia Lobster Licenses by LFA

LFA 25: 18
LFA 26A: 336
LFA 26B: 227

TOTAL Lobster Licenses: 620
There are two Mi’kmaq First Nation Communities located in Gulf NS

- Paq’tnkek First Nation
- Pictou Landing First Nation
“We can co-exist”

We would like to go on the record by saying …

“We are not in any way trying to close Northern Pulp. We believe that we can co-exist.”
We want a closed loop, zero effluent system.

NO Open Effluent in Our Waters!
Top 10 Sellers to these and other trading partners.

#1 Lobster & Crab $1.2 Billion  
#2 Tires $1.1 Billion  
#3 Paper Products $241 Million  
#4 Chemical Wood Pulp $241 Million  
#5 Shellfish $187 Million  
#6 Liquefied Petroleum $ 183 Million  
#7 Fresh Fish $ 116 Million  
#8 Non-cellular Plastic $ 108 Million  
#9 Frozen fruit & nuts $ 104 Million  
#10 Lumber $ 88 Million

c/o Now!NS Chronicle Herald

Nova Scotia exports $5.4 Billions of Goods and services outside of Canada.  
USA is the most important trading partner with NS - $3.8 Billion annually.  
#2 China 422 Million  
#3 UK $121 Million  
#4 France $88 Million  
#5 Netherlands $84 Million
• **WE ARE INDEPENDENT BUSINESS OWNERS**

• 90% of our budgets are spent directly at home.

• Both the Fishing Industry & the Pulp & Paper Industry have large spin off industries.

• We each employ:
  • Truckers
  • Plant workers
  • Machine shops
  • Suppliers of gear
  • Specific products used in the industry

**OUR PROFITS REMAIN AT HOME**

They are spent at every local business, restaurant, grocery store, fire department, gas station and flea market. Every cause that needs support, from medical foundations to community projects. Our profits are not spent offshore in another country.
Northern Pulp reports that it releases ONE METRIC TON of suspended solids each day into waste water (effluent).

A study from KSH Solutions, the consultants hired by Northern Pulp, shows that there would be very little change in effluent quality with the proposed new AST system.

Test results on effluent from Northern Pulp revealed the presence of:

- DIOXONS
- FURANS
- CHLORINATED COMPOUNDS
- & TRACES OF HEAVY METALS INCLUDING MERCURY
Northern Pulp will have you believe that there is no harm to the environment from an effluent pipe directly on fishing grounds. But in reality, the risk of such a short sighted decision is likely to have catastrophic results, even if the new facility operates exactly as planned.

The release of 90,000,000 L of freshwater based effluent every day will have negative impact on lobster & crab larvae, even without considering the contaminants. Lobster larvae floats near the surface between up to four to twelve weeks. Any contact with freshwater, rising up through the water column, would kill it instantly.

The warm temperature if the waste water us also of great concern. Any immediate difference in water temperature of plus or minus 5 degrees will automatically kill any fish or crustacean entering the zone.

Locally caught lobsters are exported worldwide under the Canada brand. Contamination of even a few lobsters would destroy our excellent reputation worldwide, causing catastrophic results.
Northern Pulp has built little trust based in their previous actions.

Our Association has contacted NS Environment since early spring, asking to be involved in the design stage to create a solution that is acceptable to both industries. Northern Pulp has not met with us.

In 2014, a pipeline carrying toxic effluent from the mill dumped 47 Million Litres into Pictou Harbour before the company stopped production.

Northern Pulp continues to exceed stack emissions set by NS Environment.
The estimated cost to the taxpayers of Nova Scotia to clean up Boat Harbour after 50 years of Northern Pulp’s operations is presently $133 Million, BUT, experts warn that it could reach as high as $560 Million.

The total cost to the taxpayers to clean up the pollution from the fishing industry have 150 years is $0 Dollars.
Today’s inshore fishermen can take credit for creating one of the most environmentally friendly industries.

Our lobster, herring and crab fisheries are all certified under the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC).

The council, with head office in London, England, is an international non-profit organization that recognizes and rewards efforts to protect oceans and safeguard our food supply.

To obtain certification required, a rigorous assessment of our environmental and social standards was undertaken.

Government, local fishery organizations and individual fishermen have all invested in gaining this certification. Some large grocery chains will only sell seafood which are MSC certified.

To lose this certification because of high risk action from another industry would be devastating to fishermen and the to the local and provincial economy.
The Fishing Industry and individual Fishermen must upgrade to meet environmental expectations of the present day.

The Town of Pictou upgraded to a new environmentally friendly waste water facility, at great cost to taxpayers.

Northern Pulp should be held to the same expectations.
The government has chosen a fast-track environmental assessment for Northern Pulp’s new effluent treatment facility. This means that the government will require less information from Northern Pulp than in a more rigorous assessment.

With a fast track assessment, the public has no input into what issues will be looked at.

The public would only have 30 days to comment on the company’s proposal, once it is registered and made public.

A 30 day period is not enough time for our Association to provide evidence from experts. It is not enough time for meaningful input from the public, independent scientists, other affected businesses and property owners.

We believe a fast-track assessment is unacceptable for a project with such devastating potential for our industry, our region, and for this Town.
What are asking from the Town of Pictou?
1. That the Town of Pictou communicate to the Provincial Government that a fast-track assessment is NOT Acceptable.

And further, that the provincial Department of Environment require a more in-depth Environmental Assessment Report.

An Environmental Assessment Report is essential to allow more opportunity for input from our Industry and Association, the general public, and independent scientific experts.
2. That the Town of Pictou call on the Department of Fisheries & Oceans to do a full assessment of the Project. DFO has the science and the expertise. DFO’s mandate is for the protection of fish stocks and habitat in Canadian waters.
3. **We ask that the Town of Pictou NOT accept any proposal that would sacrifice one industry, the environment or your waterfront for an industry that does not want to bring their operations into the 21st century.**

By updating the mill to a closed-loop, zero effluent system, Northern Pulp could show their workers, and ALL of Pictou County that our best interests are in their corporate plans.
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Thank you