Activists claim 'faulty' environmental assessment led to approval of Canadian GMO salmon facility

It was a faulty environmental assessment process that allowed a company in eastern [Prince Edward Island (P.E.I), Canada] to build a plant that will produce the first genetically-modified food animal in North America, says the Coalition for the Protection of [Prince Edward Island] Water.

AquaBounty received permission in mid-June to build an enclosed facility in Rollo Bay West that will produce 250 tonnes of genetically-modified salmon a year for food.

What was approved [during initial approval in 2016]...was an egg production facility, with the eggs being shipped out of the country to be grown to market size. AquaBounty amended its proposal after receiving approval.

•••

"The environmental impact assessment for this project was woefully inadequate," said coalition member Gary Schneider, who also sits on the multi-interest advisory committee reviewing federal environmental assessment processes.

"This is a classic example of project splitting, where the company was able to get approval for a smaller piece of the project (raising eggs) and then returned a short time later with what would seem to be their actual plan, thereby avoiding an independent evaluation of a very different project."

The GLP aggregated and excerpted this article to reflect the diversity of news, opinion, and analysis. Read full, original post: <u>Genetically-modified salmon plant environmental assessment</u> 'woefully inadequate,' says coalition