

Subject: PVC has been shown to be harmful to the environment

From: Marie Duckworth

Reply-To: Shellfish Committee Information

Date: Sun, 13 Apr 2008

As a person who owns property near the DNR land on Stretch Island I have many questions and concerns about geoduck farms. For the purpose of this comment I will limit myself to one subject, that of the negative effects of PVC when it breaks down and releases the toxic chemicals that make up the pipe used in geoduck farming. While there does not appear to be any comprehensive research on the effects of geoduck farming, there is conclusive science on the many negative effects of the production, and decomposition of PVC. Scientific analysis shows PVC to be a source of large quantities of a variety of carcinogenic, hormone disrupting (think spawning salmon, humans, and geoducks), and otherwise toxic chemicals. The state is planning to lease 250 acres of tidelands and allow approximately 1,000,000 one foot pieces of PVC to be stuck into state lands where nature breaks down and/or moves the pipes via tidal action, wind, sunlight, etc. The Department of Natural Resources and the Department of Ecology exist to protect and successfully manage our natural resources. Using large quantities of PVC pipe in this manner does not appear to be consistent with your mission.

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