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Chrissie Sieben

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Sent by email

Date: 12 March 2014

Subject: Request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement CR 27.22.2 for the Euronor and Compagnie des Peches St Malo cod and haddock fishery

Dear Chrissie

I write with reference to your submission on 4th March 2014 of a request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement (CR 27.22.2) to conduct the 2nd annual surveillance audit by remote surveillance instead of a normal on-site audit.

As you are aware, the CR procedures relating to the location of surveillance audits are integral to ensuring all MSC accredited Conformity Assessment Bodies operate in a consistent and transparent manner. The MSC intends that these requirements be met across all fisheries and CoC certificate holders, except in exceptional, well-justified circumstances, as part of the MSC programme.

MSC notes the factors presented in your letter supporting your request, including:

- That this fishery was certified with one condition which was largely met during the year 1 audit. MEP proposes to reduce the surveillance level to remote surveillance, based on the argument that the fishery is low risk and that all information required for the surveillance audit can be provided remotely.

- A telephone or skype conference will still be held between the client group representatives and the team leader, Dr. Jo Gascoigne. The information collected will be considered and reported on by the entire surveillance team.
- MEP is confident that this will not alter the sustainability status of this fishery.

Given the rationale provide, the MSC is willing to grant a variation to the CR in this case subject to the following conditions:

- Stakeholders will still be given the opportunity for an onsite meeting with a member of the surveillance team, when this is requested and an adequate justification is provided.

If you have any questions regarding this response, please do not hesitate to contact Robert Lefébure, the Fisheries Assessment Manager for this fishery either by email (robert.lefebure@msc.org) or phone (+44 (0)20 7246 8935).

Best regards,



Dan Hoggarth
Fisheries Oversight Director
Marine Stewardship Council