



Stefan Midteide  
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**Sent by email**

Date: 18/07/2018

**Subject: Request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement v2.0 FCR-7.23.18 for Faroe Islands and Iceland North East Arctic cod, haddock and saithe**

Dear Stefan Midteide,

I write with reference to your submission on 16/07/2018 of a request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement (CR) to allow:

A 30 day extension for the submission of the 1st Surveillance Report (13 September 2018)

As you are aware, the CR procedures relating to v2.0 FCR-7.23.18 state:

This Surveillance Report shall be forwarded to the MSC within 60 days of completing the audit, for publication on the MSC website

These 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 supporting your request, including:**

- Information has been difficult to access from stakeholders and clients in the surveillance process due to their annual leave commitments.
- The extra time will allow the team to collect and assess the required info.

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

- The CAB can confirm that it is not aware at this time of any factor (related to either fishery status, or performance against conditions) that could result in the fishery no longer being in compliance with the MSC Fisheries Standard.
- The submission of the Report must be no later than September 13th (2018)
- Stakeholders are informed

If you have any questions regarding this response, please do not hesitate to contact the relevant Fisheries Assessment Manager for this fishery.

Marine Stewardship Council  
cc: Accreditation Services International