

Eng Pedro Landa

Organizacion Agropecuaria Internacional

Sent by email

Date: 24th January 2012

Subject: Request for variation to the MSC scheme requirement 27.5.8



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Dear Eng. Pedro Landa,

I write with reference to your submission on 24th January 2012 of a request for variation to the MSC scheme requirement to allow a change in the Assessment Team for the Argentine hoki fishery.

As you are aware, the Certification Requirements procedures defined in Section 27.5.8 are integral to ensuring all MSC accredited certification 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 scheme.

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

- One of the assessment team members, Lic. Miguel A. Rey Sosa, declines to be part of the team due to personal availability and time that he can dedicate to writing the assessment reports; and
- His responsibilities for the assessment of Principles 1 and 3 will instead be fulfilled by the rest of the team members.

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

- CABs shall allow at least 10 days from the date of posting on the MSC website for stakeholders to submit written comments on the capacity of the remaining team members to conduct the assessment in the absence of Lic. Miguel A. Rey Sosa.

If you have any questions regarding this response, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daniel Hoggarth".

Dr Daniel Hoggarth
Marine Stewardship Council
cc: ASI