



Lucia Revenga
DNV Business Assurance Italy S.r.l.
Veritasveien 1
Høvik
Norway
1363

Sent by email

Date: 15/12/2022

Subject: Request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement v2.4.1 GCR-7.5.6 for Faroe Islands silver smelt

Dear Lucia Revenga,

I write with reference to your submission on 15/12/2022 of a request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement (CR) to allow:

To extend the validity of the certificate for a maximum of 3 months.

As you are aware, the CR procedures relating to v2.4.1 GCR-7.5.6 state:

The CAB shall issue fishery certificates with a maximum validity period of 5 years from the issue date

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:

- DNV is requesting a 3-month extension of the fishery certificate to allow enough time to finalise the ongoing second re-assessment process.
- The reassessment was delayed due to an unexpected change of the client management and additional time was required to allow new fisheries manager to get up to speed with MSC Standard, re-assessment process and conditions. Client action plan was recently received by CAB and due to go through the team's approval. This delay presents a risk that re-assessment might not be completed by certificate expiry date on 28 February 2023.

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

- The extended deadline is 27 May 2023.
- When requested by MSC, 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.
- On receipt of this variation response Ecert is updated to reflect changes, including a certificate covering the extension.

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: Assurance Services International