



Stefan Midteide
Det Norske Veritas (DNV-GL) Certification
Veritasveien 1
Høvik
Norway
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Sent by email

Date: 20/06/2018

Subject: Request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement v2.0 FCR-7.6.1 for Iceland northern shrimp - inshore and offshore

Dear Stefan Midteide,

I write with reference to your submission on 04/06/2018 of a request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement (CR) to allow:

The Eligibility date to be set at 3 April 2018, 3 months before the expected PCDR publication.

As you are aware, the CR procedures relating to v2.0 FCR-7.6.1 state:

7.6.1 The CAB shall nominate a date from which product from a certified fishery is eligible to be sold as MSC certified or bear the MSC ecolabel (the eligibility date). This shall be either: ■

7.6.1.1 The date of the certification of the fishery; or

7.6.1.2 The publication date of the first Public Comment Draft Report

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:

- The fishing season is between October and May. The intention of the client has been to ensure that the remaining part of this seasons' harvest can be sold as MSC certified.
- The Client Review draft has been finalised.
- The Client is committed to ensure any relevant CoC requirements are fulfilled.

In this case the rationale is insufficient for the MSC to grant a variation to the CR. This request is therefore declined.

- The key issue here is how traceability is managed. The request lacks detail of the traceability systems in place within the fishery back to the UoC
- Since the PCDR has not yet been released, we can not evaluate the traceability systems in place (not just for eligibility date) to evaluate how traceability risks are being managed.

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