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Sandhya Chaudhury
Det Norske Veritas
Veritasveien 1
1322 Høvik
Norway

Sent by email

Date: 24 July 2012

Subject: Request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement 27.22.13

Dear Sandhya Chaudhury,

I write with reference to your submission on 17 July 2012 of a request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement (CR) to allow the surveillance reports to be submitted more than 30 days after the surveillance audit. Your request and this response apply to the following fisheries:

- Fourth surveillance audit report for the Norway North Sea saithe
- Fourth surveillance audit report for the Norway North East Arctic saithe
- Third surveillance audit report for the North East Atlantic mackerel
- Third surveillance audit report for the Norway Spring Spawning Herring
- Third surveillance audit report for the Norway North Sea and Skagerrak Herring
- Second surveillance audit report for Norway North East Arctic cod
- Second surveillance audit report for Norway North East Arctic haddock

As you are aware, the CR procedures relating to the timing of surveillance reporting 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:

- The surveillance audits for seven fisheries were done at the same, which was previously approved by the MSC.
- The preparation of these seven surveillance reports is difficult to accomplish before the one-month deadline.



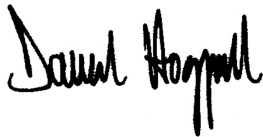
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Given the rationale provided, the MSC is willing to grant a variation to the CR in this case subject to the following condition:

- All of the surveillance reports will be submitted by 22 August 2012 (one month after the current deadline of 22 July).

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

Best regards,



Dan Hoggarth
Fisheries Oversight Director
Marine Stewardship Council

cc: ASI