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Chrissie Sieben
MacAlister Elliott and Partners Ltd.
56 High Street
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Sent by email

Date: 14 March 2014

Subject: Request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement CR 27.22.2

Dear Chrissie Sieben,

I write with reference to your submission on 4 March 2014 of a request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement to allow for the fourth annual surveillance audit to be held remotely instead of a normal on-site surveillance audit for the Euronor saithe fishery.

As you are aware, the CR procedures relating to the location of surveillance audits 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 fishery was certified with no conditions.
- A telephone or skype conference will still be held between the client group representatives and one of the assessors. The information collected will be considered and reported on by the entire surveillance team.
- MEP is confident that this will not alter the sustainability status of this fishery.

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

- Stakeholders are notified that the surveillance will be carried out remotely and are still given ample opportunity to contribute.
- If requested, stakeholders will still be given the opportunity for an onsite meeting with a member of the surveillance team.

If you have any questions regarding this response, please do not hesitate to contact Jodi Bostrom the Fisheries Assessment Manager for this fishery either by email (jodi.bostrom@msc.org) or phone (+44 (0)20 7246 8934).

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dan Hoggarth'.

Dan Hoggarth
Fisheries Oversight director
Marine Stewardship Council

cc: ASI