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Sent by email

Date: 22 July 2014

Subject: Request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement CR 27.22.13 for the DFPO Denmark North Sea and Skagerrak Saithe, Haddock and North Sea sole fishery

Dear Lesley

I write with reference to your submission on 14th July, 2014 of a request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement (CR 27.22.13) to delay the surveillance report deadline for the current surveillance audit from 23 July 2014 until 30 August at the latest for these fisheries.

As you are aware, the CR procedures relating to the submission of surveillance reports 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:

- That the client for all of the above DFPO fisheries is not available to participate in surveillance activities until after 31 July. All of the reports have been written and submitted to FCI by the surveillance teams and are due to be forwarded onto the client.
- That it is essential that the client has the opportunity to check and provide comments on these surveillance reports, particularly as there was additional work carried by the assessment team on these surveillance audits that requires input from the client.

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

- That all stakeholders are notified of the delay to these surveillance reports.

If you have any questions regarding this response, please do not hesitate to contact Robert Lefébure, the Fisheries Assessment Manager for this fishery either by email, Robert.lefebure@msc.org or phone +44 (0)20 7246 8935.

Best regards,



Dan Hoggarth, Fisheries Oversight director

Marine Stewardship Council