



Billy Hynes
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Sent by email

Date: 19/02/2018

Subject: Request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement v2.1 GCR-7.5.6 for West Greenland coldwater prawn

Dear Billy Hynes,

I write with reference to your submission on 16/02/2018 of a request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement (CR) to allow:

The extension of the fishery's certificate until 20th August or publication of the PCR, whichever comes first.

As you are aware, the CR procedures relating to v2.1 GCR-7.5.6 state:

The CAB shall issue fisheries 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:

- Delays due to additional time taken by client to demonstrate compliance as per FCR 7.4.14.2 and PA 6.1.3 (IPI requirements).
- Delays due to additional stakeholder period undertaken (due to 9 month timeline exceedance between announcement and PCDR publication as per FCR 7.3.4)

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

- The extension for completion of the PCR is set as 4 months (rather than 6 months requested) - 20 June 2018.
- 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.
- Stakeholders are informed.
- ECert is updated to reflect changes, including providing a certificate covering the period from the end of the current certificate to the date accepted in the variation response.

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