

Jason Combes and Andrew Hough
Moody Marine Ltd

Sent by email

Date: 9/12/2010



3rd Floor Mountbarrow House
6-20 Elizabeth Street
London
SW1W 9RB
United Kingdom
Tel: +44 (0)20 7811 3300
Fax: +44 (0)20 7811 3301

Subject: Request for variation to the MSC methodology to allow a departure from the prescribed procedure for reassessment and surveillance timing

Dear Jason and Andrew,

I write with reference to your submission on 6 December 2010 of a request for variation to the MSC certification methodology to extend the certification periods beyond the normal 5 year period, so as to allow for delays to the implementation of surveillance audits and reassessments for the four Hastings fisheries.

As you are aware, the FCM procedures relating to surveillance visits (sections 6.1, 6.2) and reassessments (sections 5.3.1, 5.3.2) are integral to ensuring all MSC accredited certification bodies operate in a consistent and transparent manner. The MSC intends that these requirements be met across all fisheries, except in exceptional, well-justified circumstances, as part of the MSC scheme.

MSC notes the factors presented in your letter supporting your request, including:

- the client was unable to secure funding for the reassessments and surveillance audits until March 2010;
- the intent of the client is to have all four fisheries on the same assessment timeline;
- the fisheries continue to operate as they were certified;
- the proposed timetable for the fishery surveillances and reassessments allows for the Public Certification Reports to be released by November 2011 (if no objections).

Given the rationale provided, the MSC is willing to grant variations to the methodology in this case to:

- extend the certificates for the Hastings fleet pelagic herring and mackerel fisheries and Dover sole trammel net fishery to 30 November 2011
- allow delays to the timing of surveillance visits for the Hastings fleet pelagic herring and mackerel fisheries and Dover sole trammel net and trawl and gill net fisheries in order for the surveillances to be held during late January or early February 2011.

These variations are granted subject to the following conditions:

- the fisheries have made the improvements required by the conditions set in the current certificates;
- the fisheries continue to be compliant with the MSC standard;

- the fisheries will continue to comply with the existing certificates until the reassessment process is complete;
- the assessments are conducted according to the proposed revised timetable.

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

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'A Mallison', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Andrew Mallison
Marine Stewardship Council
cc: ASI