

## Marine Stewardship Council - Variation Request Form V1.3

<b>Date submitted to MSC</b>	25 March 2015
<b>Conformity Assessment Body</b>	DNV GL
<b>Fishery Name/CoC Certificate Number</b>	Norway North East Arctic cod and haddock fisheries
<b>Lead Auditor/Programme Manager</b>	Project manager: Guro Meldre Pedersen Team Leader: John Nichols
<b>Scheme requirement(s) to vary from</b>	MSC CR v1.3, 7.5.9: The CAB shall issue fisheries certificates with a maximum validity period of five years from the issue date.
<b>Is this variation sought in order to undertake an expedited P1 assessment (CR annex CL)?</b>	No

### 1. Proposed variation

DNV GL proposes to extend the certificate of the Norway NEA cod and haddock fisheries for a period of 4 months beyond the current expiry date of 25 April 2015.

### 2. Rationale/Justification

The Norway NEA cod and haddock fisheries are currently undergoing reassessment.

- Full reassessment was announced May 2014.
- Site visit was completed June 2014.
- Release of PRDR was delayed due to complications regarding IPI status of coastal cod, which required clarifications with the client and MSC.
- The PCDR was published 20 January 2015.
- At the closing of the PCDR stakeholder consultancy period, comments from stakeholders were received. Processing of these comments has required more time and coordination than expected. Amendments tentatively include additional conditions to the fishery, for which the client should be allowed sufficient time to review, accept or contest, and to provide the required client action plan including any consultation with involved entities.

The variation should not impact the sustainability of the fishery, for which the PCDR draft determination from the reassessment team is that further certification is recommended.

### 3. Implications for assessment (required for fisheries assessment variations only)

Extension of certificate validity will allow for a prolonged timeline and delayed publication of the Final Report and commencing Public Certification Report for this reassessment, but would not have any impact on length of stakeholder consultation periods.

### 4. Have the stakeholders of this fishery assessment been informed of this request? (required for fisheries assessment variations only)

No – stakeholders will be informed if the variation is granted, including update timeline for the reassessment.