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Paul Knapman

Intertek Moody Marine  
99 Wyse Road,  
Suite 815  
Dartmouth  
Nova Scotia  
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Canada

Sent by email

Date: 10.05.2012

Subject: Request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement 7.5.9

Dear Paul Knapman,

I write with reference to your submission on 05.04.2012 of a request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirement (CR) to allow an extension of the existing fishery certificate for the North and South Pacific albacore pole & line and troll/jig fisheries by approximately 2 months, from the 22nd August 2012 to the 24th October 2012.

As you are aware, the CR procedures relating to fishery certificate validity 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:

- Certificate expiration date is still more than four months away from when the request was submitted;
- Significant personal issues affecting two out of the three assessment team members delaying the production of the Client Draft Report and, therefore, the production of the Public Certification Report, should the fishery be recertified.



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

- Stakeholders are informed about the extension of the certificate and rationale for the extension;
- Stakeholders are informed about any related changes to the re-assessment timelines.

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

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Dan Hoggarth".

Dr. Dan Hoggarth  
Fisheries Oversight Director

Marine Stewardship Council  
cc: ASI, Dr. Rob Blyth-Skyrme