

Dr Clare Murray

Global Trust Certification

Sent by email

Date: 7<sup>th</sup> October 2011

Subject: Request for variation to the MSC Certification Requirements 27.7.1.2



Marine House  
1 Snow Hill  
London EC1A 2DH  
United Kingdom  
Tel: +44 (0)20 7246 8900  
Fax: +44 (0)20 7246 8901

Dear Dr Clare Murray,

I write with reference to your submission on 7<sup>th</sup> October 2011 of a request for variation to the MSC scheme requirement to change a member of the Assessment Team (under CR 27.7.1.2) for the Scotian Shelf and Gulf of St Lawrence Snow Crab Trap Fishery.

As you are aware, the Certification Requirements relating to the Assessment Team 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 and CoC certificate holders, except in exceptional, well-justified circumstances, as part of the MSC scheme.

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

- One of the team members has voluntarily stepped down in response to a stakeholder objection.
- A new Team Leader has been proposed to support the Lead Auditor.
- The new Team Leader has competency and previous experience in the MSC certification process.
- The remaining team members have the required competencies to take responsibility on each of the principles.

Given the rationale provided, the MSC is willing to grant a variation to the scheme requirement in this case subject to the following condition:

- All stakeholders are notified and invited to provide comments on the suitability of the nominee additional Team Leader.

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

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Hoyle".

Dr Daniel Hoggarth  
Marine Stewardship Council  
cc: ASI