

MSC Variation Request

NORWAY NORTH EAST ARCTIC HADDOCK OFFSHORE (>12NM) FISHERY

Marine Stewardship Council fisheries assessments

Date: 16.04.2021

1 Marine Stewardship Council variation request

Table 1 – Variation request

1	Date submitted to the MSC
	16 th April 2021
2	CAB
	DNV Business Assurance
3	Fishery name and certificate number
	Norway North East Arctic haddock offshore (>12nm) / Certificate number MSC-F- 31209
4	Lead auditor or program manager
	Sandhya Chaudhury
5	Request prepared by
	Sandhya Chaudhury
6	Scheme requirement(s) for which variation requested
	MSC GCR v2.4.1 §7.5.6 The CAB shall issue fishery certificates with a maximum validity period of 5 years from the issue date.
7	How many times has a variation for this requirement been accepted for the same assessment of the same fishery?
	0

Table 2 – Variation justification							
1	Proposed variation						
	<p>DNV proposes to deviate from MSC GCR v2.4.1 §7.5.6 and extend the Norway North East Arctic haddock offshore (>12nm) MSC Fisheries certificate MSC-F-31209 until the Notice of Objection submitted for the Norway North East Arctic cod offshore (>12nm) fishery (certificate number MSC-F-31210) is either accepted or rejected by the Independent Adjudicator (IA).</p> <p>Additional validity of the present certificate will be requested one week at a time, if required, until such time MSC informs DNV of the IA decision to either accept or decline the Notice of Objection.</p>						
2	Additional time requested						
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Original deadline date</td> <td>26th April 2021</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Modified deadline date requested</td> <td>3rd May 2021</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Length of additional time requested</td> <td>7 days</td> </tr> </table>	Original deadline date	26 th April 2021	Modified deadline date requested	3 rd May 2021	Length of additional time requested	7 days
Original deadline date	26 th April 2021						
Modified deadline date requested	3 rd May 2021						
Length of additional time requested	7 days						
3	Justification						
	<p>The assessment of this fishery has been integrated with the assessment of the Norway North East Arctic cod fishery since the initial assessment of 2008-2010. This Variation Request is therefore to align the 2 reassessment processes and, importantly, to avoid traceability issues in these mixed fisheries.</p> <p>The objection period for the Norway North East Arctic haddock offshore (>12nm) fishery ended on the 14th April 2021. The MSC informed DNV, in the afternoon of 15th April 2021, that atleast one Notice of Objection had been received for the corresponding cod assessment and sent to the Independent Adjudicator to review for eligibility. The present haddock certificate, MSC-F-31209, is valid until 26th April 2021 but the decision from the IA to either accept or reject the objection may not be made by the 26th April.</p> <p>If the Notice of Objection is accepted by the IA, DNV will submit a VR for the extension of the present certificate, MSC-F-31209 for a maximum period of 6 months in alignment with the cod certificate MSC-F-31210.</p> <p>If the objection is rejected DNV assessment team is ready to publish the Public Certification Report and the Certificate.</p> <p>DNV is therefore requesting for the MSC-F-3120 certificate to be extended until such a time the Notice of Objection raised for the Norway North East Arctic cod offshore (>12nm) is either accepted or rejected by the IA.</p>						
4	Implications for assessment						
	No implications to the current reassessment or conditions stipulated are expected.						
5	Mitigation of the implications for assessment						
	NA						
6	How many conditions does the fishery have and will their progress be affected (positive or negative)?						
	The Norway North East Arctic haddock offshore (>12nm) fishery has 2 conditions. Progress against these conditions will not be affected by this Variation Request.						

7	What is the status of the current assessment or audit?
	DNV assessment team is ready to publish the PCR and issue the new certificate pending the outcome of the IA decision.
8	Further comments
	- Please include any further relevant information.
	<p>This is the 2nd reassessment for this fishery – the fishery has been certified since April 2010.</p> <p>The intention to certify the Norway North East Arctic haddock fishery was first announced in September 2008. The assessment of this fishery was integrated with the assessment of the Norway North East Arctic cod fishery.</p> <p>The fishery was announced as combined inshore and offshore fisheries with single Unit of Certifications for each of the 5 gear types (trawl, long-line, Danish seine, gill-net and jigger). Following an initial review, at which the significant issue of coastal cod by-catch was identified, each Unit of Certification was split into an offshore (> 12 nm limit) and inshore (inside of 12 nm limit) component.</p> <p>The offshore fisheries, which does not interact with the coastal cod stocks, was certified in April 2010.</p> <p>The inshore fishery, which does interact with the coastal cod stocks, was assessed on a separate timeline, taking account of the developing coastal cod management plan and was certified on 21st October 2011. A Variation Request was granted by MSC on 28th November 2011 to combine the inshore and already certified (2010) offshore fisheries.</p> <p>This second reassessment is for the offshore (>12nm) component.</p>
9	If applicable, additional information added after the MSC's request

2 Template information and copyright

This document was drafted using the 'MSC Variation Request Form – Fisheries v1.0'.

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Template version control

Version	Date of publication	Description of amendment
1.0	25 March 2020	Release alongside Fisheries Certification Process v2.2

A controlled document list of MSC program documents is available on the MSC website (msc.org).

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