



Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council

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Michael P. Luisi, Chairman | G. Warren Elliott, Vice Chairman
Christopher M. Moore, Ph.D., Executive Director

January 23, 2019

Ms. Jennifer Humberstone
SCS Global Services
2000 Powell St
Emeryville, CA 94608

Dear Ms. Humberstone,

The Council confirms that it has read and understands the Client Action Plan (CAP) created by The Town Dock and Lund's Fisheries, Inc. (hereafter client) for the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) *Illex* certification that is being performed under the auspices of SCS Global Services. The CAP appears to align well with the Council's plan to use a working group (the *Illex* Optimal Catch Workgroup - IOCW) in conjunction with the Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish Advisory Panel to evaluate the potential and practicability of improved assessment and/or management approaches for *Illex*. We look forward to industry's collaboration in this process and more information should be available soon regarding the initiation of the workgroup.

The Council recognizes its involvement in the plan and that Council actions affect the ability of the client to comply with the action plan. The Council agrees to support the client by doing the following:

- Provide evidence of progress by the Council's IOCW and any reports as they are provided to the Council, from which the client can develop a summary for the audit team.
- Continue to utilize the best available scientific information to set *Illex* specifications throughout the certification period, in concert with the our recently-updated regional stock assessment process.

Please contact me or Jason Didden of my staff if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Moore".

Christopher M. Moore, Ph.D.
Executive Director

cc: M. Luisi, W. Elliott