



15 April 2016

Dear stakeholder

### Fiordland Lobster Company Limited's application for exemption from quota aggregation limits

The Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) has received an application from the Fiordland Lobster Company Limited (FLC) to hold rock lobster quota in excess of aggregation limits in the CRA 4 (Wellington/Hawkes Bay), CRA 7 (Otago), and CRA 8 (Southern) rock lobster fisheries.

Under the Fisheries Act 1996 (the Act), no person shall be entitled to own more than 10,000,000 quota shares (10%) for any one rock lobster quota management area. This is known as an aggregation limit. FLC have applied to hold up to 20,000,000 quota shares (20%), in perpetuity and without condition, in CRA 4; CRA 7; and CRA 8.

Section 60 of the Act requires the Minister for Primary Industries (the Minister), when dealing with such requests, to consult with such persons or organisations the Minister considers are representative of those classes of persons having an interest in the application for exemption from aggregation limits.

When considering whether to grant any consent to hold quota above aggregation limits, the Minister is required to consider the matters specified in section 60(3) of the Act. They are:

- a) the willingness and ability of other members of the New Zealand fishing industry to acquire quota of the relevant species:
- b) the likely effect of the granting or withholding of the consent on:
  - i. the development of any new or existing stocks or species:
  - ii. other quota owners or commercial fishers:
  - iii. the processing and marketing of that stock or species:
  - iv. the ability of the applicant to take any other stock or species:
  - v. the efficiency of the New Zealand fishing industry or any person engaged in the New Zealand fishing industry:
- c) such other matters as the Minister considers relevant.

MPI invites you or your organisation to make a submission on FLC's application. In making your submission, you are requested to specifically address the matters that the Minister is required to consider under section 60(3). Your views are also appreciated on what (if any) conditions should be attached to any consent in this application, should it be granted. This includes any limit on the number of quota shares for a particular stock, or whether a consent should be given for any specified year(s) or generally.

FLC's application can be found on the MPI consultation webpage at: [www.mpi.govt.nz/news-and-resources/consultations](http://www.mpi.govt.nz/news-and-resources/consultations)

**Making a submission**

All submissions should be received by 5pm, Friday 13 May 2016.

Written submissions should be sent directly to:

**Email**

[FMSubmissions@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:FMSubmissions@mpi.govt.nz)

**Post**

Inshore Fisheries Management

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Yours sincerely

Dave Turner

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