



SEA STORM FISHERIES, INC.

2727 Alaskan Way, Pier 69
Seattle, Washington 98121 U.S.A.

February 27, 2018

Mr. Philip Anderson, Chairman
Pacific Fishery Management Council
7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 101
Portland, Oregon 97220-1348

Dear Chairman Anderson and Council Members,

On behalf of F/V Sea Storm, I request that the Council and NMFS re-open enrollment for the 2018 trawl gear exempted fishing permit (EFP), so that Sea Storm and any other interested vessels can participate. Since widow rockfish reallocation and the non-whiting midwater fishing opportunity are recent developments, we were not able to finalize our 2018 fishing plans until after the initial EFP enrollment period ended in November 2017. Now that we have quota pounds and an opportunity with a processor, we need to enroll in the EFP in order to participate in this fishery outside the primary whiting season. We have been communicating with the EFP sponsors, other vessel owners and captains who are currently participating, and NMFS, who indicated that the Council could re-open the enrollment at the March meeting. From what I understand, NMFS could then put out a public notice and issue permits as interest comes in, which would give our vessel and other interested vessels enough time to meaningfully participate in this developing fishery before the whiting season opens.

F/V Sea Storm and our captain and crew would be a great addition to the EFP, and great partners to support the research and management efforts associated with this EFP. This is an important chance for Sea Storm to realize greater attainment of our quota in the IFQ fishery. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Sarah Nayani
F/V Sea Storm Vessel Manager
Sea Storm Fisheries, Inc. &
Director of Compliance
Arctic Storm Management Group, LLC