

Fish Processing Licensing Board Meeting

August 26, 2024

Board Recommendation

Dear Minister Byrne,

The Fish Processing Licensing Board (Board), met virtually (Teams Meeting), on August 26, 2024. The Board considered three applications that were comprised of the following:

- Dandy Dan's Fish Market Limited, Argentia, for the transfer of a primary and in-province retail license from Argentia to Ship Harbour.
- Terra Vista Limited, Glovertown, for the reinstatement of groundfish (all species), to their primary processing licence.
- Change Islands Fisherman's Improvement Committee, Change Islands, for the reinstatement of groundfish (all species), and sea cucumber to their primary processing licence.

Pursuant to s. 9 (1) (e) of the Fish Processing Licensing Board Act, the Board is making the following recommendations:

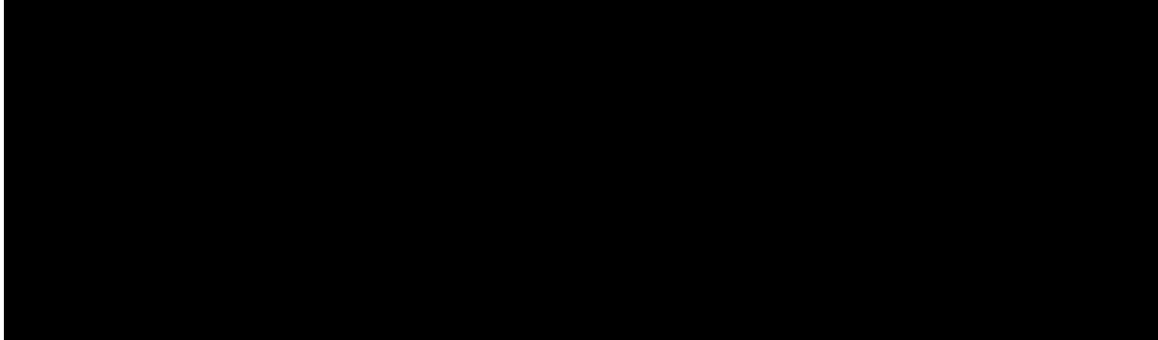
1. Dandy Dan's Fish Market Limited, Argentia, has two fish processing licences. A primary processing licence for groundfish (all species), pelagics (all species), snow crab, crab (other), lobster, lumpfish, and seal, and an in-province retail fish establishment licence. It is the Board's view that the move from Argentia to Ship Harbour will have no impact on regional balance. There are no resource or competitive issues with neighboring enterprises, and it is an inter-company transfer so no cash/financing is required to move the licence. The facility located in Ship Harbour is in excellent condition according to the company owner, with building additions/upgrading in the last 10 years. A request was already approved in 2021 for this company to move both licenses from Ship Harbour to Argentia. Since 2021, the owner has re-evaluated his business plan model and concluded that Ship Harbour is the best suited location for his fish operations. The travel distance between both operations is 35 kilometers. After careful consideration, it has been concluded that there are no other mitigating circumstances that would not warrant granting this transfer. The Board felt that it would increase business stability and viability for this company.

There was one letter of objection received and no letters of support.

The Board recommends approving the transfer of the primary processing licence and in-province retail fish establishment licence from Argentia to Ship Harbour for Dandy Dan's Fish Market Limited.

2. Terra Vista Limited, Glovertown, was issued a cancellation letter in January 2024, for the removal of **groundfish, all species**, from their fish processing licence, due to failing to meet the minimum species activity requirement as specified in section 1.6 of the Fish Processing Licensing Policy Manual. For a primary processing facility to maintain a species or species group on its licence, it must produce some level of production for that species or species group in **two of five consecutive years on a go-forward basis**. The minimum round-weight-equivalent production to maintain the species group for groundfish (all species), is **20 tonnes**.

Sec 4 - Fisheries Act



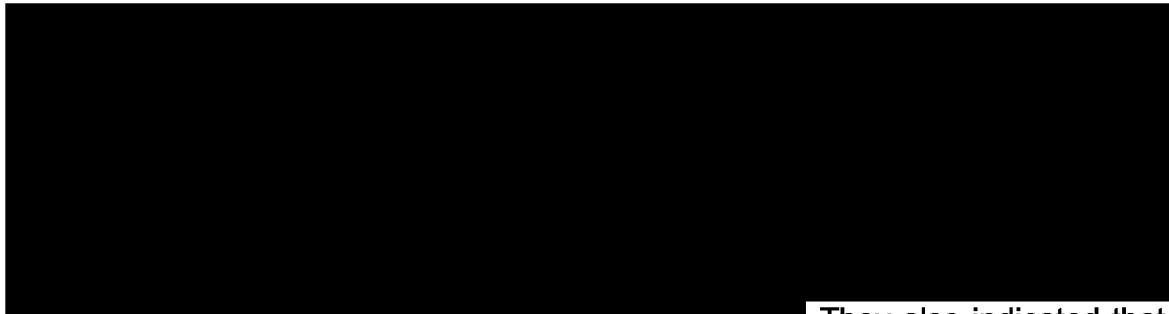
The Board has determined by restating this species group, it will enable the company to increase its production and sales volume to both in-province and export markets. This reinstatement will help expand operations, build, and maintain markets for the company. It will create increased employment opportunities for people in the local area, including the prospect of longer-term employment for some existing employees from their crab operation. After careful consideration, it was concluded that there were no mitigating circumstances that would not warrant reinstatement of this species group to the fish processing licence.

The Board recommends approving the reinstatement of groundfish (all species), to the fish processing licence for Terra Vista Limited, Glovertown.

3. Change Islands Fisherman's Improvement Committee, Change Islands, was issued a cancellation letter in February 2024, for the removal of **groundfish, all species, and sea cucumber** from their fish processing licence, due to failing to meet the minimum species activity requirement as specified in section 1.6 of the Fish Processing Licensing Policy Manual. For a primary processing facility to maintain a species or species group on its licence, it must produce some level of production for that species or species group in **two of five consecutive years on a go-forward basis**. The minimum round-weight-equivalent production to maintain the species group groundfish (all species), is **20 tonnes** and the

minimum round-weight-equivalent production to maintain the species sea cucumber is **10 tonnes**.

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They also indicated that they hope to have the facility in operation in 2025. For this reason, the Board felt that there were circumstances beyond the control of the committee that prevented them from meeting the species maintenance criteria and the Board is recommending the reinstatement of groundfish (all species), and sea cucumber to the fish processing licence.

The Board recommends approving the reinstatement of groundfish (all species), and sea cucumber to the fish processing licence for Change Islands Fisherman's Improvement Committee, Change Islands.

40(1)

August 30, 2024

Bill Carter
Chair, Fish Processing Licensing Board

Date