

4 July 2008

Hon Jim Anderton  
Minister of Fisheries  
Parliament Buildings  
Wellington

Dear Minister

**Amending Section 13 of the Fisheries Act**

I would like to inform you that the Board of Directors of the New Zealand Seafood Industry Council Ltd (SeaFIC) supports as a package:

- The desirability of amending section 13 of the Fisheries Act to address technical issues arising from the Crown's legal interpretation of the recent decision of the High Court in *Anton's Trawling Company Limited v The Minister of Fisheries*;
- The progression of the section 13 amendment via an expedited Select Committee process to enable enactment prior to the 1 October 2008 sustainability decisions; and
- The concurrent withdrawal from the Order Paper of the Fisheries Act 1996 Amendment Bill.

SeaFIC has been consulted in the preparation of the proposed amendment of section 13 and the SeaFIC Board endorses the proposed wording (as attached).

Please let us know if there is anything further that SeaFIC can do to help facilitate the smooth passage of this amendment.

Yours sincerely



Owen Symmans  
Chief Executive  
On behalf of the SeaFIC Board of Directors