Serving the fisheries of the Bering Strait Region

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April 3, 2024

The Honorable Gina Raimondo Secretary of Commerce U.S. Department of Commerce Herbert Clark Hoover Building 1401 Constitution Avenue, NW Washington, D.C. 20230

Mr. Jon Kurland, Regional Administrator NMFS – Alaska Region P.O. Box 21668 Juneau, AK 99802-1668

RE: Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation 2023 Annual Statement of Compliance

Dear Secretary Raimondo and Mr. Kurland:

Section 305(i)(1)(E)(v) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSFCMA) requires each entity participating in the Western Alaska Community Development Quota (CDQ) program to submit annually to the Secretary of Commerce and State of Alaska an Annual Statement of Compliance that summarizes the purposes for which the entity made "investments" under section 305(i)(1)(E)(iii) and (iv) of the MSFCMA during the preceding year.

In section 305(i)(1) of the MSFCMA, Congress did not define the term "investment." However, the CDQ Panel, which Congress established in section 305(i)(1)(G) of the MSFCMA, has defined the term "investment" to mean an expenditure made by a CDQ entity "with the objective of future financial returns, whether or not those endeavors yield gains or losses."

Utilizing that definition, the Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation (NSEDC) hereby submits its Statement of Compliance for 2023.

During 2023, all investments made by NSEDC were investments that, pursuant to section 305(i)(1)(E)(iv) of the MSFCMA, were either "fisheries-related projects" or were made for "purposes consistent with the practices of the entity prior to March 1, 2006."

On February 8, 2024, the board of directors of NSEDC approved this Annual Statement of Compliance. Attached to this letter is NSEDC Resolution 24-01 which confirms the approval.

Sincerely,

Janis Ivanoff

President & CEO



NORTON SOUND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Certificate of Corporate Resolution No 24-01

Approval of 2023 NSEDC Annual Statement of Compliance

I, the undersigned, secretary of Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation, an Alaska non-profit corporation, hereby certify that at a regular quarterly meeting of the board of directors held in Anchorage, Alaska on the 8th day of February, 2024, upon proper call and notice, or waiver thereof, at which there was a quorum present and voting, the board adopted the following preambles and resolution by a majority vote of a quorum of the directors:

WHEREAS, the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA) authorizes the Western Alaska Community Development Quota (CDQ) Program;

WHEREAS, the Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation is named as the entity within the MSA to represent the 15 communities in the Norton Sound/Bering Strait region eligible to participate in the CDQ Program;

WHEREAS, the MSA specifies CDQ Program eligibility requirements, and specifically in Section 305(i)(1)(E)(v) that "each entity, following approval by its board of directors" shall submit a written statement summarizing the purpose for which it made investments, as allowed by the MSA as a non-fishery related investment, fishery related investment, or and investment for a purpose consistent with the practices of the entity prior to March 1, 2006.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED that the NSEDC Board of Directors approves the 2023 NSEDC Annual Statement of Compliance for submission by the NSEDC Chief Executive Officer.

The foregoing resolution has not been altered or repealed and remains in full force and effect as of the date hereof.

IN WITNESS, WHEREOF, I have executed my name as Secretary of NSEDC this 8th day of February, 2024.

Kathy Wheelehan, Secretary

ATTEST:

Jan's Ivanoff, President & CEO