



David E. Pierce
Acting Director

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

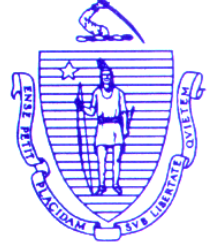
Division of Marine Fisheries

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Charles D. Baker
Governor

Karyn E. Polito
Lieutenant Governor

Matthew A. Beaton
Secretary

George N. Peterson, Jr.
Commissioner

Mary-Lee King
Deputy Commissioner

July 20, 2015

Name of Business Owner
Business Name
Address
Address

RE: Groundfish Disaster Aid Pre-qualification Status and Notice of Appeal Period

Dear <Name of Business Owner>:

The Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) is writing to inform you that based upon your application for groundfish disaster assistance as a shoreside business owner **you <have/have not> been pre-qualified for inclusion in Phase 2 of the Groundfish Disaster Economic Assistance Program.**

Shoreside business owners that applied are being pre-qualified to receive a tiered flat rate payment based on meeting the following criteria:

Higher Flat Rate

Shoreside business owner was able to document in any one year during 2009-2013:

- 1) at least \$32,500 of total business income was generated by the Massachusetts commercial groundfish industry;
- 2) at least 30% of total business income was generated by the Massachusetts commercial groundfish industry; and
- 3) the business continues to actively support the Massachusetts commercial groundfish industry.

Lower Flat Rate

Shoreside business owner was able to document a more than nominal amount of business income was generated by the Massachusetts commercial groundfish industry but did not meet either the \$32,500 or 30% filters established for a higher flat rate. Additionally, the business continues to actively support the Massachusetts commercial groundfish industry.

In the table below, you will find further details regarding DMF's decision to prequalify you based on the information you submitted with your application and upon further DMF request. If you believe there was a technical error in the pre-qualification data, you may submit a written

appeal to MA DMF postmarked no later than Wednesday August 5, 2015. Any appeals should be directed to Samantha Andrews at 251 Causeway St., Suite 400 Boston, MA 02114 or by dated email at Samantha.n.andrews@state.ma.us.

Pre-qualification Year	<CY>
Documented Groundfish Income	<\$>
Total Business Income	<\$>
Met criteria for at least \$32,500 in groundfish income?	YES/NO
Met criteria for groundfish income to comprise at least 30% of total business income?	YES/NO
Shoreside business still actively supporting MA commercial groundfishery?	YES/NO
Pre-qualified?	YES/NO
If pre-qualified, at what rate?	HIGHER/LOWER

Following conclusion of all appeals, DMF will notify you in writing of your final qualified payment amount. In order to receive payment, you must be a current state vendor. DMF will provide necessary documents to become a state vendor or update your existing information upon notification of final payment amounts.

Sincerely,



Melanie Griffin
Fishery Policy Analyst