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## CONSUMERS, TUNA FISHERMEN, BUYERS/PROCESSORS/EXPORTERS OF CANADIAN CAUGHT PACIFIC ALBACORE TUNA

**Attention: 2013 Background Screening for Radioactive Isotope** 

As you are aware, there is ongoing interest/concern by the general public, potential buyers, and media in regards to issues related to contamination of seawater and, possibly seafood species, as a result of the catastrophe that befell Japan in 2011 and subsequent issues related to the Fukushima spill.

In order to assure those who had concerns, that Pacific Troll Caught Albacore Tuna from our 2010, 2011, and 2012 fisheries was not affected and to provide baseline data, the **Canadian Highly Migratory Species Foundation** tested samples from 2010 (from storage), 2011 and 2012 (from the fishery) for residues suggesting radio-active contamination. **ALL** tests showed radioactive residue were **NOT DETECTED** in any samples.

To continue our evaluation for 2013, a sub-sample of Albacore Tuna caught in Canadian Waters were collected and contributed for sampling by ALBION FISHERIES LTD, of Vancouver, BC. under "Chain of Custody" documentation the samples were submitted to, and tested by, SRC Analytical Division of the Saskatchewan Research Council's Analytical Laboratories in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada. Test methods and data were validated by the Laboratory's Quality Assurance Program and testing routines methods followed recognized procedures from sources such as:

- Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater APHA AWWA WEF:
- Environment Canada;
- US EPA; and,
- CANMET

The results have been authorized as follows:

- Organic results authorized by Pat Moser, Supervisor SRC Analytical Div.;
- ICP results authorized by Keith Gipman, Supervisor, SRC Analytical Div.;
- Inorganic and Radiochemistry results have been authorized by Jeff Zimmer, Supervisor, SRC Analytical Div.; and,

• SLOWPOKE-2 results authorized by Dave Chorney.

We are pleased to inform you that for all of the samples tested the results have shown:

- Iodine-131 < 0.2 < 0.2 < 0.2 < 0.2
- Cesium-137 < 0.004 < 0.005 < 0.003 < 0.002

For the first time we also tested for Cesium 134 with the following results:

• Cesium-134 < 0.003 < 0.004 < 0.002 < 0.002

Once again ALL samples tested for these residues indicate "that it was not detected levels representing the lowest detection limits achievable for Gamma Spectroscopy".

We are pleased then to report, 100% of all samples tested for radioactive residue in Northern Pacific between 2010 (pre event) to our current fishery in 2013 show no residues detected at the lowest detection limits achievable.

Thank you once again for your interest in Canadian Albacore Tuna caught in the waters of the Eastern Pacific.

Lorne Clayton, RPBio.

**Executive Director**