TOGIOLA T.A. TULAFONO
Governor

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Lt. Governor

AMERICAN SAMOA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
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Director

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12 July 2007

Brett Butler, General Manager
Starkist Samoa, Inc.
P.O. Box 368
Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799

Re: Water Quality Certification and Authorization of Zone of Mixing; NPDES Permit No. AS0000019

Dear Mr. Butler:

We have received and reviewed your request for a Water Quality Certification (WQC) and definition/authorization for a Zone of Mixing (ZOM) (as prepared by **gdc**, June 2007) for a National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for the discharge of treated fish processing wastewater through a joint-cannery outfall, to Pago Pago Harbor, American Samoa.

The existing NPDES permit and previous WQC are based on a ZOM for total nitrogen, total phosphorus, ammonia, copper, and zinc. As presented in your submission, there have been no identifiable changes in the discharge or receiving water characteristics since issuance of the perimit and the establishment of the current mixing zones. Additionally, data as presented shows that the ZOM as defined is applicable for mercury in order to meet ASWQS for the receiving water.

The discharge is found to be consistent with the protected uses for Pago Pago Harbor as stated in the American Samoa Water Quality Standards (ASWQS) and sections 301, 302, 303, 306, and 307 of the Clean Water Act, and ASEPA has determined that there is reasonable assurance that the discharge will not cause violations of the ASWQS. Certification is hereby given for this activity, and authorization of the Zone of Mixing is hereby granted, provided that all conditions of the NPDES permit and the ASWQS (except as authorized within ZOM) continue to be met.

If you have any questions on this certification and authorization, please feel free to contact me or Peter Peshut of my staff at (684) 633-2304.

Sincerely,

Fanuatele Dr. T. Vaiaga'e, Director

cc: Steven Costa, gdc
Carl Goldstein, USEPA

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