

## **Annex 2: Terms of Reference for the Peer Review**

### **Evaluation of excessive shares study in the**

### **Mid-Atlantic surfclam and ocean quahog ITQ fishery**

The peer review shall be conducted based on the following Terms of Reference (ToRs):

1. Describe the method or process used by the NMFS Technical Group for determining the maximum possible allowable percentage share of quota ownership that will prevent an entity from obtaining market power.
2. Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the proposed method developed by the NMFS Technical group for determining maximum possible allowable percentage share of quota ownership. Review and comment on the data requirements necessary for applying the proposed methods.
3. Evaluate application of the proposed methods to the Surfclam/Ocean Quahog ITQ fishery. If there is disagreement with what the NMFS Technical Group recommended, clearly state that and your reason why.
4. Evaluate whether the approach outlined by the NMFS Technical group is reasonable for setting excessive share limits in fisheries managed through catch shares? As part of this TOR, comment on any constraints that may hinder application of the methods proposed by the NMFS Technical group.
5. Provide any recommendations for further improvement