

From: Jennifer Mclver <Jennifer.Mclver@epa.govt.nz>
Sent: Tuesday, 19 May 2026 7:48 am
To: Matt Adams
Cc: Bonnie Hartfield; BRIGHTON, Claire (LGL); AL-JEBOURI, Tabby (LGL)
Subject: Re: CLASSIFICATION RE: Request for a call regarding a potential protect in the Pacific

CLASSIFICATION

Hi Matt,

I am free Wed, Thurs and Fri next week and could make Monday available too if necessary, but not Tuesday unfortunately.

Given Betsy's mentions of the USEPA's permitting regime and that a member of their permitting team will be present, she would no doubt value participation by members of the NZ EEZ permitting team. I will reach out within EPA to see who from that side is available 9am mornings next week, and get back to you asap.

Ngā mihi,

Jen Mclver

Lead Solicitor

04 916 2426 | 9(2)(a)

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From: AL-JEBOURI, Tabby (LGL) <Tabby.Al-Jebouri@mfat.govt.nz>
Sent: Tuesday, May 19, 2026 7:31 AM
To: BRIGHTON, Claire (LGL) <Claire.Brighton@mfat.govt.nz>; Matt Adams <Matt.Adams@mfe.govt.nz>; Jennifer Mclver <jennifer.mclver@epa.govt.nz>
Cc: Bonnie Hartfield <Bonnie.Hartfield@mfe.govt.nz>
Subject: Re: CLASSIFICATION RE: Request for a call regarding a potential protect in the Pacific

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Kia ora koutou,

Monday, Tuesday and Thursday morning work best next week

If Wednesday or Friday are preferable, I can try move some things around!

Have a lovely day.

Ngā mihi,
Tabby

CLASSIFICATION

From: BRIGHTON, Claire (LGL) <Claire.Brighton@mfat.govt.nz>

Sent: Monday, May 18, 2026 1:50:10 PM

To: Matt Adams <Matt.Adams@mfe.govt.nz>; Jennifer McIver <jennifer.mciver@epa.govt.nz>

Cc: Bonnie Hartfield <Bonnie.Hartfield@mfe.govt.nz>; AL-JEBOURI, Tabby (LGL) <Tabby.Al-Jebouri@mfat.govt.nz>

Subject: RE: CLASSIFICATION RE: Request for a call regarding a potential protect in the Pacific CLASSIFICATION

CLASSIFICATION

CLASSIFICATION

Oh nuts. I am away next week in Suva Mon to Fri next week – I have copied in Tabby, who will be here (she is not on emails today and tomorrow but I have messaged her).

Nāku iti noa, nā

Claire Brighton (she/her)

Manager

International Environment and Resources Law

T 9(2)(a) E claire.brighton@mfat.govt.nz

CLASSIFICATION

From: Matt Adams <Matt.Adams@mfe.govt.nz>

Sent: Monday, 18 May 2026 1:30 pm

To: BRIGHTON, Claire (LGL) <Claire.Brighton@mfat.govt.nz>; Jennifer McIver <jennifer.mciver@epa.govt.nz>

Cc: Bonnie Hartfield <Bonnie.Hartfield@mfe.govt.nz>

Subject: CLASSIFICATION RE: Request for a call regarding a potential protect in the Pacific CLASSIFICATION

Thanks Claire,

Apologies for the typo in my email, I am hoping to line up next week for the chat. Still good with any morning

Cheers,

Matt

From: BRIGHTON, Claire (LGL) <Claire.Brighton@mfat.govt.nz>
Sent: Monday, 18 May 2026 1:13 pm
To: Matt Adams <Matt.Adams@mfe.govt.nz>; Jennifer McIver <jennifer.mciver@epa.govt.nz>
Cc: Bonnie Hartfield <Bonnie.Hartfield@mfe.govt.nz>
Subject: RE: Request for a call regarding a potential protect in the Pacific **CLASSIFICATION**

CLASSIFICATION

CLASSIFICATION

Ka ora Matt

Thanks for looping us in – very happy to attend. We can do any morning this week.

Nāku iti noa, nā

Claire Brighton (she/her)

Manager

International Environment and Resources Law

T 9(2)(a) **[REDACTED]** E claire.brighton@mfat.govt.nz

CLASSIFICATION

From: Matt Adams <Matt.Adams@mfe.govt.nz>
Sent: Monday, 18 May 2026 8:53 am
To: BRIGHTON, Claire (LGL) <Claire.Brighton@mfat.govt.nz>; Jennifer McIver <jennifer.mciver@epa.govt.nz>
Cc: Bonnie Hartfield <Bonnie.Hartfield@mfe.govt.nz>
Subject: FW: Request for a call regarding a potential protect in the Pacific

Mōrena Claire and Jennifer,

Hope you both had nice weekends.

The USA EPA has been approached by Gigablue and is keen to have a chat to us. We thought it would be useful to also have MFAT and EPA in the room. Are you keen to be included? If so, the meeting will likely be held at 9am, so please let me know which days of the week work for you next week.

Jennifer, I expect there to be interest from a number of groups across the EPA. I have come to you initially, but please extend to others as you see fit.

Once we have a list of attendees and a series of suitable dates, I will respond to the USA EPA.
Cheers,

Matt

From: David Falconer <David.Falconer@mfe.govt.nz>
Sent: Friday, 15 May 2026 4:45 pm

To: Matt Adams <Matt.Adams@mfe.govt.nz>; Bonnie Hartfield <Bonnie.Hartfield@mfe.govt.nz>
Subject: FW: Request for a call regarding a potential protect in the Pacific

Kia ora Matt and Bonnie,
The US EPA want to meet to discuss Gigablue (see the email chain below). Can you please organise?

Ngā mihi
David

From: Matthew Barbati-Ross <Matthew.Barbati-Ross@mfe.govt.nz>
Sent: Friday, 15 May 2026 4:15 pm
To: David Falconer <David.Falconer@mfe.govt.nz>
Subject: RE: Request for a call regarding a potential protect in the Pacific

Kia ora – please pass on to Matt and Bonnie to progress.

Kā mihi, Matthew

Matthew Barbati-Ross (he/him)

Manager | Kaiwhakahaere

Marine Policy Team | Kaupapahere Moana

Ministry for the Environment | Manatū Mō Te Taiao

9(2)(a) | matthew.barbati-ross@mfe.govt.nz | mfe.govt.nz

Ministry staff work flexibly by default. For me, this means I work from Te Pātaka-o-Rākaihautū/Banks Peninsula.



Ministry for the
Environment
Manatū Mō Te Taiao



**A flourishing environment
for every generation.**
He taiao tōnui mō ngā
reanga katoa.

From: David Falconer <David.Falconer@mfe.govt.nz>
Sent: Friday, 15 May 2026 4:13 pm
To: Matthew Barbati-Ross <Matthew.Barbati-Ross@mfe.govt.nz>
Subject: FW: Request for a call regarding a potential protect in the Pacific

Kia ora Matthew,
I have received this email from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. They might have got my email address after I spoke at the London Convention/London Protocol Meeting in March. They want to have a discussion about Gigablue. If you are ok with that, I am happy to set that up. Who else from the team do you want to attend? Matt? Bonnie? Yourself?

Ngā mihi
David

From: Valente, Betsy <Valente.Betsy@epa.gov>
Sent: Friday, 15 May 2026 1:55 am
To: David Falconer <David.Falconer@mfe.govt.nz>
Subject: Request for a call regarding a potential protect in the Pacific

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Dear David,

My name is Betsy Valente, and I work in the United States Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Water. Specifically, my branch includes EPA's Marine Protection Permitting Program and supports U.S. activities at London Convention and London Protocol Meetings, including the LC/LP Scientific Groups.

We were recently contacted by Gigablue about a potential project in the North Pacific. Given recent discussions at the London Convention/London Protocol Meetings, we are aware that New Zealand has had some engagement with this organization. As such, I would like to set up a short conversation with you (to also include a member of my permitting team). If you would be available for a short call, please let me know what dates/times work best for you and I will follow up with a Teams meeting invite. I believe the best windows for our time zones are 8-10 am New Zealand (4-6 pm Washington, DC). If you are not the correct point of contact, I would appreciate it if you could refer me to the current point of contact for this issue.

Best regards,
Betsy

Betsy Valente
Chief, Freshwater and Marine Regulatory Branch
Office of Wetlands, Oceans and Watersheds
Office of Water | U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Email: valente.betsy@epa.gov
Tel: 202-564-9895

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