

**From:** Valente, Betsy <Valente.Betsy@epa.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, 22 May 2026 3:11 am  
**To:** Matt Adams  
**Cc:** Bonnie Hartfield; AL-JEBOURI, Tabby (LGL); Jennifer McIver  
**Subject:** RE: Request for a call regarding a potential project in the Pacific

**MFE CYBER SECURITY WARNING**

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Hi Matt,

Thank you very much for your response. I will send a Teams invite for 9 am Thursday, May 28 (NZ time).

We look forward to speaking with you.

Best regards,  
Betsy

Cynthia P. E. (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](mailto:valente.betsy@epa.gov)  
Tel: 202-564-9895

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**From:** Matt Adams <Matt.Adams@mfe.govt.nz>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 20, 2026 4:31 PM  
**To:** Valente, Betsy <Valente.Betsy@epa.gov>  
**Cc:** Bonnie Hartfield <Bonnie.Hartfield@mfe.govt.nz>; AL-JEBOURI, Tabby (LGL) <tabby.al-jebouri@mfat.govt.nz>; Jennifer McIver <jennifer.mciver@epa.govt.nz>  
**Subject:** FW: Request for a call regarding a potential protect in the Pacific

You don't often get email from [matt.adams@mfe.govt.nz](mailto:matt.adams@mfe.govt.nz). [Learn why this is important](#)

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Hi Betsy,

I am in David's policy team at the Ministry for the Environment. He has passed your email on to me and Bonnie as we are across Gigablue's activities. We would be happy to meet to discuss our engagement with Gigablue. I hope you don't mind, but I have also reached out to our Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, and our Environmental Protection Authority. Both these agencies have had contact with Gigablue and are involved in permitting research activities. They are keen to attend and are copied into this email.

In terms of timing, Thursday 9am (NZ time) next week seems to work well for most.  
Look forward to speaking with you,  
Regards,

Matt

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**From:** Valente, Betsy <[Valente.Betsy@epa.gov](mailto:Valente.Betsy@epa.gov)>

**Sent:** Friday, 15 May 2026 1:55 am

**To:** David Falconer <[David.Falconer@mfe.govt.nz](mailto:David.Falconer@mfe.govt.nz)>

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

**MFE CYBER SECURITY WARNING**

This email originated from outside our organisation. Please take extra care when clicking on any links or opening any attachments.

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  
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