

From: Jennifer Mclver <Jennifer.Mclver@epa.govt.nz>
Sent: Thursday, 28 May 2026 5:28 pm
To: Claire Cohen; Matt Adams
Cc: Ben Moginie; Antoinette Hindle; Juliet Esposito
Subject: Re: **CLASSIFICATION** Briefing on Gigablue/MCFS

Thanks very much Matt. Keen to see as much as you are able to share. An interesting meeting today with US EPA, I will chase Betsy to ask for their list of standard questions in response to OF enquiries.

Claire, please could you also include Juliet in this work? Thank you.

Ngā mihi,

Jen Mclver

Lead Solicitor

04 916 2426 | **9(2)(a)**

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From: Claire Cohen <Claire.Cohen@epa.govt.nz>
Sent: Thursday, May 28, 2026 4:24 PM
To: Antoinette Hindle <Antoinette.Hindle@epa.govt.nz>; Matt Adams <Matt.Adams@mfe.govt.nz>; Jennifer Mclver <jennifer.mclver@epa.govt.nz>; Ben Moginie <Ben.Moginie@epa.govt.nz>
Subject: Re: **CLASSIFICATION** Briefing on Gigablue/MCFS

Kia ora Annie, yes - happy to work with Ben on this.

Regards

Claire

Claire Cohen

Principal Advisor, Regulatory Policy



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From: Antoinette Hindle <Antoinette.Hindle@epa.govt.nz>

Sent: Thursday, May 28, 2026 4:21 PM

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

Subject: Re: **CLASSIFICATION** Briefing on Gigablue/MCFS

Kia ora Claire

Can you work with Ben to respond to this for Matt please? It feels somehow familiar, but maybe I'm imagining that?

I'd be grateful to see the response before it goes back to MfE.

Ngā mihi

Annie

Antoinette Hindle (Annie)
Manager, Regulatory Policy
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From: Matt Adams <Matt.Adams@mfe.govt.nz>

Sent: Thursday, May 28, 2026 3:52 PM

To: Antoinette Hindle <antoinette.hindle@epa.govt.nz>; Jennifer McIver <jennifer.mciver@epa.govt.nz>

Subject: **CLASSIFICATION** Briefing on Gigablue/MCFS

Kia ora kōrua,

I am touching base in regard to a briefing we are writing about Gigablue's MCFS technology (I mentioned this today Annie, and Jen this may be useful based on today's chat with the US EPA). Following the meeting between Gigablue and Ministers the following information request came to the EPA and MfE:

1. **EPA:** To please provide regular updates on Gigablue's existing trial (recently permitted activity for 50T(?) of product), and updates on the status of the next planned scaled-up iteration of the trial (estimated for October/Nov).
2. **EPA/MfE:** Q: In its assessments so far, what constraints has the EPA identified to the scaling up Gigablue's research activity to the open ocean?
E.g. categorisation of the activity under the EEZ (nature/purpose of research), any issues with the methodology and/or particular information gaps regarding the environmental impact.
3. **EPA/MfE:** Q: Is permitted activity assessment required each time Gigablue scale up its research activities, i.e. is there not one overarching permissive activity for the entire research phase? Is there any pathway for the latter?
My understanding is that each time the activity changes (e.g. in scale), it needs to be assessed whether it is permitted or not under the EEZ. This is part of the reason why Gigablue could not proceed with a larger trial in the first instance, and had to scale down.
4. **MfE:** Provide background on what Gigablue previously sought reg. change for (i.e. specific technology/activity) vs new ask for a wider category exemption (mCFS v. mCDR?)
5. **MfE:** 9(2)(h) [REDACTED]

I gather you have responded to items 1 through 3? If so, we would be interested in seeing your response.

Our upcoming briefing addresses items 4 and 5, and also touches on the ability (or lack thereof) for MCFS to count towards New Zealand's nationally determined contribution under the Paris Agreement. We would like to share the briefing with you for comment, 9(2)(h) [REDACTED]

I will be in touch early next week.

Cheers,

Matt

Matt Adams

Senior Advisor | Kaitohutohu Matua - Kaupapahere

Mauri Moana

Natural Environment Policy | Te Rōpū Te Whakahaere Taiao me te Urutau

Ministry staff work flexibly by default. For me, this means I do not work every second Friday.

