

From: Matt Adams <Matt.Adams@mfe.govt.nz>
Sent: Friday, 29 May 2026 2:05 pm
To: Eugene Rees [EXTERNAL] (MPI)
Cc: Bonnie.Hartfield@mfe.govt.nz
Subject: RE: **CLASSIFICATION** Agency consultation - advice on Gigablue

Hi Eugene,

Many thanks for your thoughts. We will add a Treaty section in there.

We are seeing some interest in mCDR technologies being used in our waters (Gigablue and we have had an enquiry about ocean alkalinity enhancement). There are a wide range of marine geoengineering techniques with varying pros and cons. If you are interested, I have added links to an [expert review](#) on marine engineering techniques, and an individual [study](#) which modelled a reduction in primary productivity of up to 50% for one marine geoengineering technique (based on large scale modelling). Just a little light reading...

Thanks again for your response.

Have a good weekend, and all the best for the footy,

Cheers,

Matt

Note: the links above redirect to the following urls:
expert review: <https://www.gesamp.org/publications/high-level-review-of-a-wide-range-of-proposed-marine-geoengineering-techniques>
study: <https://egusphere.copernicus.org/preprints/2025/egusphere-2025-5360/egusphere-2025-5360.pdf>

From: Eugene Rees <Eugene.Rees@mpi.govt.nz>
Sent: Friday, 29 May 2026 10:43 am
To: Matt Adams <Matt.Adams@mfe.govt.nz>
Subject: RE: **CLASSIFICATION** Agency consultation - advice on Gigablue

Hi Matt

I cannot really comment on MCFS and its impacts on fisheries. At first blush you have pointed out the issue. I'd note that Treaty partners may have a very strong view

- on dumping stuff at sea in principle
- the potential erosion in value of fisheries rights

the notion of long-lasting, severe and widespread probably covers it

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Eugene B Rees (PhD)
Manager Fisheries Policy
Policy and Trade Branch

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

Sent: Thursday, 28 May 2026 3:45 pm

To: BRIGHTON, Claire (LGL) <Claire.Brighton@mfat.govt.nz>; AL-JEBOURI, Tabby (LGL) <tabby.al-jebouri@mfat.govt.nz>; Jillian Dempster [EXTERNAL] (MFAT) <jillian.dempster@mfat.govt.nz>; Eugene Rees <Eugene.Rees@mpi.govt.nz>; Angela Bell [EXTERNAL] (DOC) <abell@doc.govt.nz>; Sarah Hucker <shucker@doc.govt.nz>; Shane Geange <sgeange@doc.govt.nz>

Cc: Bonnie Hartfield <Bonnie.Hartfield@mfe.govt.nz>; Katie Mattera <Katie.mattera@mfe.govt.nz>; Zach Andrew <Zach.Andrew@mfe.govt.nz>; David Falconer <David.Falconer@mfe.govt.nz>

Subject: **CLASSIFICATION** Agency consultation - advice on Gigablue

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

Hi All,

I am sharing a draft briefing on the barriers to Gigablue's marine carbon dioxide removal technology called MCFS. We welcome any thoughts and feedback on this by **4 June** with delivery due to Ministers on **10 June**.

By way of background, MfE provided Minister Simmonds and Minister Watts some advice on mCDR in December 2025. This eventually led to a request for information on the regulatory barriers to MCFS.

9(2)(h)

Eugene, there are some risks and uncertainties related to ocean fertilisation technologies which could have a significant impact on fisheries. We are interested in your take on these risks.

Angela and Sarah, I think you may be aware of Gigablue and their activities. Shane, we have spoken about GB in the past, so including you for your information. Welcome any thoughts you may have.

9(2)(h)

Appreciate any insights and comments you may have,
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.