



Australian Government

**Department of Infrastructure, Transport,
Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts**

On Farm Connectivity Program Round 3 Supplier Expression of Interest Guidance

May 2026

Version 1



Opening date:	21 May 2026
Closing date and time:	11:59pm AEST on 12 June 2026
Commonwealth policy entity:	Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts
Enquiries:	If you have any questions, contact OFCP@infrastructure.gov.au
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Post:

Director – Creative Services

Communication Branch

Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts

GPO Box 594

Canberra ACT 2601

Australia

Email: publishing@infrastructure.gov.au

Website: www.infrastructure.gov.au

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On Farm Connectivity Program Round 3: EOI processes

The Program is designed to achieve Australian Government objectives

The Expression of Interest (EOI) is part of the above Grant Program which contributes to the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts' Outcome 5. It is part of the Australian Government's Better Connectivity Plan for Regional and Rural Australia. We work with stakeholders to plan and design Programs according to the [*Commonwealth Grants Rules and Principles*](#).



The EOI opens – release of Guidance and call for EOI applications

Timing: EOI released on 21 May 2026

We publish the EOI Guidance on our [website](#).

At the same time, we issue a call for EOI applications from eligible suppliers for funding under the Program. For applicant eligibility, see section 3.1.



Submitting an EOI application

Timing: EOI applications close at 11:59PM AEST 12 June 2026

Applicants have 15 business days to develop and submit their EOI application to be an Approved Supplier under the Program.

Applicants must complete the EOI application form by the closing date/time and address all Eligibility Criteria and upload all required supporting documentation.



Assess all EOI applications

We assess each EOI application against the Eligibility Criteria and consider risks.



Recommendations

We provide advice to the Program Sponsor on the assessment of each EOI application.



Decisions are made

The Program Sponsor decides which EOI applications are successful.



Notification of EOI Application outcome

We advise you in writing the outcome of your EOI application.



Enter Approved Supplier Deed Poll

If your EOI application is successful, you must enter into the Approved Supplier Deed Poll with us. The terms and conditions of the Approved Supplier Deed Poll are set out in the enclosure to your outcome letter.



Round 3 opens for grant (rebate) applications

Release of the Grant Opportunity Guidelines and open grant (rebate) Applications

The department, in partnership with the Business Grants Hub, will open Round 3 for applications with the release of the Grant Opportunity Guidelines, the list of Approved Suppliers and each Approved Supplier's Final List of Eligible Equipment (including prices).

1. Introduction

- 1.1.1. This Expression of Interest (EOI) Guidance (Guidance) contains information about the selection of Approved Suppliers to participate in the upcoming Round 3 of the On Farm Connectivity Program (the Program).
- 1.1.2. You must read this Guidance before filling out an EOI application to become an Approved Supplier.
- 1.1.3. This document sets out:
 - Background on the Program
 - the supplier EOI Eligibility and Assessment criteria
 - how EOI applications are considered and selected
 - how EOI applicants are notified they have been selected to be an Approved Supplier, and
 - responsibilities and expectations in relation to the EOI.
- 1.1.4. This supplier EOI opportunity will be administered by the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts (the **department**).
- 1.1.5. The Program is administered according to the *Commonwealth Grants Rules and Principles* (CGRPs)¹.
- 1.1.6. We have defined key terms used in bold in the Guidance in the Key Terms at section 12.

2. About the program

2.1. Background

- 2.1.1. The Australian Government has allocated \$43 million across 3 rounds of the Program to enable Primary Producers in agriculture, forestry and fisheries to extend on-farm connectivity and take advantage of connected machinery and sensor technology.
- 2.1.2. Funded through the [Better Connectivity Plan for Regional and Rural Australia](#) (BCP), Rounds 1 and 2 of the Program assisted Primary Producers to increase connectivity, improve safety and drive more sustainable farming practice. delivering over \$30.5 million in grant (rebates) to over 2,900 primary production businesses.
- 2.1.3. The Commonwealth has the power to make, vary or administer this grant program under Item 575 of the table in Part 4 of Schedule 1AB to the [Financial Framework \(Supplementary Powers\) Regulations 1997 \(Cth\)](#).

2.2. Grant opportunity overview

- 2.2.1. The Government has committed \$10 million (**GST** exclusive) to Round 3 of the Program.
- 2.2.2. The objectives of Round 3 are to:
 - extend digital connectivity and take advantage of advanced farming technology
 - enhance a Primary Producer's capacity to implement digital agribusiness solutions through improved on-farm connectivity and/or connectivity-enabled agriculture-technology equipment
 - capitalise on the agricultural sector's potential for productivity and growth

¹Available via: www.legislation.gov.au/F2024L00854/latest/text

- support access to new communications equipment by offsetting some of the cost.
- 2.2.3. Following the completion of the EOI process for Approved Suppliers, the Program will open for grant (rebate) applications. The details and requirements of the Program will be contained in the Round 3 Grant Opportunity Guidelines released at that time. The Program will be administered by the [Business Grants Hub](#) in the Department of Industry, Science, and Resources. We retain responsibility for the Program’s policy settings.
- 2.2.4. The following overview of the Program is provided for EOI applicant’s information only, noting that the Round 3 Grant Opportunity Guidelines will be the authoritative source of requirements for the Program’s operation. Where any inconsistency occurs, the Grant Opportunity Guidelines will take precedence:
- Once a Supplier has been included on the List of the Approved Suppliers, and the Program has opened for applications, the Program offers a grant (rebate) for up to 50% of the sale price of Eligible Equipment, including supply, delivery, installation and training (where relevant), to Primary Producers, up to maximum total grant (rebate) per Primary Producer.
 - The Approved Supplier must separately negotiate with the Primary Producers in relation to the sale of the Eligible Equipment. Once a sale has been agreed between the Primary Producer and the Approved Supplier, the Approved Supplier must submit details of the proposed sale to the Commonwealth. The Commonwealth will then consider the proposed sale against the eligibility criteria, including whether the proposed sale is for Eligible Equipment only, to confirm eligibility for, and value of, the potential grant (rebate). The Approved Supplier, Primary Producer and proposed sale must meet the requirements of the Grant Opportunity Guidelines.
 - Once the sale of Eligible Equipment has been assessed and approved by the Business Grants, the Approved Supplier will be notified of this approval by the Business Grants Hub. The Approved Supplier may then proceed to supply, deliver, and install the Eligible Equipment in accordance with the terms of the sale agreed between the Approved Supplier and the Primary Producer.
 - Following completion of the sale, the Approved Supplier must submit a claim for the approved grant (rebate) amount along with all required supporting documentation and in accordance with the Grant Opportunity Guidelines including evidence that the sale has been finalised, and that the Primary Producer has paid the remaining balance of the sale which is not covered by the grant (rebate). Following assessment of these materials, if the grant (rebate) is approved, the Commonwealth will then make payment of the grant (rebate) directly to the Approved Supplier.
 - Primary Producers are not eligible to receive any grant (rebate) under the Program; however, they benefit by purchasing the Eligible Equipment from the Approved Supplier at a discount of 50%.

3. Eligibility criteria

3.1. Who is eligible to apply to be an Approved Supplier?

- 3.1.1. Equipment suppliers that sell equipment types on the Indicative List of Eligible Equipment at **Attachment A** can apply to participate in the Program by submitting an EOI via our [website](#). Prior participation in previous rounds will not guarantee inclusion.
- 3.1.2. Approved Suppliers are not automatically eligible to receive a grant (rebate) and nothing in this Guidance or the [Approved Supplier Deed Poll](#) obliges the Commonwealth to make a grant (rebate) payment.
- 3.1.3. Businesses seeking to participate in the Program as an Approved Supplier must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- be a business that sells:
 - connectivity equipment, and/or
 - connected agricultural technology products.
- Have an Australian Business Number (ABN) and or Australian Company Number (ACN) and can demonstrate this by providing a copy of the ABN registration summary showing the business registration date or ASIC company extract (Current and Historical Company Information).
- Be registered for the purposes of the Goods and Services Tax (GST).
- Be an established operator in the market, demonstrated by:
 - Having been in business for at least two consecutive years immediately prior to the EOI application closing date, evidenced by a letter from the applicant’s registered accountant confirming the legal entity name, ABN/ACN (where applicable), and confirmation of continuous operation of the business for the period, or
 - A Tax Summary from the two preceding financial years in 2023-24 and 2024-25.
 - Demonstrated experience in supplying eligible equipment, and a presence in or capacity to service and support eligible agricultural businesses in, regional, rural, or remote Australia evidenced by providing a minimum of two invoices issued in different calendar years from 2024 and 2025.
- Provide a list of your proposed equipment and price list supplied through the Program in the [EOI Price List template](#) provided using the Indicative List of Eligible Equipment (**Attachment A**).
- Demonstrate the capacity² to supply, deliver, install, and provide training for any proposed equipment requiring support to ensure Primary Producers can properly use the equipment. This may be evidenced by arrangements with:
 - your business confirming its transport or third-party delivery arrangements (including Australia Post or courier services where applicable), including to remote locations
 - your business confirming that qualified installers/technicians hold valid certifications to install equipment, provide training and support the use of equipment (e.g. industry or vendor certifications such as Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) Registered Cabler, Cel-Fi Certified installer, vendor-specific training).
- Provide a statement, signed by a senior management position confirming the business has a Work Health and Safety Plan that complies with clause 5 of the [Approved Supplier Deed Poll](#).
- Provide details of any Work Health and Safety [notifiable incidents](#) within the last 24 months preceding the date of the EOI application, including details of any ongoing court proceedings in relation to any such incidents.
- Have and maintain adequate insurances including public and product liability insurance to a minimum of \$10 million, evidenced by a certificate of currency (or equivalent evidence issued by the relevant authority or insurer).

² These arrangements can include sub-contract arrangements

- Have and maintain workers' compensation insurance as required under the applicable workers' compensation legislation in the jurisdiction(s)³ in which the business operates, evidenced by a certificate of currency (or equivalent evidence issued by the relevant authority or insurer).
- Applicants must provide evidence to demonstrate compliance with each of the criteria listed above. Businesses must be able to give the Commonwealth assurance that eligible equipment can be supplied and installed appropriately and in accordance with professional standards. Failure to provide all required evidence may result in the applicant not being eligible for participation as an Approved Supplier.
- Not be included on the [National Redress Scheme's](#) list of 'Institutions that have not joined or signified intent to join the Scheme'.
- If employing 100 or more employees, compliance with the *Workplace Gender Equality Act (2012)* and not be named on the Workplace Gender Equality Agency's (WGEA) published list of [non-compliant](#) employers.

4. Eligible equipment

4.1. Eligible equipment

4.1.1. There are five categories of eligible equipment below that broadly cover on-farm connectivity and connectivity-enabled agriculture-technology equipment. This is expanded on an Indicative List of Eligible Equipment at **Attachment A**.

- Low Power Wide Area Networks (LPWAN)
- connectivity equipment
- environmental monitoring
- farm management
- remote automation and control.

4.1.2. Other proposed eligible expenditure items are below, with further detail to be provided in the Round 3 Grant Opportunity Guidelines:

- cost of training provided to the Primary Producer in the operation of approved eligible equipment items
- one-off cost of subscriptions to support the Primary Producer's operation of approved eligible equipment items for up to 12 months duration
- cost of delivery and installation of approved eligible equipment (where applicable)
- accommodation charges may be included in the cost of delivery, installation and training (where applicable), noting additional information may be sought to confirm eligibility.

4.1.3. EOI applicants must provide a list of their proposed equipment and price list by completing the [EOI Price List template](#) provided.

4.2. Final List of Eligible Equipment

4.2.1. We will assess your individual proposed equipment price lists as part of the EOI process. If you are selected as an Approved Supplier, some or all of your proposed equipment may be approved for inclusion in the Program as your **Final List of Eligible Equipment**.

³ Workers' compensation insurance is a statutory requirement. The type of policy and issuing authority may vary by jurisdiction. Applicants must ensure coverage is current for all workers engaged in the delivery of services.

- 4.2.2. We will publish each Approved Supplier's Final List of Eligible Equipment, including prices, on our website when the Program opens for grant (rebate) applications.
- 4.2.3. Approved Suppliers must only supply equipment under the Program that is included in their Final List of Eligible Equipment. This limitation does not constrain their business actions outside of the Program activity.
- 4.2.4. When completing the [EOI Price List template](#) as part of your EOI application, you must detail your proposed equipment and provide a URL for each equipment item for assessment purposes. All proposed equipment in your EOI must be market-ready at the time of your EOI application.

4.3. Eligible equipment availability and prices

- 4.3.1. Approved Suppliers must not increase, inflate, manipulate or otherwise adjust prices for eligible goods or services, whether directly or indirectly, as a result of the availability of a grant (rebate) under the Program.
- 4.3.2. Approved Suppliers must supply equipment under the Program to Primary Producers at the prices published in their Final List of Eligible Equipment.
- 4.3.3. Additional products will not be added to a Final List of Eligible Equipment during the Program. Where a listed product becomes obsolete, an Approved Supplier must inform us by [email](#) and the item will be removed from your Final List of Eligible Equipment. If the Approved Supplier requests to replace the item with a like-for-like product at the same price, you may seek our agreement by [email](#). We reserve the right not to approve any proposed replacements.
- 4.3.4. We reserve the right to review and remove eligible equipment from the Program at our discretion. We will notify you if this occurs and update the Final List of Eligible Equipment on our website.

5. Ineligible equipment

5.1. Ineligible equipment and costs

- 5.1.1. Equipment that is no longer compatible with current connectivity technologies is not eligible under the Program. This includes, but is not limited to, equipment that relies wholly or partially on 3G networks.
- 5.1.2. The following expenditure items are not eligible under the Program:
 - 'last mile'⁴ connectivity solutions, or technologies connecting a Primary Producer's premises directly to a public or private communications network
 - short-range device-to-device technologies, including but not limited to Bluetooth, NFC, RFID.
 - consumer devices such as mobile phones, tablets, laptops, smart watches/rings, health trackers and similar personal electronics
 - drones, autonomous vehicles, robotic technologies or equipment, including associated hardware and control systems
 - insurance, operational and ongoing maintenance costs, including servicing and support arrangements
 - items not included in the Approved Supplier's Final List of Eligible Equipment, as published on our website

⁴ The 'last mile' is a figurative term that refers to the final leg of the telecommunications network that delivers telecommunications services to customers. It is the part of the telecommunications network chain that physically reaches the customer's premises.

- costs associated with negotiating or securing a sale, including sales commissions or sales representative fees
- operational costs incurred by the Approved Supplier in conducting its general business (including, for example, transport, overheads, rental costs and insurances)
- We will not meet any costs or expenses incurred by an EOI applicant in connection with its EOI application. Applicants are responsible for all costs and expenses associated with the application and assessment process, including execution of the [Approved Supplier Deed Poll](#) and any related documentation.

6. How to apply

- 6.1.1. Before applying, EOI applicants must read and understand this EOI Guidance.
- 6.1.2. All EOI application documents, including the EOI Application Form, are available on our website at www.infrastructure.gov.au/OFCP. Our website is the authoritative source of EOI information.
- 6.1.3. Any businesses interested in participating as an Approved Supplier in Round 3 must apply in this current EOI process. Approved Suppliers from Rounds 1 and 2 of the Program must reapply to participate in Round 3 and meet the current EOI requirements.
- 6.1.4. The following application documentation must be submitted:
- EOI Application Form
 - EOI proposed equipment Price List in the template provided
 - Supporting documentation demonstrating compliance with Eligibility Criteria in Section 3, as outlined in Table 1 below:

Table 1: Supporting documentation to demonstrate compliance

Supporting documentation to be supplied
a copy of your ABN registration summary showing the date of registration
if you have an ACN you must provide a copy of your ASIC company extract (Current and Historical Company Information)
a letter from your registered accountant, or at least two submitted financial years Tax Summaries from 2023-24 and 2024-25
a minimum of two invoices issued in different calendar years from 2024 and 2025*
a signed statement by an individual holding a senior management position in your business verifying your internal transport arrangements and confirming that qualified installers/technicians hold valid certifications; or a signed statement by an individual holding a senior management position in your business verifying your business has transport or third-party delivery arrangements (including AusPost or courier services where applicable), and confirming that qualified installers/technicians hold valid certifications.
a completed price list using the template provided
evidence of public liability insurance, product liability insurance and workers' compensation insurance
a statement signed by a senior management position confirming the business has a Work Health and Safety Plan that complies with clause 5 of the Approved Supplier Deed Poll

* Personal information contained within invoices including name, full address, and contact details is not required by the department. Clear details of the delivery location and payment dates must remain visible to enable the department to validate the evidence provided.

The Approved Supplier EOI must be received by the department by:

11:59PM AEST 12 June 2026.

Late applications, including any requests to submit after this time, will not be accepted.

Table 2: Expected timing for this EOI

Activity	Timeframe
EOI applications open	21 May 2026
EOI applications close	11:59pm AEST, 12 June 2026
Assessment of EOI applications	Expected up to 6 weeks
Notification of Approved Suppliers	1 week

6.2. Completing and lodging an EOI application

- 6.2.1. EOI applications to participate as an Approved Supplier must be lodged using the online application form available on our website www.infrastructure.gov.au/OFCP and must be submitted prior to the closing date at Table 2 Expected Timing.
- 6.2.2. Please contact us at OFCP@infrastructure.gov.au prior to the closing date if you have questions about the EOI process or difficulties with the online application form. In exceptional circumstances, we may, at our discretion, agree to consider EOI applications submitted via an alternative method such as email. EOI applications sent via an alternative method without prior agreement in writing from us will not be accepted.
- 6.2.3. All electronic files submitted, regardless of transmission method, must be provided in an appropriate Microsoft compatible format.
- 6.2.4. Once the EOI application is submitted successfully, you will receive a confirmation email. If you do not receive this confirmation email within one (1) business day, please contact us at OFCP@infrastructure.gov.au before the close of EOI applications.
- 6.2.5. EOI applicants are responsible for ensuring that all information provided in an EOI application is complete and accurate. Providing false or misleading information is a serious offence under the *Criminal Code Act 1995 (Cth)*. If we consider that you have provided false or misleading information we may exclude your EOI application from further consideration.
- 6.2.6. Keep a copy of your EOI application and any supporting documents submitted.
- 6.2.7. Late EOI applications, including any requests to submit after the closing date and time, will not be accepted.

6.3. Further information about the EOI application

- 6.3.1. At any time during the EOI application, or assessment process, we may:
 - contact EOI applicants to clarify information that may be ambiguous, incorrect or unclear
 - request additional information or clarification to assist with the assessment of EOI applications, and/or
 - seek technical expert advice to verify claims made.

6.4. Questions during the EOI application process

- 6.4.1. Any questions about the EOI process or requests for clarification regarding this Guidance should be sent to us by email at OFCP@infrastructure.gov.au prior to the closing date.

- 6.4.2. We will acknowledge and address emailed questions as soon as practicable. Answers to questions may be published on our website as [Frequently Asked Questions](#).
- 6.4.3. We will not accept or respond to requests for information on the status or progress of assessments of EOI applications during the assessment period.

6.5. Errors identified in EOI applications

- 6.5.1. If an EOI applicant identifies an error in an application after submission, the applicant should contact us immediately at OFCP@infrastructure.com.au prior to the closing date at Table 2 Expected Timing.
- 6.5.2. Applicants can amend their EOI up until the closing date. After this time, only non-material changes (such as contact details) will be accepted.

7. The assessment process

7.1. Assessment of EOI applications

- 7.1.1. The assessment process for the EOI applications under the Program will involve:
- an initial assessment against the Eligibility Criteria
 - assessment of the supporting documentation provided to us, including:
 - evidence your business is legitimate and solvent
 - evidence demonstrating that your business can supply eligible equipment to regional, rural and remote Australia and has done so for at least two years at time of EOI application
 - evidence that your proposed equipment conforms to the eligible categories described in Section 4 (Eligible Equipment)
 - evidence that your business has a Work Health and Safety Plan that complies with clause 5 of the [Approved Supplier Deed Poll](#)
 - evidence you hold Public and Product liability insurance
 - evidence you hold workers' compensation insurance
 - your commitment to complying with all governance requirements and applicable laws
- 7.1.2. Following the closing date for EOI applications, we will undertake an initial eligibility check to ensure each application is complete, that all necessary supporting documentation has been submitted as part of the application, and that it meets the Eligibility Criteria included at section 3 of this Guidance.
- 7.1.3. We may seek advice regarding your EOI application from state or territory government agencies, other Australian Government agencies, independent technical experts and other external parties. This advice may be taken into consideration when assessing your EOI application.
- 7.1.4. Without limiting the above, we may seek further information as part of our review of the EOI documentation. If the assessment process identifies unintentional errors in your EOI application, we may contact you to correct or clarify the errors, but you cannot make any material alterations or additions after the closing date.
- 7.1.5. We may also consider information about you or your EOI application that is available through the normal course of business.
- 7.1.6. We will conduct assurance activities, including but not limited to, random or targeted sample checks of EOI applications and supporting documents provided.

- 7.1.7. Based on the outcome of the assessment, we will provide advice to the Program Sponsor on recommended Approved Suppliers and details of the assessment of each EOI application including proposed equipment.

7.2. EOI applicant risk assessment

- 7.2.1. Following assessment against the Eligibility Criteria, we will undertake a risk assessment to determine the level of risk associated with each proposed Approved Supplier, should they be recommended to participate. This risk assessment will consider the overall Program objectives, and the ability of each EOI applicant to supply, deliver, install and/or undertake training on eligible equipment in compliance with the Program.
- 7.2.2. Based on the EOI applicant risk assessment, we reserve the right to recommend not approving one or more proposed Approved Suppliers that meet the Eligibility Criteria, where the assessed level of risk is considered inconsistent with the successful delivery of Program outcomes. We reserve the right to decline, withhold, or cancel an offer to participate in Round 3 of the Program at any time, at our sole discretion.
- 7.2.3. Factors we will consider as part of the EOI applicant risk assessment may include, but are not limited to:
- the applicant’s previous track record of delivering similar grants projects, participation in previous rounds of the Program
 - whether the business can demonstrate that it has adequate processes and technical certifications for specialist support to perform training, installation and/or transport
 - the result of an ASIC public notices search regarding whether the business is subject to liquidation or administration
 - general research into the business, which may include internet searches, review of the supplier’s website, and other publicly available information such as social media accounts
 - reviewing the prices of products proposed for inclusion to determine whether the proposed pricing has been unduly inflated, and
 - review and research relating to any subcontractors identified in the EOI application, where relevant.
- 7.2.4. All factors considered regarding EOI applicant risk will be documented and form part of the advice and recommendations to the Program Sponsor.

7.3. Who will assess EOI applications?

- 7.3.1. We will assess the EOI applications.
- 7.3.2. We may ask external advisors (such as technical experts and probity advisors) to inform the assessment process. Any third party or advisor who is not a Commonwealth Official will be required to perform their duties in accordance with the [CGRPs](#), and comply with the conflict of interest requirements set out in this Guidance.

7.4. Who will approve the EOI applications?

- 7.4.1. The Program Sponsor is the Assistant Secretary, Regional Communications in the department (or any person acting in their capacity).
- 7.4.2. The Program Sponsor decides which EOI applicants will become the Approved Suppliers, considering the outcomes of the assessment.
- 7.4.3. The Program Sponsor’s decision is final on all matters, including:
- selection of Approved Suppliers
 - each Approved Supplier’s Final List of Eligible Equipment

- terms and conditions of participation as an Approved Supplier in the Program.
- 7.4.4. There is no appeal mechanism for the decision to approve or not approve an EOI application. An EOI applicant who is dissatisfied with the outcome may contact the Commonwealth Ombudsman as set out in this Guidance.

8. Notification of EOI application outcomes

8.1. Notification and acceptance of offer

- 8.1.1. We will notify all EOI applicants of the outcome of their EOI application in writing once decisions have been made.
- 8.1.2. EOI applicants selected to be an Approved Supplier are required to enter into the [Approved Supplier Deed Poll](#) with us in order to participate as an Approved Supplier for Round 3 of the Program. The [Approved Supplier Deed Poll](#) outlines their obligations under the Program. No amendments to the Deed Poll will be accepted. The Commonwealth may recover grant (rebate) funds if there is a breach of the [Approved Supplier Deed Poll](#).
- 8.1.3. EOI applicants selected to be an Approved Supplier will be required to confirm to us in writing agreement to:
- be on the List of Approved Suppliers
 - maintain the pricing of equipment submitted in their EOI application throughout the Program duration (to no later than 30 June 2027), noting some or all of this proposed equipment may be approved for inclusion in the Program
 - enter into the [Approved Supplier Deed Poll](#)
 - not announce, communicate or promote in any form your selection as an Approved Supplier before we publish the List of Approved Suppliers at the time of Round 3 opening for grant (rebate) applications
 - comply with all applicable laws, regulations and Program requirements.
- 8.1.4. EOI applicants that are notified that they have been selected to be an Approved Supplier must accept their offer and return the signed [Approved Supplier Deed Poll](#) by email to us at OFCP@infrastructure.gov.au within seven (7) calendar days from the date of notification from us.
- 8.1.5. Once your acceptance is submitted successfully, you will receive a confirmation email. If you do not receive this confirmation email within one (1) business day, please contact us at OFCP@infrastructure.gov.au.

8.2. Feedback on your EOI application

- 8.2.1. If your EOI application to become an Approved Supplier is unsuccessful, we will provide you with an outcome letter outlining the reason the EOI was unsuccessful.
- 8.2.2. No further feedback or debriefs will be provided by us in relation to successful or unsuccessful EOI applications.

9. Successful EOI applications

9.1. Legislation, policies and industry standards

- 9.1.1. Whilst Approved Suppliers are required to comply with all relevant laws and regulations, they may also be requested to demonstrate compliance with relevant legislation, policies and industry standards.
- 9.1.2. These may include, but are not limited to, Commonwealth, State, Territory or local laws and regulations relating to:

- Fraudulent, misleading or deceptive conduct, including compliance with the [Competition and Consumer Act 2010](#) Schedule 2 (Australian Consumer Law) and relevant criminal and fair-trading legislation.
- Collusive or anti-competitive conduct, to the effect that companies and their officers, employees, agents, advisors and proposed subcontractors must not engage in collusive, anti-competitive or other similar conduct with any other company, person or entity, or offer any unlawful inducements.
- Eligible Equipment, including boosters and other amplifying equipment, must be legally purchased and installed in accordance with the [Telecommunications \(Prohibition of Mobile Phone Boosters\) Declaration 2021](#) (or as updated from time to time).
- Privacy, including obligations to handling, storage and disclosure of personal information in accordance with applicable privacy laws, and the implementation of appropriate measures to protect personal information from misuse, loss or unauthorised access.
- Product safety, including ensuring that all equipment supplied complies with relevant safety standards, technical requirements and regulatory approvals, and is safe for its intended use.
- Work health and safety, including compliance with applicable Work Health and Safety legislation and codes of practice.
- Registration of business entities, including maintaining all required business registrations, licences, permits and insurances necessary to lawfully operate and deliver the proposed products and services.
- Relevant consumer protections, including obligations relating to consumer guarantees, warranties, representations, complaints handling and dispute resolution under applicable consumer protection laws.

9.2. Keeping the department informed

- 9.2.1. Approved Suppliers must notify us of any matter that may materially affect the organisation's operations or participation in the Program. This includes but is not limited to any significant changes that may affect its ability to sell equipment, continue operating, or meet its financial obligations.
- 9.2.2. Approved Suppliers must also inform us of any changes to:
- Business name
 - Business addresses
 - nominated contact details
- 9.2.3. If Approved Suppliers become aware of a breach of the terms and conditions under the [Approved Supplier Deed Poll](#), they must notify us immediately by email to OFCP@infrastructure.gov.au.

10. Announcement of Approved Suppliers

- 10.1.1. The department, in partnership with the Business Grants Hub, will open Round 3 for grant (rebate) applications with the release of the Grant Opportunity Guidelines. At this time, we will publish on our website:
- the List of Approved Suppliers
 - each Approved Supplier's Final List of Eligible Equipment (including prices).
- 10.1.2. You may not announce, communicate or promote in any form your selection as an Approved Supplier before we publish this information.

11. Probity

11.1. EOI process

- 11.1.1. We will ensure that the grant (rebate) process is fair, conducted according to this Guidance, incorporates appropriate safeguards against fraud and corruption, unlawful activities and other inappropriate conduct.
- 11.1.2. External advisors (such as technical experts and probity advisors) may also be engaged to support the assessment process.
- 11.1.3. Approved Suppliers should be aware of their obligations under the *National Anti-Corruption Commission Act 2022*⁵ (NACC Act), noting that under the Act Approved Suppliers will generally be considered ‘contracted service providers’, see [NACC fact sheets](#).
- 11.1.4. If we determine that this Guidance requires amendment before the EOI application closing date, we will issue updated Guidance on our website and advise any EOI applicants that have already submitted an application.
- 11.1.5. By submitting an EOI application, a supplier acknowledges that neither this Guidance nor any application creates a binding legal or enforceable arrangement between the EOI applicant and the Commonwealth.

11.2. Enquiries and feedback

- 11.2.1. Our [Client Service Charter](#)⁶ applies to complaints about this EOI process. Any questions or complaints about the EOI process must be provided in writing and should be sent to OFCP@infrastructure.gov.au.
- 11.2.2. If you do not agree with the way we have handled your complaint, you may contact the [Commonwealth Ombudsman](#). The Ombudsman will not usually consider a complaint unless the matter has first been raised directly with us.

The Commonwealth Ombudsman can be contacted on:
Phone (Toll free): 1300 362 072
Email: ombudsman@ombudsman.gov.au
Website: www.ombudsman.gov.au

11.3. Conflicts of interest

- 11.3.1. Any conflicts of interest, or perceived conflicts of interest, can affect the performance of the Program. There may be a conflict of interest, or perceived conflict of interest, if our staff, advisors, and/or the EOI applicant or any of the applicant’s personnel, including sub-contractors, have:
 - professional, commercial or personal relationship with a party who can influence the assessment process, such as an Australian Government officer or an external advisor,
 - relationship with or interest in, an organisation, that is likely to interfere with or restrict the applicants from carrying out the proposed activities fairly and independently, or
 - relationship with, or interest in, an organisation from which they will receive personal gain.
- 11.3.2. EOI applicants will be asked to declare, as part of their EOI application, any perceived or existing conflicts of interest or that, to the best of their knowledge, no conflict of interest exists.

⁵ See www.legislation.gov.au/C2022A00088/latest/text or www.nacc.gov.au/resource-centre/nacc-fact-sheets

⁶ See www.infrastructure.gov.au/department/about/charter.aspx

- 11.3.3. If an EOI applicant later identifies an actual, apparent, or perceived conflict of interest, must notify us in writing immediately.
- 11.3.4. Conflicts of interest for Australian Government staff will be handled in accordance with the [Australian Public Service Code of Conduct \(Section 13\(7\)\)](#) of the [Public Service Act 1999 \(Cth\)](#) and applicable Australian Government policy and legal requirements.

11.4. Privacy

- 11.4.1. We treat personal information according to the [Privacy Act 1988 \(Cth\)](#) (the Privacy Act) and the [Australian Privacy Principles](#) (the APPs). This includes letting EOI applicants know:
 - what personal information we collect,
 - why we collect your personal information, and
 - who we disclose your information to.
- 11.4.2. EOI applicants' personal information can only be disclosed to another person or entity for the primary purpose for which it was collected, unless an exemption applies.
- 11.4.3. The Australian Government may use and disclose information about EOI applicants and Approved Suppliers under this Program in any other Australian Government business or function. This includes giving information to the Australian Taxation Office for compliance purposes.
- 11.4.4. We may share information provided by EOI applicants and Approved Suppliers with other Commonwealth entities for purposes including government administration, research, or service delivery, according to Australian laws.
- 11.4.5. In making an EOI application, you acknowledge that you are able to comply with the Privacy Act and the Australian Privacy Principles and impose the same privacy obligations on officers, employees, agents and subcontractors that you engage to assist with activities under the Program, in respect of personal information you collect, use, store, or disclose in connection with the Program. Accordingly, you must not do anything which if done by the department would breach an [Australian Privacy Principle](#) as defined in the Act.
- 11.4.6. For further information about our privacy obligations (including in relation how to access or correct personal information or make a complaint) and our contact details for privacy matters, please see our [Privacy Policy](#).

11.5. Confidential Information

- 11.5.1. Other than information available in the public domain, applicants must not disclose to any person, other than us, any confidential information relating to your EOI application and/or agreement, without our prior written approval. The obligation will not be breached where you are required by law, Parliament or a stock exchange to disclose the relevant information or where the relevant information is publicly available (other than through breach of a confidentiality or non-disclosure obligation).
- 11.5.2. We may at any time, require you to arrange for you, or your employees, agents or subcontractors, to give a written undertaking relating to nondisclosure of our confidential information in a form we consider acceptable.
- 11.5.3. We will keep information in connection with your EOI application confidential to the extent that it meets all the three conditions below:
 - you clearly identify the information as confidential and explain why we should treat it as confidential,
 - the information is commercially sensitive, and
 - disclosing the information would cause unreasonable harm to you or someone else.
- 11.5.4. The Commonwealth will not be in breach of any confidentiality agreement if the information is disclosed to:

- our Commonwealth employees and contractors to assist us to manage the Program effectively, including for an integrity purpose
- employees and contractors of our department so we can research, assess, monitor and analyse programs and activities
- employees and contractors of other Commonwealth agencies for purposes, including government administration, research or service delivery
- other Commonwealth agencies, and state or territory governments, for any purposes, including where needed to assist with the assessment of an EOI application
- local governments for the purposes of program reporting and consultations
- the Auditor-General, Ombudsman, Information Commissioner or National Anti-Corruption Commissioner, or staff of their agencies
- the responsible Minister or Assistant Minister
- a House or a Committee of the Australian Parliament.

11.6. Intellectual Property Rights

- 11.6.1. By submitting an EOI application under the Program, you give the Commonwealth a non-exclusive, irrevocable, royalty-free licence to use, reproduce, publish and adapt any Material provided to the Commonwealth for the purposes of the Program for Commonwealth Purposes.

11.7. Freedom of Information

- 11.7.1. All documents in the possession of the Australian Government, including those about this EOI application process, are subject to the [Freedom of Information Act 1982 \(Cth\)](#) (FOI Act).
- 11.7.2. The purpose of the FOI Act is to give members of the public rights of access to information held by the Australian Government and its entities. Under the FOI Act, members of the public can seek access to documents held by the Australian Government. This right of access is limited only by the exceptions and exemptions necessary to protect essential public interests and private and business affairs of persons in respect of whom the information relates.
- 11.7.3. All Freedom of Information requests must be referred to our Freedom of Information Coordinator in writing at:

By mail: Freedom of Information Coordinator
 Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications,
 Sport and the Arts
 GPO Box 594
 CANBERRA ACT 2601

By email: foi@infrastructure.gov.au

12. Key Terms

Term	Definition
3G	Third generation mobile telecommunications service.
AEST	Australian Eastern Standard Time.
Approved Supplier	Businesses included on the List of Approved Suppliers published by the department on its website.
Approved Supplier Deed Poll	A legally binding deed poll, in the form published by the department, that sets out the terms and conditions applicable to Approved Suppliers participating in the Program.
Assessment Criteria	The criteria against which EOI applications will be assessed for eligibility, suitability and compliance with Program requirements.
Assessment Process	The method used to assess and select Approved Suppliers including consideration of eligibility and risk as outlined in this Guidance.
Australian Business Number (ABN)	A unique 11-digit number that identifies a business to the government and community.
Australian Company Number (ACN)	A unique 9-digit number that identifies a company. ASIC issues every company with an ACN when it is registered .
Business Grants Hub	The Australian Government grants administration hub within the Department of Industry, Science and Resources. Information on the Business Grants Hub is available at www.business.gov.au .
Commonwealth Grants Rules and Principles (CGRPs)	Establish the overarching Commonwealth grants policy framework and articulate the expectations for all non-corporate Commonwealth entities in relation to grants administration. Under this overarching framework, non-corporate Commonwealth entities undertake grants administration based on the mandatory requirements and key principles of grants administration.
Commonwealth Purposes	Means any Commonwealth purpose but does not include commercialisation or the provision of the Material to a third party for its commercial use.
Contracted service provider	A person or entity that is party to a Commonwealth contract, or subcontract and is responsible for providing goods or services under that contract, either directly or indirectly.
Department	Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts.
Eligibility Criteria	Refer to the mandatory criteria which must be met to qualify as an Approved Supplier. Eligibility criteria should be developed to enable objective validation and are either 'met or 'not met'. Assessment Criteria may apply in addition to Eligibility Criteria.
Equipment Price List	The proposed equipment price list each EOI applicant must submit as part of the EOI application.

Term	Definition
Grant	For the purposes of the CGRPs, a ‘grant’ is an arrangement for the provision of financial assistance by the Commonwealth or on behalf of the Commonwealth: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. under which relevant money⁷ or other Consolidated Revenue Fund (CRF) money⁸ is to be paid to a Grantee other than the Commonwealth, and b. which is intended to help address one or more of the Australian Government’s policy outcomes while assisting the Grantee achieve its objectives.
Grant Opportunity Guidelines	Guidelines for the On Farm Connectivity Program Round 3 will be published on GrantConnect (the Australian Government’s whole-of-government grants information system) when the round opens for grant (rebate) applications.
Grant Program	A ‘program’ carries its natural meaning and is intended to cover a potentially wide range of related activities aimed at achieving government policy outcomes. A Grant Program is a group of one or more Grant Opportunities under a single [entity] Portfolio Budget Statement Program.
Grant (rebate)	The grant (rebate) covers up to 50% of the cost of approved eligible equipment, including delivery, installation and training. See section 2 for an overview of the Program.
GST	Goods and Services Tax.
Guidance	The On Farm Connectivity Program Round 3 Supplier Expression of Interest Guidance (this document).
Indicative List of Eligible Equipment	A high-level and non-prescriptive guide for EOI applicants to consider what to include in their proposed equipment EOI Price List (Attachment A).
Intellectual Property	Means all copyright, patents, registered and unregistered trademarks (including service marks), registered designs, and other rights resulting from intellectual activity (other than moral rights under the <i>Copyright Act 1968</i> (Cth)).
List of Approved Suppliers	The List of Approved Suppliers for the purposes of Round 3 of the Program. This list will be prepared by the department and included on the department’s website. The list will be updated if an Approved Supplier is removed and the updated list included on the department’s website.
Market-ready	A product is fully developed and prepared for immediate sale. It is no longer a prototype, requires no further design change and is ready for production. All necessary licenses, approvals, and certifications are obtained.
National Anti-Corruption Commission (NACC)	The National Anti-Corruption Commission (NACC) is an independent Commonwealth agency. It detects, investigates and reports on serious or systemic corruption in the Commonwealth public sector. The Commission operates under the <i>National Anti-Corruption Commission Act 2022</i> .
Program	The On Farm Connectivity Program Round 3.
Program Sponsor	The senior officer within the department who has responsibility for the Program.

⁷ Relevant money is defined in the PGPA Act. See section 8, Dictionary.

⁸ Other CRF money is defined in the PGPA Act. See section 105, Rules in relation to other CRF money.

Term	Definition
We/us	The Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts and/or Commonwealth Officials administering the Program.
You/your	The applicant submitting the EOI.

Attachment A – Indicative List of Eligible Equipment

The following Indicative List of Eligible Equipment is high-level and not exhaustive. It is intended to assist applicants participating in this EOI process in considering equipment that will support Primary Producers to access connectivity solutions and ag-tech tailored to the needs of their businesses.

Approved Suppliers must ensure they do not supply equipment that is no longer compatible with current connectivity technologies, including equipment that relies on 3G networks to operate (either in part or in full).

Categories of eligible equipment	Type of Product	Description
Low Power Wide Area Networks (LPWAN)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ LoRaWAN ✓ NarrowBand-IoT (NB-IoT) ✓ SigFox ✓ CAT-M1 ✓ LTE-M technology 	Connectivity technologies which enable and extend connectivity across a primary production enterprise and contribute to the objectives of the Program.
Connectivity equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Antennas, beacons, and radio transmitters ✓ Repeaters and boosters ✓ Gateways and routers ✓ Portable hotspots 	Products that provide connectivity to sensors and controllers to a local area network or wide area network.
Environmental monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Soil moisture probes ✓ Microclimate monitors ✓ Weather monitors ✓ Plant growth monitors ✓ Water quality monitors ✓ Water flow and pressure monitors 	Devices that monitor environmental activity and provide real-time data to Primary Producers.
Farm management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Camera systems ✓ Asset trackers ✓ Battery monitors ✓ Staff safety monitors ✓ Silo and storage monitors ✓ Liquid level monitors ✓ Livestock monitoring systems ✓ Fence monitors 	Farm management systems that assist with monitoring on-farm conditions, infrastructure, livestock, assets and safety.
Remote automation and control	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Aeration controllers ✓ Pump controllers ✓ Valve and irrigation controllers 	Devices that provide Primary Producers with tools to enable remote automation and control of connected assets.
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Training costs ✓ One-off subscription costs ✓ Delivery and installation costs 	To support operation of the approved eligible equipment items