

**JAMES Matthew**

---

**From:** s22  
**Sent:** Friday, 22 September 2017 7:03 PM  
**To:** Dan Williams; Ben Harrington  
**Subject:** RE: Initial engagement with credit suppliers [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Section 22 - irrelevant

s22 and s47F

On 22 Sep 2017, at 5:21 pm, C s22 wrote:

Thank you for your email advice.

As discussed over the phone, C and I support GHD's approach (as you have described) for moving ahead to arrange introductory discussions with vendors of biobank sites as potential offset opportunities for inclusion within the Department's Biodiversity Offset Delivery Plan for Stage 1 WSA.

Next Wednesday, 27 September, would work best for C and I to travel to Sydney for vendor discussions on those priority sites highlighted below, that are established or expecting approval shortly. To enable sufficient time between discussions, we thought our meetings could work in a

s22

sequence such as 9 am, 11 am, 1 pm and 3 pm, if the vendors we are meeting with can accommodate this.

Most grateful for your advice on setting up these discussions, once GHD has made initial contact with the relevant vendors.

Thanks – appreciated.

Kind regards,

s22

Director – Environment and Land Use Planning Section  
Communication, Environment and Legal Branch  
Western Sydney Unit  
Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development

s22

[infrastructure.gov.au](mailto:infrastructure.gov.au)

s22 and s47F

**Subject:** Initial engagement with credit suppliers

s22

We have reviewed the list of potential biobank site owners and placed them in a priority order for commencing discussions regarding the purchasing and/or securing of biodiversity credits as part of the WSA biodiversity offsets program. The following items were considered when preparing this list:

- Biobank sites needed to be established or immediately pending
- The types of biodiversity credits available that meet the needs of the WSA
- The number of biodiversity credits available
- The offset vendor's experience in trading biodiversity credits (it will be easier to secure credit purchases from people who are familiar with the process).

GHD understands the biobank site owners in this list should be able to provide credits for sale immediately (or at least within the next 3 mths). Reaching a binding agreement with these offset vendors will allow GHD to start the process of assessing sites and documenting direct offsets in the BODP. Purchasing and retiring the credits will also be an important part of securing the biodiversity offsets required within the BODP. DoEE will require evidence that WSU have actively sourced credits and have engaged with a variety of landowners who are willing to sell credits to the project in the immediate future to satisfy a portion of the project's biodiversity offsets requirements. The more credits that can be purchased before the BODP is completed and submitted for approval, the better, as this will provide DoEE confidence we are working towards achieving our biodiversity offsets obligations overall.

This list is for the immediate or short term purchases only. We have identified additional offset sites that will have credits available for sale over the coming 1-4 years and a separate consultation process will be required to secure these longer-term direct offsets. We look forward to discussing the process for assessing and securing direct offsets from this second group of offset vendors. As for the established biobanks, it will be important to reach a binding agreement with these offset vendors to allow GHD to start the process of assessing sites and documenting direct offsets in the BODP. Please note that many of the offset vendors linked to the first group of priority offset sites will also be the contacts for longer-term sites and so this process could also be raised at the initial round of meetings.

We understand the initial meetings will largely be a 'meet and greet' session. This approach will enable interested parties to get to know each other, confirm the process and allow the biobank site owners to put forward the number and type of credits they have available which may suit the projects biodiversity offsets requirements. As such, GHD recommends the following process to facilitate these meetings:

- WSU to confirm suitable day/s to undertake these meetings. The approach will be to hold an initial meeting between GHD and WSU to confirm the approach, followed by meetings with offset vendors. We will plan to hold as many meetings 'back to back' on a single day as possible for efficiency. I suggest meetings occur at GHD's city or Parramatta offices
- GHD to make initial contact with relevant biobank site owners to advise we are now moving to the next phase of securing credits and wish to meet commence this process. I am thinking it would be best if GHD undertakes this initial contact as we have existing relationships with the relevant biobank site owners and have maintained miscellaneous contact via phone and email since the original email of interest was sent by Ben Harrington.
- As I have discussed with Michael, the tone of these initial meetings would be informal in nature. I suggest the meetings include the following:
  - General introduction to the project from WSU
  - General run down of approach to offsets from GHD (keep this brief)
  - Opportunity for biobank site owner to present a table of the biodiversity credits available
  - Conclusion with WSU to consider the credits available and agree on follow-up meeting.

Follow-up meetings would be focussed on things such as agreement on credits prices, timing of purchase etc and these would be led by WSU (and supporting organisations as they deemed required).

As you are aware based on our recent discussions, we really need to get involved in the market and secure as many credits as we can to give certainty to some of our offsets in the BODP and to show DoEE the project is actively achieving its biodiversity offsets obligations. There are several other large organisations active in the market at the moment reducing the number of credits immediately available for our project. Please advise if you support the approach described in this email and we can commence the initial contact to organise meetings accordingly?

Potential Offset Site	Location	Status and ownership	Offset vendor contact details
Williamswood biobank	Mount Hunter	Established biobank, private owner.	Graziers Pastoral s47F
The Oaks biobank	Mowbray Park	Established biobank, private owner	Graziers Pastoral s47F
Lot 1 Montpelier biobank	The Oaks	Proposed biobank, private owner.	Graziers Pastoral s47F
Lot 72 Montpelier biobank	The Oaks	Proposed biobank, private owner.	Graziers Pastoral s47F
Lot 653 Montpelier biobank	The Oaks	Proposed biobank, private owner.	Graziers Pastoral s47F
Lot 64 Montpelier biobank	The Oaks	Proposed biobank, private owner.	Graziers Pastoral s47F

Sunnyside biobank

The Oaks

Proposed  
biobank,  
private  
owner.

s47F

Section 22 - Irrelevant

Cheers  
Regards

s47F

Principal Environmental Scientist

Suite 7a, Level 1, 66 Lord Street PORT MACQUARIE NSW 2444 Australia | <http://www.ghd.com/Water> | [Energy & Resources](#) | [Environment](#) | [Property & Buildings](#) | [Transportation](#)

Please consider the environment before printing this email

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This email, including any attachments, is confidential and may be privileged. If you are not the intended recipient please notify the sender immediately, and please delete it; you should not copy it or use it for any purpose or disclose its contents to any other person. GHD and its affiliates reserve the right to monitor and modify all email communications through their networks.

---

Disclaimer

This message has been issued by the Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development.

The information transmitted is for the use of the intended recipient only and may contain confidential and/or legally privileged material.

Any review, re-transmission, disclosure, dissemination or other use of, or taking of any action in reliance upon, this information by persons or entities other than the intended recipient is prohibited and may result in severe penalties. If you have received this e-mail in error, please notify the Department on (02) 6274-7111 and delete all copies of this transmission together with any attachments.

---

This e-mail has been scanned for viruses

---

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This email, including any attachments, is confidential and may be privileged. If you are not the intended recipient please notify the sender immediately, and please delete it; you should not copy it or use it for any purpose or disclose its contents to any other person. GHD and its affiliates reserve the right to monitor and modify all email communications through their networks.

---