

Document 1

Section 22

From: Nate Smith <Nate@tellusholdings.com>
Sent: Monday, 4 December 2023 2:10 PM
To: Nathan Wahl
Subject: Re: Chandler Project and Import of LLW [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Thanks Nathan!

Nate Smith
Managing Director and CEO
Tellus Holdings Ltd

Section 22

Phone: Section 22
Nate@tellusholdings.com

From: Nathan Wahl <nathan.wahl@arpansa.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, December 4, 2023 2:03:08 PM
To: Nate Smith <Nate@tellusholdings.com>
Subject: RE: Chandler Project and Import of LLW [SEC=OFFICIAL]

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Hi Nate,

I'll also get Section 22 from my government relations team to attend as well which ensures you will get full coverage from relevant ARPANSA expertise. So happy for it to proceed without me.

Kind regards
Nathan

Nathan Wahl

Acting Head of the OCEO and Chief of Staff

Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency



Australian Government

Australian Radiation Protection
and Nuclear Safety Agency

From: Nate Smith <Nate@tellusholdings.com>
Sent: Monday, December 4, 2023 1:09 PM
To: Nathan Wahl <nathan.wahl@arpansa.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Chandler Project and Import of LLW [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Thanks Nathan – do you want to push back to when you'll be available? I'm flexible

NATE SMITH
MANAGING DIRECTOR & CEO

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Section 22

Section 22  Nate@tellusholdings.com

Section 22  www.tellusholdings.com



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From: Nathan Wahl <nathan.wahl@arpansa.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, December 4, 2023 9:32 AM
To: Nate Smith <Nate@tellusholdings.com>
Cc: Ryan Bloxsom <ryan.bloxsom@tellusholdings.com>; ARPANSA **Section 22** <**Section 22**@arpansa.gov.au>; **Section 22** <**Section 22**@arpansa.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Chandler Project and Import of LLW [SEC=OFFICIAL]

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Hi Nate,

Sure thing. I'll get our CEO's EA (**Section 22**) to send through a teams meeting invite. Just flagging I'll be on leave, but Jenni Stiffe our Communications Manager will join in my place.

Kind regards
Nathan

Nathan Wahl
Acting Head of the OCEO and Chief of Staff
Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency



From: Nate Smith <Nate@tellusholdings.com>
Sent: Monday, December 4, 2023 12:29 PM
To: Nathan Wahl <nathan.wahl@arpansa.gov.au>
Cc: Ryan Bloxsom <ryan.bloxsom@tellusholdings.com>; ARPANSA **Section 22** <**Section 22**@arpansa.gov.au>; **Section 22** <**Section 22**@arpansa.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Chandler Project and Import of LLW [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi Nathan,

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Could we please do Monday, 22nd? I'm wide open so feel free to please send through and invite that works for your team.

Thanks!

NATE SMITH

MANAGING DIRECTOR & CEO

Section 22

📧 Nate@tellusholdings.cm

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From: Nathan Wahl <nathan.wahl@arpansa.gov.au>

Sent: Friday, December 1, 2023 10:29 AM

To: Nate Smith <Nate@tellusholdings.com>

Cc: Ryan Bloxsom <ryan.bloxsom@tellusholdings.com>; ARPANSA [Section 22](#) <[Section 22](#)@arpansa.gov.au>;

[Section 22](#) <[Section 22](#)@arpansa.gov.au>

Subject: RE: Chandler Project and Import of LLW [SEC=OFFICIAL]

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Hi Nate,

Looking ahead, Gillian looks to have good availability to meet in the week of the 22nd. Noting you are 3 hours behind us, would a 2-3pm AEDT work on any of the days of that week (22nd, 23rd, 24th or 25th)?

Kind regards

Nathan

Nathan Wahl

Acting Head of the OCEO and Chief of Staff

Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency



Australian Government

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and Nuclear Safety Agency

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From: Nate Smith <Nate@tellusholdings.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 28, 2023 11:29 AM
To: Nathan Wahl <nathan.wahl@arpansa.gov.au>
Cc: Ryan Bloxsom <ryan.bloxsom@tellusholdings.com>; ARPANSA Section 22 <Section 22@arpansa.gov.au>; Gillian Hirth <Gillian.Hirth@arpansa.gov.au>; Section 22 <Section 22@arpansa.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Chandler Project and Import of LLW [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi Nathan,

We are generally open late January and early February so please let us know a time that works and we will lock it into the calendar.

Many thanks!

NATE SMITH
MANAGING DIRECTOR & CEO

Section 22

 Section 22  Nate@tellusholdings.com

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From: Nathan Wahl <nathan.wahl@arpansa.gov.au>
Sent: Monday, November 27, 2023 5:07 PM
To: Nate Smith <Nate@tellusholdings.com>
Cc: Ryan Bloxsom <ryan.bloxsom@tellusholdings.com>; ARPANSA Section 22 <Section 22@arpansa.gov.au>; Gillian Hirth <Gillian.Hirth@arpansa.gov.au>; Section 22 <Section 22@arpansa.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Chandler Project and Import of LLW [SEC=OFFICIAL]

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Hi Nate,

Thanks for your email to Gillian who has asked me to respond as she is currently travelling for business.

ARPANSA would welcome a discussion on this topic. In terms of timing it is looking quite challenging to arrange something for this side of Christmas, so I wanted to check in on your general availability in late January or early February?

Kind regards
Nathan

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Nathan Wahl

Acting Head of the OCEO and Chief of Staff

Office of the CEO

Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency

t: **Section 22**

m: **Section 22**

w: arpansa.gov.au



Australian Government
Australian Radiation Protection
and Nuclear Safety Agency



We acknowledge the Traditional Owners and Custodians of Country throughout Australia, and we pay our respects to them and their cultures, and Elders past and present.

From: Nate Smith <Nate@tellusholdings.com>

Sent: Thursday, November 9, 2023 11:47 PM

To: Gillian Hirth <Gillian.Hirth@arpansa.gov.au>

Cc: Nathan Wahl <nathan.wahl@arpansa.gov.au>; Tone Doyle <tone.doyle@arpansa.gov.au>; Ryan Bloxsom <ryan.bloxsom@tellusholdings.com>

Subject: Chandler Project and Import of LLW

Dr. Hirth,

I hope this email finds you well.

We recently completed our native title agreement negotiations with the Titjikala community to potentially build a deep geological repository in the NT called the Chandler Project. This project is envisioned to be scoped for both LLW and Chemical wastes, and also international LLW and chemical wastes from key strategic pacific partners.

We'd like to discuss with you the regulatory and policy implications of this potential project now that we have the important consent of the community to proceed.

Would you have time in the coming weeks to receive a full briefing on Chandler and have an open discussion on possibilities?

We look forward to hearing from you and all the best!

Nate

NATE SMITH

MANAGING DIRECTOR & CEO

Section 22



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Nate@tellusholdings.com



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Australian Radiation Protection And Nuclear Safety Agency

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Document 2

From: Ryan Bloxsom <ryan.bloxsom@tellusholdings.com>
Sent: Tuesday, 6 February 2024 6:36 PM
To: Gillian Hirth; shaun.jenkinson@ansto.gov.au; doug.hilton@csiro.au
Cc: Nate Smith; Stephen Hosking
Subject: INFO - Tellus Chandler Multi-National Deep Geological Repository (DGR) Project - Call for Expressions of Interest
Attachments: Chandler Project - Call for Expressions of Interest (Feb. 2024).pdf

Dear Dr Hirth, Mr Jenkinson and Dr Hilton

This email is for information.

A copy of the following information has been provided to:

- Secretary of the Department of Industry, Science and Resources, Ms Meghan Quinn,
- CEO of the Australian Radioactive Waste Agency, Mr Sam Usher,
- Secretary of the Department of Defence, Mr Greg Moriarty, and
- Head of the Australian Submarine Agency, Vice Admiral Jonathan Mead.

We would be pleased to brief your organisations on the Chandler project and our proposal.

Tellus is pleased to announce the release of our Call for Expressions of Interest (EOI) for the **Chandler Multi-National Deep Geological Repository (DGR) Project – Phase 1: Strategic Review and Value Improvement Study.**

Attached, please find the details of the EOI, outlining the scope of the call, project background, rationale, objectives, timeline, process, and selection criteria. We are excited about strategic collaboration and the insights the right partner can bring to this exciting project.

We believe that this is a unique opportunity to help lead a globally significant infrastructure project that will drive intergenerational change. With Chandler, Tellus aims to challenge convention and deliver a project that raises the bar in every aspect of DGR development and operation. Most importantly, we aim to deliver the project in genuine partnership with the traditional custodians of the land upon which the project is sited – the Titjikala People of Central Australia.

Thank you for your interest in the Chandler Deep Geological Repository Project. If you or your office would like more information, please don't hesitate to contact me. We look forward to your consideration of our proposal.

Yours sincerely

RYAN BLOXSOM
Head of External Affairs

Section 22

   ryan.bloxsom@tellusholdings.com

   www.tellusholdings.com

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Call for Expressions of Interest:

Chandler Project, Multi-National Deep Geological Repository

Strategic Development Partnership – Phase 1: Strategic Review and Value Improvement Study for the Chandler Deep Geological Repository Project, based in the Northern Territory of Australia

I. Scope of Call

Tellus seeks expressions of interest for a strategic development partner to help deliver a review and value improvement study (**Strategic Review**) on its flagship growth project – the Chandler Multi-National Deep Geological Repository (**Project**).

Tellus is launching this Strategic Review now that the Titjikala Native Title group has agreed to proceed with the Project, including to accept international low level radioactive waste and international chemical waste. We are extremely proud of the trust the Titjikala have granted us, and we believe that this social licence from, and partnership with, Chandler's First Nations people provides a key foundation to drive a successful Project.

This Strategic Review will be undertaken during calendar year 2024. The successful candidate will work collaboratively with the Tellus owners' team to review the project scope and set a robust plan to implement the Project.

Tellus will award preferred contractor status to the successful candidate for all subsequent phases of the Project (e.g. feasibility study, construction and operations), but will reserve the right to go back to market at each stage.

II. Project Background and Rationale for this Strategic Review

The Chandler Project is in regional central Australia, approximately 120 km south of Alice Springs in the Northern Territory (NT). The Project will be Australia's first deep geological repository, 850m below ground in a 300m thick bedded salt formation.

An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) was prepared to support the approval of the Project under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth) (EPBC Act), the Mining Management Act 2001 (NT) (MM Act), the Environmental Assessment Act 1982 (NT) (EA Act) and the Waste Management Pollution Control Act 1998 (NT) (WMPC Act).

Ministerial approval from the Australian Government was granted via EPBC 2012/6684 on 5 September 2018. The Chandler Project was also recommended for approval (subject to conditions) by the NT Environment Protection Authority (NT EPA) via Recommendations Report (83) on 30 November 2017.

Tellus completed a Pre-feasibility Study (PFS) and agreed an Indigenous Land use Agreement with the Titjikala community, who are the custodians of the land on which the Project is sited.

Tellus chose to place the Project on hold in 2019 to focus on commercialising its now fully licensed and operational Sandy Ridge near-surface repository in Western Australia, which is Australia's first (and only) nationwide low-level radioactive waste disposal facility. With the Sandy Ridge asset now open and ramping up to its 100,000 tonnes per annum capacity, Tellus opened conversations with the Titjikala once more in late 2022. Tellus has now received approval from the traditional owners to proceed with the Project.

That said, due to a nearly six-year development hiatus (including lockdowns and the logistical challenges stemming from the COVID-19 pandemic), Tellus believes that this Strategic Review is an important next step. Particularly, this review will be crucial before commencing any material project development works (e.g. site investigations, engineering and feasibility works).

The Strategic Review will also allow the current Project scope to be re-set within the context of the rapidly evolving global and regional socio-political environment, which has materially changed since the Project was first conceived over fifteen years ago (e.g. the clean energy transition, rare earths/critical minerals, Waigani Convention, Minamata Convention, ASEAN obligations and emerging focus on national security partnerships and capabilities).

III. Objectives of the Strategic Review

The objectives of the Strategic Review will include:

1. **Technical Feasibility Review:**

Assess the technical aspects of the proposed facility, including the suitability of the chosen site, the effectiveness of proposed waste disposal technologies and methodologies, the adherence to global best practices in chemical and low-level radioactive waste management and recommend improvements.

2. Project Timeline Assessment:

Evaluate the proposed Project timeline, ensuring it is realistic, achievable, and aligned with the Project's goals, while also considering potential delays and mitigating strategies. Provide options for alternate development pathways, such as staging (including demonstration and pilot project stages).

3. Financial Viability Examination:

Scrutinise the financial aspects of the Project, providing insights into the capital and operating estimates, potential cost-saving opportunities and the long-term financial sustainability of the Project.

4. Risk and Opportunity Identification and Management:

Identify potential risks and opportunities associated with the Project and develop a comprehensive risk and opportunity management plan to mitigate, monitor, and manage risks and opportunities effectively throughout the life of the Project.

5. Regulatory Framework Assessment:

Evaluate the proposed regulatory framework for the Project, identify issues and propose improvements and key actions to mitigate delivery risk and future operations, closure and institutional control phases (as relevant).

6. Innovation and Best Practices Incorporation:

Identify opportunities for innovation and the incorporation of best practices in waste management, ensuring that the Project aligns with the latest advancements in deep geological repository development and operation.

7. Environmental Impact Gap Analysis:

Review the existing environmental impact assessment and conduct a gap analysis for any improvements identified during the Strategic Review. Identify potential risks and impacts associated with the facility, proposing mitigation strategies to minimise adverse effects on the surrounding ecosystem(s).

8. Health and Safety Evaluation:

Examine measures to ensure public and project personnel health and safety, including emergency response, radiation protection protocols, and the Project's overall impact on human health.

9. International and Domestic Logistics and Supply Chain Assessment:

Review risks and opportunities in the international and domestic supply chains that may impact the feasibility of the Project and recommend gap closing or improvement actions.

10. Next Steps:

Develop a roadmap for the overall Project implementation and a detailed plan for the next steps in progressing the Project, including scope of work, key decisions, key expertise required and cost and schedule estimates.

These objectives aim to provide a comprehensive and systematic evaluation of the Project, addressing regulatory, environmental, social, technical, and financial aspects while promoting transparency, stakeholder engagement and the overall safety and success of the Project.

IV. EOI Timeline

Tellus is purposely setting an aggressive timeline for the Review to fast-track the Project. The timeline is as follows:

- **ASAP:** Register for briefings with Tellus management at ChandlerProject@TellusHoldings.com.
- **19th February:** Submit questions to be addressed during briefings.
- **26th and 28th February:** Closed briefings with Nate Smith (CEO), Steve Hosking (COO), Nick Williams (CFO) and Ryan Bloxsom (Head of External Affairs).
- **11th-15th March:** Opportunity to meet Nate, Steve and Ryan in person and ask face-to-face questions at the Phoenix, Arizona Waste Management Symposia (**Phoenix WM Symposia**).
- **31st March:** Deadline for EOI submissions (no extensions of time will be granted).
- **5th April:** Tellus awards preferred contractor status.
- **April:** Review and refine scope and objectives of study with preferred contractor.
- **May 2024 – January 2025:** Contract award, delivery and close out of Strategic Review and value improvement study.

V. EOI Process and Selection Criteria

Criteria for evaluating responses to the EOIs will include:

- Experience and credentials of the proposed review team (considering demonstrable development, operational and commercialisation expertise).
- Demonstrable strong social licence of the applicant in its current operations.
- Global networks and ability to unlock commercial leads for international waste contracts.
- Proposed review methods and approaches.
- Willingness of team to collaborate with the Tellus owners' team for extended periods in Tellus' Perth office, Western Australia.
- Commercial offer – Tellus, as a private company, is primarily focused on commercialising its Sandy Ridge near surface geological repository in Western Australia, which only became fully commercial in February 2023. That said, with the momentum of achieving the Titjikala's support in November 2023, Tellus (and the Traditional Owners) want to progress the Chandler Project *now*. Accordingly, Tellus has decided to seek a long-term partner that can help bring world-class expertise and resources to advance the Project. Tellus will not allocate significant capital at this stage of the Project due to its business plan's focus on Sandy Ridge and is seeking commitments from prospective partners to assist it with reviewing the Project and re-setting the implementation plan.

VI. Submission Guidance

The following is a guide for applicants to structure their submissions:

- 1. Cover Letter:**
 - a. Introduction: Briefly introduce your organisation, its expertise and your interest in conducting the Strategic Review.
 - b. Understanding of the Project: Demonstrate a clear understanding of the proposed Project and its significance.
 - c. Commitment: Express your organisation's commitment to conducting a comprehensive and unbiased Strategic Review.
- 2. Organisational Overview:**
 - a. Background: Provide a brief history and background of your organisation, highlighting relevant experience in strategic reviews, chemical and radioactive waste management.
 - b. Team Expertise: Showcase the expertise of key team members who will be involved in the strategic review.
- 3. Methodology:**
 - a. Approach: Outline your proposed approach to conducting the Strategic Review, emphasising key components such as regulatory compliance, environmental impact assessment, community engagement, technical feasibility, financial viability, risk management, and project timeline.
 - b. Innovations: Highlight any innovative methodologies or tools that your organisation plans to employ.
- 4. Experience and Past Projects:**
 - a. Relevant Experience: Provide details of your organisation's relevant experience in conducting strategic reviews for projects in the chemical and radioactive waste industries.
 - b. Success Stories: Share success stories or case studies that demonstrate your organisation's ability to deliver valuable insights and recommendations.
- 5. Stakeholder Engagement:** Although Tellus will continue to own the partnership with the Titjikala and all community engagement, we need to ensure that our long-term partner for the Project shares our value of TRUST. To evaluate that, we would like examples of how your organisation has built trust with relevant stakeholders. Accordingly, please provide details on your organisation's approach to community engagement, emphasising transparent communication, managing social-political risk, and strategies for addressing community concerns. Provide examples of successful community engagement from previous projects.
- 6. Timeline and Milestones:**
 - a. Timeline: Present a proposed review timeline, highlighting key milestones and deliverables.
 - b. Delivery: Demonstrate your organisation's ability to adhere to deadlines and efficiently complete the Strategic Review.
- 7. Budget:**

- a. Commercial Proposal: Provide a transparent and detailed commercial proposal, including cost estimates for the Strategic Review. Highlight any cost-saving measures or efficiencies that may benefit the client.

8. References:

- a. Client References: Include references from previous clients or projects, particularly those related to strategic reviews or chemical and radioactive waste industry projects.

9. Appendices:

- a. Supporting Documents: Include relevant certifications, qualifications, and any additional documentation that strengthens your application.

10. Contact Information:

- a. Provide clear contact information for the primary point of contact within your organisation for further inquiries or discussions.
- b. Applicants should ensure clarity, conciseness, and alignment with the specific requirements outlined in this document.

VII. Logistics

1. Closed Briefings: The Tellus executive team will host closed briefings to assist with the EOI process based on the above timeline and will be available for in-person questions at the Phoenix WM Symposia. We will give a short presentation and answer any specific questions that prospective EOI applicants may have.
2. How to submit your questions: Please email ChandlerProject@TellusHoldings.com
3. Where and how to send your final submission: Please email ChandlerProject@TellusHoldings.com