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April 16, 2015

Our Ref: Letter of commitment to the Strategic research council proposal – ILVES project

To Whom It May Concern:

CSIRO commits to be a partner in the ILVES consortium project bid in the open call of spring 2015.

The main aim of this proposal is to scientifically support the sustainable development of Finnish maritime activities and in particular Finnish food, export and import securities. The project will focus on the minimisation of carbon emissions from Finnish maritime activities, such as the development of new transportation schemes along the Finnish inland waterways and oil spill risk management, as well as the food security of Finland as part of the worldwide markets. Moreover, the development of scientific methods to better support the environmental and economic activities and policy designs is an important role of the proposal. These interests have a strong synergy with research interests under sustainable multiple use management work in marine and coastal systems currently being undertaken by CSIRO in Australia, as well as with collaborators in the US and EU.

If successfully funded, the ILVES proposal will build on the established extant research and innovation partnerships to find common answers to the challenges related to the market based and governmental management of transportation systems, sustainable low-carbon fuels and maritime safety. CSIRO has significant interest in these areas and is committed to be an active member of the consortium. We will provide expertise to help the ILVES consortium achieve the scientific goals to support Finnish and international policy, which also has strong synergistic benefits for work on similar research and policy areas in Australia.

Specifically, CSIRO will contribute to the following tasks:


- oil spill risk analysis: Dr Ken Lee and Simon Barry, CSIRO
- financial risk management and insurance as a policy tool: Dr Rich Little, CSIRO
- development of oil spill modules of varying complexity for the Atlantis ECOSYSTEM model: Dr Beth Fulton, CSIRO

Interactions around this work will be done through annual project meetings, subject to the allocated budget. Direct science output will include collaborative scientific articles, for example papers with topics such as:

- Strategic development of partnerships in oil spill risk management between research and companies with the help of risk analysis
- Insurance policies as a tool for managing tactical level decisions for natural resource management under shock effects
- Modelling oil spill impacts in a brackish water ecosystem using the Atlantis ecosystem model: how the impacts cascade

These plans are illustrative and are subject to revision, and negotiation depending on final agreed budget and terms being approved by CSIRO.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'D Smith', with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

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