**Office Use only**



|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Project No.** |  |
| **Date of receipt** |  |
| **RR number** |  |
| **Review date** |  |
| **Site visit date** |  |
| **Status** |  |

**GOVERNMENT OF IRIBATI**

**MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT LANDS AND AGRICULTURAL DVELOPMENT**

**P.O. Box 234,, Bikenibeu, Tarawa, Republic of Kiribati**

**Tel. No. (686) 28000/28425 Fax: (686) 28334**

**Email: information@environment.gov.ki**

**Environment Licence Application Form**

**1. Contact Information**

Name of applicant Pacific Biosecurity – Victoria Link Limited on behalf of MELAD

(must be an individual person, corporation or government body)

Contact Address: P O Box 1762 Wellington 6012, New Zealand

Telephone: +64 4 463 5026 Mobile: +6422 013 7862 Fax n/a

Email: monica.gruber@vuw.ac.nz

**2 Background Information**

Name of project (ESA): Rapid response plan for potential incursion of little fire ant and / or red imported fire ant in Tarawa, Kiribati.

A new initiative for biosecurity involves Early Detection Rapid Response (EDRR) preparedness. This means the *possible* eventual use of pesticide in Kiribati to enable rapid containment and control of little fire ant and / or red imported fire ant should an incursion of either of these occur. The predicted incursion response area covers approximately 6 hectares centred on an industrial area. *It should be noted that the pesticides will not be used if there is no incursion.*

A full Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) has been undertaken and the outcomes presented in a report that accompanies this EL application.

Type of project

(government/private/commercial): Government

Location of the project: Betio, Tarawa

Proposed implementation date: as required – rapid response to incursion by invasive ants

**2. Site description detailing the state of the environment**

The proposed (predicted) site for use of the described ant bait is in the 6 ha port area of Betio (Figure 1). Use of this bait would only be in the case of an incursion by the invasive ants *Wasmannia auropunctata* (little fire ant) and / or *Solenopsis invicta* (red imported fire ant).This area is a high-risk area for incursions of invasive ants due to the heavy boat traffic from other nations. The site contains import/export holding areas, warehouses, and other industrial activities.



Figure 1. The area outlined in red shows the proposed (predicted) area of management in Betio, Tarawa, Kiribati. This area covers approximately 6 ha.

**3 Project Description**

The purpose of the project is to have a rapid response in place if an incursion of little fire ants and / or red imported fire ants be detected in the port area of Betio, Tarawa, Kiribati.

This application is seeking permission to import Synergy Pro ant bait for use **only in the event of an incursion of little fire ant and / or red imported fire ant**. Synergy Pro contains the insecticides hydramethylnon and pyriproxyfen. Please see attached Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) for more details.

**Size of the project (design specifications to be provided if applicable)**

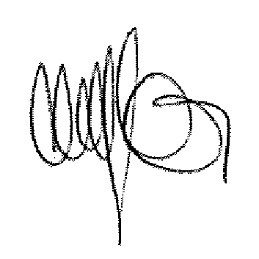
Please see attached Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) for more details. It is envisaged that early detection will mean the area potentially covered is a maximum of 6 hectares.

**5. Specify activity/activities below if they are going to involve or be part of this proposed Project.**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Activities** | **Tick below** |
| **Activities involving significant coastal and marine impact**   * extraction of aggregates, minerals, stones or shingles, sand, reef mud and beach rock— * clearance of live corals, mangroves and seagrass * construction work below the high water mark * construction of seawalls * land reclamation * establishment of boat channels * dredging |  |
| **Activities requiring significant materials**   * brick manufacture * landfilling |  |
| **Activities involving significant waste products**   * operation of waste disposal plants including recycling and collection systems * operation of drainage, disposal or sewerage systems * chemical treatment of timber |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Other Activities – Refer to ESA list** | **Specify if any** |
| * Activities using significant natural resources |  |
| * Activities involving harmful chemicals | In the event of an incursion of little fire ants and / red imported fire ants, the proposed area would be broadcast baited with Synergy Pro ant bait. Synergy Pro contains 3.65 g/kg hydramethylnon and 2.5 g/kg pyriproxyfen. This product is non-DG, non-harmful to people, but can be harmful to other animals if not used sensibly. We have created an Impact Management Plan (see ESIA) to minimize non-target effects. |
| * Activities involving a significant alteration of the environment |  |

**I certify that the above information is true.**

**Signature **

**Name of person (providing information)** Monica Gruber, Pacific Biosecurity

**Date**

**Note: It is an offence under section 30 of the *Environment Act 1999* to provide false or misleading information**

**Attach any other relevant information (in the form of Project document, Study report, etc.)**

**Lodgment Requirements/Conditions.**

1. 1.For seawall and mining activities (sand and gravel, reef mud dredging), please obtain license forms from Land Management Division(LMD) before applying for an Environment Licence.
2. Application fee of $10.00