

23 March 2023

To Whom It May Concern:

RE: ARC LIEF Current and Pressure recording Inverted Echo Sounder (CPIES) proposal

On behalf of the Integrated Marine Observing System (IMOS), I am writing in support of the ARC LIEF proposal led by Helen Phillips, with several Australian collaborators, for collecting critical data on oceanographic conditions. This technology will generate new capacity in under-sampled and hard to access areas, including the Southern Ocean, and help address complex oceanographic and ecological questions.

IMOS is a national research infrastructure funded under the Australian Government's National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy (NCRIS). Since 2006, IMOS has been routinely operating a wide range of observing equipment including in the Southern Ocean region. IMOS operates infrastructure throughout Australia's coastal and open oceans, making all of its data accessible to the marine and climate science community, other stakeholders and users, and international collaborators. Ongoing commitment to these activities means that IMOS will be able to provide support for the work proposed by the project team.

While IMOS is an extensive program in Australia, our current funding does not permit inclusion of CPIES and as such this ARC LIEF project provides an excellent opportunity for value-adding to and leveraging the NCRIS investment in IMOS. Assuming CPIES deployments are successful, IMOS would look to see if the NCRIS program could be expanded in the future to encompass this technology. As host of the Australian Ocean Data Network, IMOS will also work to incorporate CPIES data into our database to ease data integration, access and use.

IMOS fully supports the CPIES application and looks forward to the additional outputs that can be delivered by the data provided from this new infrastructure.

Regards,



Michelle Heupel
IMOS Director