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AGRONOMIC PARTNERSHIP DEVELOPING PRODUCTS FOR CARBON MARKETS AND NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT

Griffith University (Griffith) and ASX-Listed Zeotech Limited (Zeotech), an emerging mineral processing technology company, have established a research program aimed at developing agricultural product applications for carbon markets and nutrient management.

The program, established following a successful nine-month pilot¹ by Griffith on behalf of Zeotech, will underpin agronomic opportunities for Zeotech products that provide competitive advantages comparable to existing soil amendments such as fertilisers and soil conditioners, with the early and substantial focus being on carbon markets.

Griffith will undertake two concurrent streams of agricultural product development over 22 months:

- **Zeotech products for carbon markets:** enhanced soil carbon storage and climate change mitigation in agricultural landscapes, targeting a substantial share of the carbon mitigation market – an estimated 15-20% of total human greenhouse gas emissions; and
- **Zeotech products to improve agricultural nutrient management:** agricultural pollutant interception, removal, and recycling.

Griffith University, School of Environment and Science | Australian Rivers Institute,
Dr. Chris Pratt commented:

“I’m excited at the opportunity to work with Zeotech to develop products for the challenges that climate change presents to farmers. Of particular interest is the potential to extend carbon market solutions to rural communities to aid the transition required in meeting Australia’s commitment to net zero emissions by 2050.

The promising results gathered from our initial 9-month agronomic studies, and the unique characteristics of synthetic zeolites, presents a compelling opportunity for the application of Zeotech products for carbon sequestration.

Griffith looks forward to undertaking expanded pilot trials to evaluate solutions for advanced fertiliser delivery and the management of agricultural pollutants – representing a tangible opportunity to support sustainable food production.”

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¹ Refer to Zeotech ASX announcement 06/09/2021 [“Griffith University Agronomic Studies deliver Promising Results”](#)

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Griffith University, Vice President Industry and External Engagement Dr Peter Binks added:

“Griffith is very pleased to be working with Zeotech on this important and innovative program of research. Zeotech is a leader in its innovative approach to carbon mitigation, which strongly aligns with our own objectives.

The strategic research partnership allows Zeotech to draw on Griffith’s considerable research strengths in soil biogeochemistry and climate change mitigation. Zeotech’s own proprietary technologies are an important complement to our research.”

Commenting on the announcement Zeotech Managing Director Peter Zardo said:

“Zeotech values the opportunity to be working with Griffith University’s Soil and Land Use team, which provides one of Australia’s most highly-specialised and well-resourced groups in the area of agricultural carbon and nutrient management.

The opportunity to make a meaningful contribution to developing solutions to potentially aid the agricultural sector help meet Australia’s emission reduction targets, is important to Zeotech and we will continue to explore opportunities within the CCUS sector (Carbon Capture, Utilisation and Storage), with our highly capable project partners. Zeotech remains committed to applying its proprietary low-cost zeolite synthesis technology to deliver solutions aimed at addressing sustainability challenges.”

Further program details are available in Zeotech’s ASX announcement found [here](#).

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About Zeolites

Zeotech leverages proprietary technology for the low-cost production of advanced materials ‘synthetic zeolites’ to deliver solutions aimed at addressing sustainability challenges.

Synthetic zeolites are manufactured aluminosilicate minerals with a sponge-like structure, made up of tiny pores (frameworks) that make them useful as catalysts or ultrafine filters. They are commonly known as molecular sieves and can be designed to selectively adsorb molecules or ions dependant on their unique construction.

Zeolites play an important role in a cleaner and safer environment:

- They are an effective substitute for harmful phosphates in powder detergent, now banned in many parts of the world because of blue green algae toxicity in waterways;
- As catalysts, zeolites increase process efficiencies = decrease in energy consumption;
- Zeolites can act as solid acids and reduce the need for more corrosive liquid acids;
- Zeolites adsorbent capabilities see them widely used in water treatment i.e., heavy metal removal including those produced by nuclear fission; and
- As redox catalyst sorbents, zeolites can help remove exhaust gases and CFC's.