



29 August 2011

Professor dr ir P.J.M. van Oosterom
OTB Research Institute for the Built Environment
TU DELFT
Postbus 5030
2600 GA DELFT

Dear Professor van Oosterom,

LETTER OF SUPPORT – MAPS4SCIENCE

I am very pleased to learn about your initiative to develop the large scale research facility Maps4Science. We are Australia's largest spatial research organisation and we can see considerable benefits to the Netherlands and Europe in this great initiative.

The Cooperative Research Centre for Spatial Information (CRCSI) is Australia's largest spatial research organisation. We have AUD\$160 million of funding to invest in spatial science research over the eight years to 2018. We have over 100 partners including 70 companies, 20 government agencies and 20 universities and research agencies. One our initiatives are to support the creation of an Australia and New Zealand Marketplace (ANZSM). The ANZSM has very similar objectives to Maps4Science and our economic modeling suggests that it may be able to add up to AUD\$5 billion to Australia's GDP (see ACIL Tasman, 2008, <http://www.crcsi.com.au/Industry-Devel/Industry-Reports/Value-of-spatial-industry>, page 13). The spatial industry in Australia and New Zealand consider that the creation of the ANZSM is one of its highest priorities.

I have attached a summary statement of some of our achievements.

We support your consortium and your application because it is only with the combined efforts of all of the relevant organisations that you can truly hope to achieve the benefits of MAPS4Science. The benefits will be considerable and include; unlocking innovation, facilitating much more effective research, attracting high caliber research scientists to the Netherlands, growing the economy and improving social outcomes.

The CRCSI and its partners in Australia and New Zealand will be very happy to explore opportunities for collaboration with Maps4Science.

Maps4Science is an important initiative that will be a crucial enabler for many scientists to improve and extend their research. There is no doubt Maps4Science will enable the Netherlands science community to reach and keep a top level position in a broad range of science domains. It will allow us to play a leading role in the research and innovation into open, shared, and linked location data and how it can be used in many fields of science.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Peter Woodgate
Chief Executive Officer