Addendum 1. Digital Farm Grants Program - Round 3

SUBJECT: Variation to minimum performance criteria regarding download and upload speeds

The Digital Farm Grants Program - Round 3 (the Program) announcement specifies minimum criteria for download and upload speeds (Page 7 of Program Guidelines, Section E.1.1: '*At a minimum, a proposed Network should provide a baseline download capability of 80 Megabits per second (Mbps) and upload capability of 40 Mbps at the customer premise.*')

Following feedback received, the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) has reviewed and amended the minimum speed performance criteria for the Program.

DPIRD acknowledges that:

- other factors besides speed (network capacity, reliability/resiliency, value-add capabilities) are also important in delivering fit-for-purpose services;
- the targeted regions as part of the Program are in many cases more remote and less densely populated than the areas served by the Digital Farm Grants Program Inaugural Round and Round 2;
- access to affordable backhaul may cost more and be difficult to acquire in remote areas; and
- long-term sustainability of a project is critical to the Program's success.

The 80 Mbps / 40 Mbps download/upload minimum performance criteria is preferred, however, applicants can propose other fit-for-purpose download/upload speeds for each project, setting out a clear justification for the reduction.