



Approach to Market

Proposals to establish an end-to-end onshore mRNA manufacturing capability

Questions and Answers from potential respondents

13 July 2021

1. Question: Types of respondents

- Can a state or territory government submit or lead a response to the Approach to Market?

Answer:

- Yes, a state or territory government may submit a proposal in response to the Approach to Market as a sole respondent. They may also submit a response as a member of a consortium (including as the lead consortium member). For consortium proposals, respondents should note the requirements that apply to consortiums (e.g. refer to clause 9.1 of the Approach to Market) and ensure that all appropriate information is provided as requested by the Approach to Market.

2. Question: Extension of closing time/date

- Can the Department extend the closing time and date?

Answer:

- No. The Department is not in a position to provide an extension to the closing time and date for the ATM as developing mRNA manufacturing capability is a priority for the Australian Government. As a result, the Department is working to a tight timeline in order to provide advice to the Australian Government.
- Respondents are encouraged to provide all information necessary to support and fully explain their proposals in accordance with the ATM. If relevant to the proposal, respondents may wish to explain any circumstances which might impact upon their proposal (such as by identifying any arrangements which are proposed to be entered into by the respondent but which have not been finalised and explaining how they impact upon their proposal).
- To the extent that respondents are not able to meet a requirement, or their ability to do so is contingent upon particular circumstances, respondents should clearly explain why they cannot meet that requirement and provide details for any potential alternative arrangements or mitigation options, or explain those circumstances and their impact upon their proposal, for the Australian Government's consideration.

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3. Question: Disclosure of information

- In what circumstances will the Commonwealth disclose confidential information provided in responses to the Approach to Market?

Answer:

- Respondents may specify information in their proposal that they consider to be confidential information. Subject to clause 18.3 of the ATM, the Australian Government will treat such information to be confidential, and will only use that information for the purposes of the Approach to Market process. Clauses 18.1, 18.2 and 18.4 set out the other circumstances in which the Australian Government may, or may be required to, disclose confidential information provided by respondents.
- The Department may consult with the respondent(s) prior to providing any disclosure of the relevant information provided in a proposal.