# SPARC TECHNOLOGIES SIGNS MOU WITH JBS&G

## HIGHLIGHTS

- **MOU signed with leading Australian environmental remediation company JBS&G**
- **Sparc's proprietary graphene products to be used in site trials for the adsorption of PFAS**
- **Pilot plant to be jointly developed for PFAS adsorption from ground water**
- **On site trials to commence for PFAS adsorption and immobilisation in soil**

Sparc Technologies Limited (**ASX: SPN**) (**Sparc** or the **Company**), is pleased to announce that it has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (**MOU**) with one of Australia's leading environmental remediation companies, JBS&G.

The non-binding MOU allows for the immediate testing under field conditions of Sparc's proprietary functionalised graphene for the adsorption of PFAS through research and development successfully undertaken at the University of Adelaide.

The key terms of the joint project which is exclusive to JBS&G within Australia, will involve the development of a pilot plant for adsorption of PFAS from contaminated water via graphene filtration. The pilot plant will be situated at a site where JBS&G is undertaking remediation with each party to pay for their own materials and labour. Testing of functionalised graphene for the adsorption and immobilisation of PFAS in soil will also be undertaken as a separate project and falls within this MOU. The MOU will be ongoing for the duration of the projects or until a binding agreement is entered into between the parties.

**Sparc Managing CEO, Mike Bartels, commented:**

> *"Sparc is delighted to be working closely with JBS&G, which is a leading environmental remediation company with many PFAS remediation projects around Australia. It is very rewarding to now be transitioning from the laboratory to the field whereby we will look to further develop and optimise Sparc's proprietary functionalised graphene adsorbent. Sparc sees this MOU as a significant milestone which sets us on the path to undertake feasibility work and to commercialise our products."*

On the basis that the trial work is successful, JBS&G and Sparc have agreed to undertake a scoping study to determine the economic feasibility of using Sparc's graphene based adsorbents. Furthermore, should the study prove the graphene based adsorbents products to be feasible, then JBS&G and Sparc would seek to negotiate a Supply Agreement for the sale of graphene based adsorbent filter products, or the associated technology.

The parties agreed that the MoU is an exclusive arrangement for the development and marketing of graphene based absorbent filters for PFAS remediation in Australia. In the event that either party does not meet its obligations under the MoU in a material way this exclusivity will end.

**About JBS&G**

JBS&G is Australia's leading environmental consultancy which has been operating nationally for 25 years and has significant experience in relation to a range of environmental remedial technologies including PFAS management. The company employs more than 250 people across Australia. (**jbsg.com.au**)

**About PFAS**

PFAS contamination, leaching and mobility remain significant global issues, with many large sites around the world subject to substantial PFAS contamination. Without remediation, PFAS will persist and migrate within the natural environment and can cause significant human and animal health issues, where it has been shown to cause reproductive and developmental, liver and kidney, and immunological effects.[1]

PFAS (Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances) is a group of man-made chemicals that have been available since the 1940s, which have been used historically in a variety of industries including in non-stick cookware, fabric, furniture and cosmetics and food packaging. PFAS are also present in aqueous film forming foam – a firefighting foam which is extensively used worldwide.

Whilst trace levels of PFAS are common in a range of environments there are a growing number of sites globally where elevated PFAS concentrations and transmission to soils and drinking water, and therefore communities, has caused alarm and prompted immediate remediation and mitigation response efforts.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Australian Government have conducted extensive studies on the environmental and health effects of PFAS and have found its impact to be widespread.

**-ENDS-**

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**About Sparc Technologies**

Sparc Technologies Limited (ASX: SPN) is a South Australian based company that is focusing on the development of innovative technology solutions using the unique properties of graphene. Graphene, which can be extracted from graphite, is a 2-dimensional nano material made of carbon atoms arranged in a hexagonal pattern, giving it unique and powerful properties that, with the right technology, can be imparted on products to improve performance. Sparc Technologies has licenced graphene-based technologies from the University of Adelaide, a leading institution in the field of graphene research, and will focus on commercialising graphene-based technologies for large industrial markets for marine and protective coatings, environmental remediation and bio-medical applications.

[1] https://www.epa.gov/pfas/basic-information-pfas