Rocket**Lab**

Provision of edu.au Website Build

Submitted to Education Services Australia

Client	Education Services Australia (ESA)
Respondent	Rocket Lab
Submission date	*[DATE]*
Contact	*[CONTACT NAME, EMAIL, PHONE]*
RFQ closes	5 PM AEST, Thursday 2 April 2026

This document constitutes Rocket Lab's formal response to the above RFQ and is submitted in confidence. The content of this response is proprietary and commercial-in-confidence.

PART 2
Respondent's Details

Legal name	*[PLACEHOLDER — Rocket Lab legal entity name]*
Trading name	Rocket Lab
Street address	*[PLACEHOLDER — registered street address]*
ABN	*[PLACEHOLDER]*
ACN	*[PLACEHOLDER]*
Type of business	Company
Names of directors	*[PLACEHOLDER — full legal names of all directors]*
Full company search details	*[PLACEHOLDER — attach current ASIC company search including all directors]*

PART 3
Contact for Liaison and Notices

Name	*[PLACEHOLDER]*
Title in the organisation	*[PLACEHOLDER]*
Postal address	*[PLACEHOLDER]*
Telephone	*[PLACEHOLDER]*
Email	*[PLACEHOLDER]*

Statement Against Evaluation Criteria

In accordance with clause 3.1 of Schedule 4, each criterion response begins on a separate page with the criterion as the page header. Responses are kept succinct per clause 3.2.

Understanding of ESA

Evaluation weight: 10%

Education Services Australia occupies a unique position in the Australian education landscape — a not-for-profit company owned by all Australian Ministers of Education, serving as the bridge between national education policy and practical digital delivery. Unlike typical government agencies or commercial entities, ESA must balance ministerial accountability, cross-jurisdictional coordination, and direct service delivery to education institutions across Australia.

The edu.au Domain Registrar is a critical piece of national education infrastructure. As the sole registrar for the closed edu.au second-level domain, it carries both regulatory authority (operating within auDA licensing rules) and a service obligation to make registration requirements clear and accessible to a diverse audience — from school administrators to university IT departments to government education bodies.

We understand that this rebuild is not an isolated project. It sits within ESA's broader Digital Services portfolio alongside the myfuture and SCIS platform rebuilds, representing a strategic investment in modernising ESA's digital foundations. Our approach to the edu.au build is designed with this context in mind — establishing reusable patterns, infrastructure, and ways of working that can create efficiency across ESA's portfolio.

We also recognise that ESA's internal teams need to own and evolve these platforms long after the initial build. This is not a project where a vendor builds something clever and walks away — it requires genuine partnership, knowledge transfer, and technology choices that ESA's team can confidently maintain.

Proposed Technology Stack

Our recommended stack is purpose-built for ESA's requirements: low maintenance, high flexibility, open source, and straightforward for your Technology team to adopt and maintain.

Front-end: Next.js (React)

- Industry-leading React framework with built-in server-side rendering (SSR) and static site generation (SSG)
- Delivers exceptional page load performance and SEO out of the box — directly supporting the objective of increased direct traffic
- Decoupled from the back-end, satisfying ESA's preference for front-end/back-end separation
- Huge developer ecosystem reduces long-term hiring and maintenance risk for ESA
- Built-in image optimisation, code splitting, and edge caching for device-optimised delivery

CMS / Back-end: Directus

- Open-source, self-hosted headless CMS with a mature, well-maintained codebase
- Provides both REST and GraphQL APIs natively — matching ESA's preference for API-driven architecture
- Intuitive admin interface that non-technical content authors can manage independently
- Role-based access control, content workflows, and approval processes built in
- Database-agnostic (PostgreSQL recommended) — no vendor lock-in
- Fully extensible via custom extensions and hooks
- Self-hosted within GovZone, ensuring complete data sovereignty

Infrastructure

- Containerised deployment (Docker) for consistent environments across SIT, UAT, PROD in GovZone
- CI/CD pipeline via GitLab CI (aligning with ESA's GitLab requirement)
- PostgreSQL database with automated backups and point-in-time recovery
- CloudFront or equivalent CDN for static asset delivery and edge caching
- Infrastructure as Code (Terraform/Pulumi) for reproducible, auditable deployments
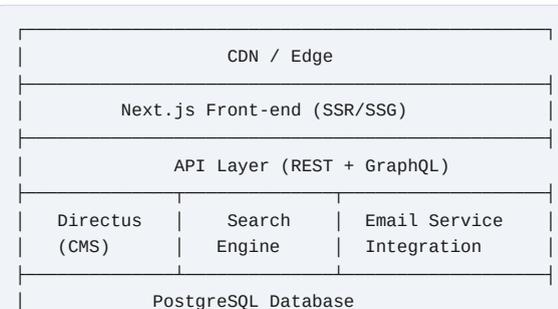
Search: Meilisearch or Algolia (self-hosted)

- Fast, typo-tolerant site search with relevance tuning
- Can be self-hosted within GovZone for data sovereignty compliance

Email Integration

- Componentised integration layer allowing easy swap of email service providers
- Newsletter subscriber capture via Directus with preference centre functionality
- Webhook-based sync to email platform (e.g., Campaign Monitor, Mailchimp)

Architecture Principles

```
┌─────────────────────────────────────────┐
│              CDN / Edge                  │
├─────────────────────────────────────────┤
│        Next.js Front-end (SSR/SSG)       │
├─────────────────────────────────────────┤
│          API Layer (REST + GraphQL)      │
├───────────────┬───────────┬─────────────┤
│   Directus    │   Search  │ Email Service│
│    (CMS)      │   Engine  │  Integration │
├───────────────┴───────────┴─────────────┤
│          PostgreSQL Database             │
└─────────────────────────────────────────┘
```

```
+------------------------------------------+
|          GovZone Infrastructure (Docker) |
+------------------------------------------+
```

Security and Compliance

ISM Classification 'OS':

- All data stored and processed within GovZone
- Encryption at rest (AES-256) and in transit (TLS 1.3)
- Role-based access control across all systems
- Security artifacts: SSP Annexes and associated control documentation will be prepared, reviewed, and maintained as part of delivery
- Regular vulnerability scanning and dependency auditing via CI/CD pipeline

OWASP Top 10 and ASVS L1:

- Security-first development practices with automated SAST/DAST scanning
- Input validation, output encoding, CSRF protection, and Content Security Policy headers
- Dependency vulnerability monitoring (Dependabot/Snyk integration in GitLab)

WCAG 2.1 AA Compliance:

- Accessibility built into the design system from day one
- Automated accessibility testing in CI/CD (axe-core)
- Manual testing with screen readers and keyboard navigation
- Accessibility audit prior to launch

Privacy:

- Cookie consent management
- Privacy-by-design principles applied throughout
- No data leaves Australian borders
- Compliant with Australian Privacy Principles (APPs)

GovZone Deployment Strategy

We understand ESA's GovZone requirements and will implement:

- Containerised builds that are environment-agnostic
- GitLab CI pipelines that push to GovZone's container registry
- Infrastructure as Code for all environment provisioning
- Separate configuration management for SIT/UAT/PROD
- All secrets managed via GovZone-approved secrets management

Scalability and Maintenance

- Static generation for public pages means near-zero server load for most traffic
- Incremental Static Regeneration for dynamic content (news, events) without full rebuilds
- Horizontal scaling of API layer if traffic demands grow
- Directus plugin/extension model means product team can add new content types without developer involvement
- Automated security patching via CI/CD dependency update workflows

Project Approach

We follow a lean agile methodology adapted for fixed-scope government projects. This means structured phases with clear sign-off gates, but agile delivery practices within each phase.

Phase 1: Discovery & Requirements (2 weeks)

- Workshop with ESA product team, Technology team, and key stakeholders
- Review existing edu.au website, analytics, and content audit
- Information architecture review and simplification
- Finalise detailed requirements and acceptance criteria
- Establish shared tooling (GitLab, Jira/Azure DevOps, Slack/Teams channel)

Phase 2: Design (3 weeks)

- Wireframes for all key page templates and user journeys
- Brand refresh integration into design system
- Design review with ESA stakeholders
- Accessibility review of designs
- Design sign-off gate

Phase 3: Build (6-8 weeks)

- 2-week sprints with ESA Technology team embedded
- Sprint demos every 2 weeks
- Progressive deployment to SIT environment
- Content migration running in parallel with build
- Automated testing built alongside features

Phase 4: Testing & Training (2-3 weeks)

- UAT in GovZone UAT environment
- CMS training sessions for content authors
- Accessibility audit and remediation
- Performance and security testing
- Bug fix sprints

Phase 5: Launch (1 week)

- Staged deployment to PROD
- DNS cutover and monitoring
- Go-live support

Phase 6: Hypercare & Handover (4 weeks)

- Dedicated support for post-launch issues
- Technology team training (architecture, deployment, maintenance)
- Knowledge base documentation finalised
- Handover sign-off

Risk Management

| Risk | Likelihood | Impact | Mitigation | |------|-----------|--------|------------| | GovZone deployment complexity | M | H | Early environment setup in Phase 1; containerised approach reduces environment-specific issues | | Content migration gaps | M | M | Content audit in discovery; migration scripts tested against full dataset in SIT | | Scope creep during discovery | M | M | Clear

requirements sign-off gate before design begins; change request process | | ESA team availability for co-dev | M | M | Agreed participation schedule at project kick-off; asynchronous code review as fallback | | Brand refresh delays | L | H | Design phase can proceed with existing brand; refresh applied as overlay |

How We Work With Your Team

We treat co-development as a core project requirement, not an afterthought. Our approach:

Embedded Collaboration:

- ESA developers have full access to the GitLab repository from day one
- Shared branch strategy: feature branches, merge requests with mandatory code review
- ESA team members assigned to specific features/modules based on their learning goals
- Daily standups (async or sync, ESA's preference) and pair programming sessions

Code Quality Standards:

- Shared linting and formatting rules (ESLint, Prettier) enforced via pre-commit hooks
- All code goes through merge request review — both Rocket Lab and ESA reviewers
- Minimum unit test coverage targets for all new code
- Integration tests for API endpoints and critical user journeys
- Automated CI pipeline: lint → test → build → security scan → deploy to SIT

Knowledge Transfer:

- Architecture decision records (ADRs) for all significant technical choices
- Weekly code walkthrough sessions during build phase
- Documented deployment runbook
- Recorded training sessions for async learning

Skill Development:

- Hands-on workshops: Next.js fundamentals, Directus administration, Docker/containerisation
- Progressively increasing ESA team ownership during build (observer → contributor → owner)
- Handover sprints where ESA team leads development with Rocket Lab in support role

Documentation Deliverables:

- Architecture diagrams (C4 model)
- API documentation (auto-generated from code)
- CMS administration guide
- Deployment and operations runbook
- Troubleshooting guide with known issues and resolutions
- ISM compliance documentation

Project 1

| | | |---|---| | **Client** | [CLIENT NAME] | | **Project** | [PROJECT NAME AND YEAR] | | **Description** | [DESCRIPTION — ideally a government/education CMS website build with similar tech stack, content migration, accessibility compliance] |

Project 2

| | | |---|---| | **Client** | [CLIENT NAME] | | **Project** | [PROJECT NAME AND YEAR] | | **Description** | [DESCRIPTION — ideally showing co-development approach, knowledge transfer, or working with internal teams] |

Project 3

| | | |---|---| | **Client** | [CLIENT NAME] | | **Project** | [PROJECT NAME AND YEAR] | | **Description** | [DESCRIPTION — ideally showing GovZone or secured government hosting environment experience] |

Project 4

| | | |---|---| | **Client** | [CLIENT NAME] | | **Project** | [PROJECT NAME AND YEAR] | | **Description** | [DESCRIPTION] |

Head of Engineering

| | | |---|---| | **Name** | Sergey Ivochkin | | **Role** | Head of Engineering | | **Qualifications** | 20+ years leading software delivery, engineering teams and technical strategy across enterprise, government, product and startup environments | | **Skills & Experience** | Web, mobile and cloud platform delivery; CI/CD pipeline design; engineering quality standards and delivery governance; government and enterprise stakeholder engagement; platform architecture; system modernisation; AI integration and responsible AI practices; co-development and knowledge transfer | | **Contribution** | Technical workstream leadership; cross-platform architecture oversight; CI/CD pipeline design; engineering governance; AI oversight and responsible AI integration; co-development facilitation; ensuring ESA team independence and capability post-handover | | **Days** | [NUMBER] | | **% EFT** | [PERCENTAGE] |

[LEAD DEVELOPER / TECHNICAL LEAD]

| | | |---|---| | **Name** | [NAME] | | **Role** | Technical Lead | | **Qualifications** | [QUALIFICATIONS] | | **Skills & Experience** | Next.js, React, Node.js, Directus/headless CMS, PostgreSQL, Docker, CI/CD, GovZone deployments, WCAG 2.1, ISM compliance | | **Contribution** | Architecture design, lead developer, code reviews, technical mentoring of ESA team | | **Days** | [NUMBER] | | **% EFT** | [PERCENTAGE] |

[UX/UI DESIGNER]

| | | |---|---| | **Name** | [NAME] | | **Role** | UX/UI Designer | | **Qualifications** | [QUALIFICATIONS] | | **Skills & Experience** | Information architecture, wireframing, design systems, accessibility-first design, brand integration, user testing | | **Contribution** | Information architecture, wireframes, visual design, brand refresh integration, design system, accessibility review | | **Days** | [NUMBER] | | **% EFT** | [PERCENTAGE] |

[PROJECT MANAGER]

| | | |---|---| | **Name** | [NAME] | | **Role** | Project Manager | | **Qualifications** | [QUALIFICATIONS] | | **Skills & Experience** | Agile delivery, government project delivery, stakeholder management, risk management | | **Contribution** | Project planning, sprint management, stakeholder communication, risk management, steering committee participation | | **Days** | [NUMBER] | | **% EFT** | [PERCENTAGE] |

[FRONT-END DEVELOPER]

| | | |---|---| | **Name** | [NAME] | | **Role** | Front-end Developer | | **Qualifications** | [QUALIFICATIONS] | | **Skills & Experience** | Next.js, React, TypeScript, CSS, responsive design, accessibility, performance optimisation | | **Contribution** | Front-end development, component library, device optimisation, accessibility implementation | | **Days** | [NUMBER] | | **% EFT** | [PERCENTAGE] |

Value for money

Evaluation weight: 20%

See Part 12: Pricing Information.

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Project 2

| | | |---|---| | **Client** | [CLIENT NAME] | | **Project** | [PROJECT NAME AND YEAR] | | **Description** | [DESCRIPTION — ideally showing co-development approach, knowledge transfer, or working with internal teams] |

Project 3

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Project 4

| | | |---|---| | **Client** | [CLIENT NAME] | | **Project** | [PROJECT NAME AND YEAR] | | **Description** | [DESCRIPTION] |

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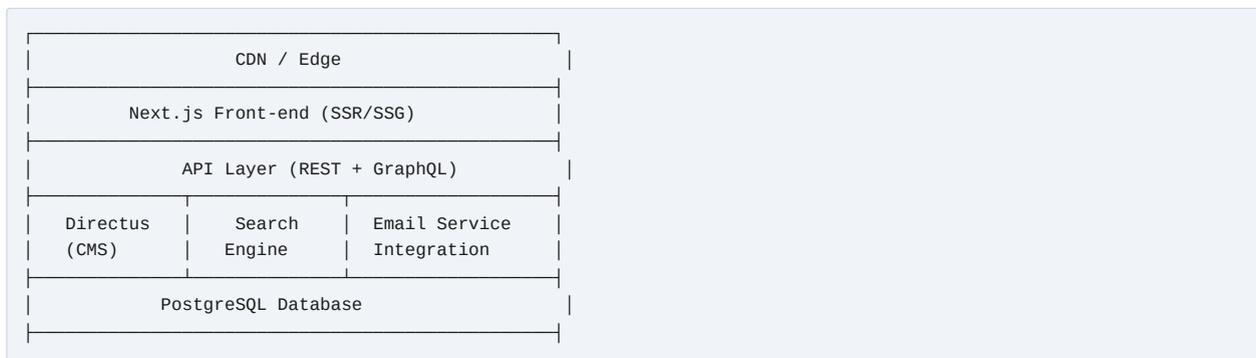
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Risk Management

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigation
GovZone deployment complexity	M	H	Early environment setup in Phase 1; containerised approach reduces environment-specific issues
Content migration gaps	M	M	Content audit in discovery; migration scripts tested against full dataset in SIT
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ESA team availability for co-dev	M	M	Agreed

participation schedule at project kick-off; asynchronous code review as fallback | | Brand refresh delays | L | H | Design phase can proceed with existing brand; refresh applied as overlay |

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[LEAD DEVELOPER / TECHNICAL LEAD]

| | | |---|---| | **Name** | [NAME] | | **Role** | Technical Lead | | **Qualifications** | [QUALIFICATIONS] | | **Skills & Experience** | Next.js, React, Node.js, Directus/headless CMS, PostgreSQL, Docker, CI/CD, GovZone deployments, WCAG 2.1, ISM compliance | | **Contribution** | Architecture design, lead developer, code reviews, technical mentoring of ESA team | | **Days** | [NUMBER] | | **% EFT** | [PERCENTAGE] |

[UX/UI DESIGNER]

| | | |---|---| | **Name** | [NAME] | | **Role** | UX/UI Designer | | **Qualifications** | [QUALIFICATIONS] | | **Skills & Experience** | Information architecture, wireframing, design systems, accessibility-first design, brand integration, user testing | | **Contribution** | Information architecture, wireframes, visual design, brand refresh integration, design system, accessibility review | | **Days** | [NUMBER] | | **% EFT** | [PERCENTAGE] |

[PROJECT MANAGER]

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[FRONT-END DEVELOPER]

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Referee 1

| | | |---|---| | | **Company** | [COMPANY NAME] | | **Contact** | [NAME, POSITION] | | **Phone** | [PHONE] | | **Email** | [EMAIL] | | **Project** | [PROJECT NAME AND DATE] | | **Nature of Work** | [DESCRIPTION] |

Referee 2

| | | |---|---| | | **Company** | [COMPANY NAME] | | **Contact** | [NAME, POSITION] | | **Phone** | [PHONE] | | **Email** | [EMAIL] | | **Project** | [PROJECT NAME AND DATE] | | **Nature of Work** | [DESCRIPTION] |

PART 10
Subcontractors

Name and ACN/ABN	Address	Expected work to be carried out
[If applicable — list any subcontractors, or state "Rocket Lab does not propose to use subcontractors for this engagement."]		

Risk Management Plan

Probability and impact codes: **H** = High | **M** = Medium | **L** = Low

Type of risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigation strategy
GovZone deployment complexity	M	H	Early environment setup in Phase 1; containerised approach reduces environment-specific issues
Content migration gaps	M	M	Content audit in discovery; migration scripts tested against full dataset in SIT
Scope creep during discovery	M	M	Clear requirements sign-off gate before design begins; change request process
ESA team availability for co-dev	M	M	Agreed participation schedule at project kick-off; asynchronous code review as fallback
Brand refresh delays	L	H	Design phase can proceed with existing brand; refresh applied as overlay

Pricing Information

Table 2: Total Price

Total price for the delivery of the services (excl. GST)	GST	Total price for the delivery of the services (incl. GST)
$[AMOUNT]	$[AMOUNT]	$[AMOUNT]

Total Price

| | Amount | |---|---| | Total price (excl. GST) | $[AMOUNT] | | GST | $[AMOUNT] | | Total price (incl. GST) | $[AMOUNT] |

Price Breakdown by Phase

| Phase | Description | Price (excl. GST) | |-------|------------|-------------------| | Discovery & Requirements | Workshops, content audit, IA review, requirements sign-off | $[AMOUNT] | | Design | Wireframes, brand refresh, design system, design sign-off | $[AMOUNT] | | Build | Front-end, CMS, integrations, content migration | $[AMOUNT] | | Testing & Training | UAT, accessibility audit, CMS training, security testing | $[AMOUNT] | | Launch | Deployment, DNS cutover, go-live support | $[AMOUNT] | | Hypercare & Handover | Post-launch support, technology team training, documentation | $[AMOUNT] | | **Total** | | **$[AMOUNT]** |

Assumptions

- ESA provides timely access to GovZone environments and CI/CD integration points
- ESA provides existing brand assets and guidelines for the brand refresh
- Content migration covers existing edu.au website content; new content creation is ESA's responsibility
- ESA team members are available for co-development activities as agreed in project kick-off
- Pricing is based on the indicative timeline in Schedule 2; material changes to timeline may affect pricing

Ongoing Maintenance (Optional)

| Service | Frequency | Price (excl. GST) | |---------|-----------|-------------------| | Security patching and dependency updates | Monthly | $[AMOUNT]/month | | CMS and infrastructure upgrades | Quarterly | $[AMOUNT]/quarter | | Priority bug fix support | As needed | $[AMOUNT]/hour |

Please provide details of the respondent's insurances. Certificates of Currency are to be included as attachments.

Insurance category	Insurer	ABN	Policy no.	Insured amount	Expiry date	Exclusions (if any)
Public and Products Liability	*[PLACEHOLDER]*	*[PLACEHOLDER]*	*[PLACEHOLDER]*	*[PLACEHOLDER]*	*[PLACEHOLDER]*	None noted
Professional Indemnity	*[PLACEHOLDER]*	*[PLACEHOLDER]*	*[PLACEHOLDER]*	*[PLACEHOLDER]*	*[PLACEHOLDER]*	None noted
Management Liability	*[PLACEHOLDER]*	*[PLACEHOLDER]*	*[PLACEHOLDER]*	*[PLACEHOLDER]*	*[PLACEHOLDER]*	None noted
WorkCover / Workers' Compensation	*[PLACEHOLDER]*	*[State authority ABN]*	*[PLACEHOLDER]*	Statutory	*[PLACEHOLDER]*	None noted

Certificates of Currency for all policies are available upon request and will be provided with the executed contract. All policies will be endorsed to note ESA as an interested party where required.

Security Compliance

Security compliance	Yes / No / Partially comply / Not applicable	Details (if required)
Information Security Manual (ISM) / IRAP assessment	**Partially comply**	Rocket Lab follows ISM controls in all GovZone deployments. We have not independently completed an IRAP assessment but will work with ESA's Technology team to prepare and maintain all required SSP Annexes and control documentation. Committed to achieving IRAP compliance milestones as agreed with ESA.
ISO27001 / certification	**Partially comply**	Rocket Lab applies ISO 27001-aligned security practices across all engagements. We do not hold current ISO 27001 certification. Prepared to work toward certification if required by ESA.
System and Organisation Controls (SOC2)	**Not applicable**	Rocket Lab does not currently hold SOC 2 certification. All systems are hosted within GovZone under ESA's cloud certification framework.

Privacy / Data Storage Compliance

Privacy / data storage	Yes / No / Partially comply / Not applicable	Details (if required)
Do you have an approved Privacy Policy that satisfies Australian Privacy Principles (APPs)?	**Yes**	Rocket Lab maintains an approved Privacy Policy consistent with the Australian Privacy Principles (APPs) under the Privacy Act 1988 (Cth).
Do you collect, use, or disclose any Personal Information, as defined in the Privacy Act 1988 (Cth)?	**Yes**	In the course of delivering digital platform services, Rocket Lab may handle Personal Information on behalf of clients. All handling is subject to our Privacy Policy, applicable data processing agreements, and client instructions.
Will data be stored on servers located outside Australia?	**No**	All data will be stored exclusively within GovZone-certified Australian infrastructure. No data will be transferred to or stored outside Australia at any time.

Rocket Lab is committed to supporting Indigenous participation in Australian Government procurement, consistent with the Commonwealth Procurement Rules and the *Indigenous Procurement Policy* (IPP). We recognise the importance of economic participation by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and businesses in the delivery of government-funded services.

Where suitable components of this engagement can be delivered by Indigenous-owned enterprises — including design, content production, accessibility consultation, or other relevant services — Rocket Lab is open to engaging qualified suppliers from the Supply Nation register or equivalent. We will actively explore these opportunities during the project initiation phase.

Rocket Lab will comply with any specific Indigenous procurement obligations or reporting requirements specified by ESA in connection with this engagement, and will include relevant participation outcomes in project reporting where requested.

The respondent is required to indicate below any clauses or sections of Annexure A with which it does not comply or only partially complies. If no items are tabled, ESA will consider that the respondent complies with all clauses and conditions.

Rocket Lab has reviewed the draft contract provided as Annexure A to this RFQ. We confirm compliance with all standard clauses and note the following positions on specific provisions:

> *No exceptions are noted at this time. Rocket Lab accepts the draft contract terms as presented. We are prepared to discuss minor wording adjustments on any clause where there is legitimate commercial or operational justification, but we raise no fundamental objections to the contract as drafted.*

Rocket Lab will confirm final compliance positions in writing upon request from ESA, and prior to execution of any agreed contract. We are committed to a prompt and cooperative contract finalisation process.

Clause no.	Description of clause	Details of departure from clause	Partially comply / Do not comply
No exceptions noted. Rocket Lab complies with all clauses and conditions of the draft contract.			

Rocket Lab is not aware of any actual, potential, or perceived conflict of interest in relation to this engagement or the RFQ process. Rocket Lab has no current engagement with any other respondent to this RFQ, and is not currently engaged by Education Services Australia in any capacity that would affect our objectivity, independence, or the integrity of this submission.

Rocket Lab commits to notifying ESA immediately and in writing should any conflict of interest arise at any point during the evaluation process or the engagement itself, and to taking all reasonable steps to manage or eliminate such conflict to ESA's satisfaction.

Related party / entity	Nature of conflict
No conflicts of interest to declare.	

Rocket Lab uses AI tools in our development workflow to increase quality and efficiency:

Tools Used:

- **Claude Code / GitHub Copilot** — AI-assisted code generation and review during development
- **AI-assisted testing** — Generation of test cases and edge case identification

How They Are Used:

- Code suggestions and boilerplate generation, always reviewed and approved by human developers
- Code review assistance to catch potential issues
- Documentation drafting and refinement
- Test case generation for improved coverage
- All AI-generated code goes through the same merge request review process as human-written code

Recommendations for ESA Adoption:

- AI coding assistants can significantly reduce maintenance effort for routine updates and bug fixes
- We recommend ESA adopt tools like GitHub Copilot or similar for their internal team, with clear guidelines on review requirements
- AI can assist with content management tasks (SEO optimisation, accessibility checking) at low cost

Security and Data Risks:

- No ESA source code, credentials, or sensitive data is shared with AI services
- AI tools are used in local development environments only
- All code is reviewed by human developers before merge
- AI-generated code is subject to the same security scanning as all other code
- We can provide a detailed AI usage policy for ESA's review

While this proposal addresses the edu.au website build specifically, we note that ESA is undertaking multiple platform rebuilds under the Digital Services portfolio. Our proposed technology stack (Next.js + Directus + PostgreSQL) and infrastructure patterns (containerised GovZone deployment, GitLab CI/CD) are deliberately chosen to be reusable across platforms.

Efficiencies that would apply if Rocket Lab were engaged across multiple projects:

- **Shared design system**: Component library and accessibility patterns reusable across platforms
- **Shared infrastructure patterns**: Terraform/Pulumi modules, CI/CD pipeline templates, GovZone deployment playbooks
- **Shared CMS patterns**: Directus configuration and extension patterns transferable between projects
- **Consolidated co-development**: ESA team upskilling on one project directly benefits subsequent projects
- **Reduced onboarding**: Established ways of working, tooling, and communication channels carry forward

Sustainability and ESG

Rocket Lab is committed to sustainable digital delivery practices. Our default ways of working are designed to minimise environmental impact across the project lifecycle. Our team operates on a remote-first model, substantially reducing emissions associated with commuting, office operations, and travel. Where in-person collaboration is required, we prefer videoconferencing and will coordinate travel efficiently.

Our technology choices are deliberately sustainability-conscious. We prefer open-source software to reduce vendor lock-in, unnecessary licensing overhead, and the e-waste associated with proprietary hardware dependencies. GovZone hosting is sovereign Australian infrastructure with a pathway to low-carbon-certified facilities where available. Containerised deployments with right-sized resource allocation reduce idle compute consumption across all environments.

We invest in documentation and knowledge transfer as a sustainability measure in its own right. Platforms that are well understood by internal teams are extended and maintained rather than replaced, reducing the resource cost and carbon footprint of repeat rebuild cycles. Our deliverables for this engagement are designed to maximise platform longevity well beyond the initial contract term.

PART 18
Respondent's Declaration

I,

[Insert full name of person signing the declaration]

of

[Insert address]

am currently a *[Insert position/title — e.g. Director]* of **Rocket Lab —** *[Insert legal entity name]* and I am authorised to make this declaration on its behalf.

Offer and statement of compliance

I confirm that:

1. The information provided in this RFQ response form (including attachments) is true, complete and correct and together this information constitutes an offer to ESA on the terms set out in those documents to provide the services, and this offer remains valid and open for acceptance for the offer period.

2. My organisation has completed all parts of, and answered all of the questions on, the RFQ response form submitted to ESA.

3. I have read and understood the RFQ documents. My organisation meets the requirements and agrees to the RFQ conditions for participation and the associated material contained in this RFQ unless otherwise stated in our response.

4. My organisation understands that ESA will have the right (but will not be obliged) to act in reliance upon the contents of the RFQ response form, including its attachments.

5. My organisation will regard all communication with ESA and the RFQ Evaluation Panel as confidential and will not disclose the contents without ESA's written consent.

6. To the best of my knowledge, having made all reasonable enquiries, there are no circumstances or relationships which constitute or may constitute a conflict or potential conflict of interest relating to this RFQ or our organisation's obligations under any contract resulting from this RFQ, other than any conflicts stated in Part 17 above.

7. My organisation undertakes to inform ESA in writing immediately upon becoming aware of any actual or potential conflicts of interest.

8. At the time of making this declaration there are no unsettled judicial decisions against my organisation (not including decisions under appeal) relating to unpaid employee entitlements.

Confirmation

I confirm that my organisation:

a. has compiled this quotation without the improper assistance of any ESA employee and without the use of information obtained unlawfully or in breach of an obligation of confidentiality;

b. is not currently named as non-compliant with the Workplace Gender Equality Act 2012 (Cth);

c. is not insolvent, bankrupt, in liquidation, or under administration or receivership;

d. has the capacity to enter into a contract for the delivery of the services;

e. consents to ESA or the RFQ Evaluation Panel undertaking checks in accordance with the RFQ; and

f. consents to the public disclosure of the name and details of any subcontracts and subcontractors engaged in providing the services.

Signature of declarant	
Signed at	*[Location]*
Date	*[DATE]*

Full name (printed)	*[PLACEHOLDER]*
Position / title	*[PLACEHOLDER]*
On behalf of	Rocket Lab — *[Legal entity name]*
Signature of witness	
Witness name (printed)	*[PLACEHOLDER]*
Witness address	*[PLACEHOLDER]*
Witness occupation	*[PLACEHOLDER]*