**Interactive comment on “CSIRO Environmental Modelling Suite (EMS): Scientific description of the optical and biogeochemical models (vB3p0)” by Mark E. Baird et al.**

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This comment addresses the compliance of the manuscript with GMD policy on code and data availability. The issues raised here must be satisfactorily addressed before a revised manuscript can be accepted for publication.

Thank you for publishing the full source of your model. The one technical issue is that GitHub, while an excellent development platform, is not a suitable persistent archive for citable code. Indeed, GitHub themselves tell you this and provide instructions as to how to obtain a citable archive of a particular release of a GitHub project using their [interface to the Zenodo archive](https://guides.github.com/activities/citable-code/). Please provide a proper persistent archive of the exact version of the code you are documenting (the GitHub Zenodo integration makes this very easy).

Please also ensure that any files required to run the verification experiments are also archived (it’s possible this data is already on the thredds server you currently cite, in which case simply making this explicit would suffice).

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1https://guides.github.com/activities/citable-code/