

We would like to thank the Gene Technology Regulator for the opportunity to provide comment on the proposed amendments to the Gene Technology Regulations 2001. We would also like to applaud the Regulator for the level of public and stakeholder engagement and consultation that has been undertaken during the technical review. The Queensland University of Technology University Biosafety Committee (QUT UBC) has reviewed the amendments and has no concerns with the changes proposed. The QUT UBC agree that the changes are in line with 'option 3' presented during the consultation phase in late 2016, which was our preferred choice. The proposed amendments will provide the best available framework, at this time, for the regulation of new technologies. The QUT UBC does not believe any further changes are required to the Gene Technology Amendment (2017 Measures No.1) Regulations 2017 as it is currently written.

Given the current reviews on the Gene Technology Regulations and the scheme itself, the attached report "Assessing the Security Implications of Genome Editing Technology: Report of an international workshop" published by the InterAcademy Partnership (IAP) may be of interest to the OGTR.