



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Health and Ageing**  
**Office of the Gene Technology Regulator**

26 April 2005

**DECISION ON ISSUING A LICENCE FOR APPLICATION DIR 050/2004**

The Gene Technology Regulator (the Regulator) has made a decision to issue a licence in respect of application DIR 050/2004 from the Queensland Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries. The application requested approval to undertake a limited and controlled release of genetically modified (GM) bovine herpesvirus vaccines in a certified animal containment facility in Queensland for a period of 5 years, commencing in July 2005.

The decision to issue the licence was made after extensive consultation on the Risk Assessment and Risk Management Plan (RARMP) with the public, State and Territory governments, Australian Government agencies, the Minister for the Environment and Heritage, the Gene Technology Technical Advisory Committee and the relevant local councils, as required by the *Gene Technology Act 2000*.

Issues relating to the health and safety of people and the protection of the environment raised during the consultation process on this application were considered in finalising the RARMP and in making a decision on whether to issue the licence.

The licence imposes specific conditions that will ensure effective implementation of the risk management plan. The conditions include containment measures, restrictions on the use of the GM bovine herpesvirus and the vaccinated cattle, and decontamination at the trial facilities.

The Executive Summary and the complete finalised RARMP, together with the licence conditions and a set of Questions and Answers on this decision can be obtained on-line from the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator's website, or copies can be requested via the Freecall number or by mail (see contact details below).

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