



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

11 February 2005

**DECISION ON ISSUING A LICENCE FOR APPLICATION DIR 051/2004**

The Gene Technology Regulator (the Regulator) has made a decision to issue a licence in respect of application DIR 051/2004 from the University of Queensland. The application requested approval to undertake a limited and controlled release of up to 120 genetically modified (GM) sugarcane lines on two sites covering a maximum area of 3.55 hectares in Queensland from early 2005-December 2010.

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 council, 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 has been issued with specific licence conditions that will ensure effective implementation of the risk management plan. The specific conditions include containment measures, restrictions on the use of the GM sugarcane, and post-harvest cleaning and monitoring of the trial sites.

The Executive Summary and the complete finalised RARMP, together with the licence conditions, can be obtained on-line from the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator's website or at the address below.

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