



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

29 August 2006

**DECISION ON ISSUING A LICENCE FOR APPLICATION DIR 063/2005**

The Gene Technology Regulator (the Regulator) has made a decision to issue a licence in respect of application DIR 063/2005 from Hexima Ltd. The applicant has received approval for the limited and controlled release of a GM cotton line with enhanced resistance to three major fungal diseases of cotton. The release may take place over a maximum total area of one hectare on up to three sites in the shires of Pittsworth (QLD), Narrabri or Moree Plains (NSW) during each of the three summer growing seasons between 2006 and 2009.

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 the decision to issue the licence.

The Executive Summary, Technical Summary, 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 requested via the contacts detailed below.

**Office of the Gene Technology Regulator MDP 54 PO Box 100 WODEN ACT 2606**  
**Telephone: 1800 181 030, Facsimile: 02 6271 4202 <http://www.ogtr.gov.au>**