



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

20 December 2006

DECISION ON ISSUING A LICENCE FOR APPLICATION DIR 068/2006

The Gene Technology Regulator (the Regulator) has made a decision to issue a licence in respect of application DIR 068/2006 from Florigene Pty Ltd. The company has received approval for the limited and controlled release of up to nine lines of genetically modified (GM) torenia (a widely grown ornamental plant) with altered flower colour. The trial will take place at a single site of up to 100 square metres in the City of Darebin, Victoria, from October 2007 to May 2008 under limited and controlled conditions.

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* and corresponding State and Territory Legislation.

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, and 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>