



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

3 December 2008

NOTIFICATION OF DECISION

ISSUE OF LICENCE DIR 086/2008 TO CSIRO FOR A LIMITED AND CONTROLLED RELEASE OF GM MAIZE (CORN)

The Acting Gene Technology Regulator has made a decision to issue a licence in respect of application DIR 086/2008 from the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO). The applicant has received approval for the limited and controlled release of up to eleven maize lines genetically modified to investigate gene function. The release is expected to take place at one site in the Australian Capital Territory on a maximum total area of 750 m². The same site would be re-planted with GM maize for up to five growing seasons from 2008-13. None of the GM plant materials is permitted to be used as human food, animal feed or in the production of any maize product.

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, Heritage and the Arts and the Gene Technology Technical Advisory Committee, as required by the *Gene Technology Act 2000* and corresponding State and Territory laws.

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 a set of Questions and Answers on this decision and a copy of the licence, can be obtained on-line from the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator's website or requested via the contacts detailed below.

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