



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

7 January 2009

NOTIFICATION OF DECISION

ISSUE OF LICENCE DIR 089 TO DPI VICTORIA FOR A LIMITED AND CONTROLLED RELEASE OF GM WHITE CLOVER

The Acting Gene Technology Regulator has made a decision to issue a licence in respect of application DIR 089 from the Victorian Department of Primary Industries (DPI Victoria). The applicant has received approval for the limited and controlled release of one white clover line genetically modified for resistance to Alfalfa mosaic virus. The release is expected to take place at one site in the local government area of Corowa, New South Wales on a maximum area of 633 m² per year between March 2009 and August 2011. None of the GM white clover plants will be permitted to be used as human food or animal feed.

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, the Gene Technology Technical Advisory Committee and relevant local council(s), 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.

**Office of the Gene Technology Regulator MDP 54 GPO Box 9848 CANBERRA ACT
2601 Telephone: 1800 181 030, Facsimile: 02 6271 4202 <http://www.ogtr.gov.au>**