



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

25 November 2009

## **NOTIFICATION OF DECISION**

### **ISSUE OF LICENCE DIR 091 TO DOW AGROSCIENCE LTD FOR THE COMMERCIAL RELEASE OF GM COTTON**

The Gene Technology Regulator has made a decision to issue a licence in respect of application DIR 091 from Dow AgroSciences Australia Ltd (Dow). The applicant has received approval for the commercial release of WideStrike™ Insect Protection Cotton, genetically modified for insect resistance. The licence permits growing of the GMO in all current cotton growing areas south of 22° South, and the use of cotton seed in animal feed Australia-wide, including northern Australia where measures to limit the potential spread and persistence of the GMOs have been imposed.

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 all relevant local councils, 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 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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