



PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN THE ASSESSMENT OF GENE TECHNOLOGY

The Office of the Gene Technology Regulator (OGTR) invites and encourages individuals from the public and community organisations to be involved in the assessment process for releases of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) into the environment.

Public comments provide a valuable opportunity for the OGTR to hear and respond to the concerns of the community.

- **Keep an eye out for advertisements**

When the OGTR receives an application to release a GMO into the environment, an 'early bird' notification is issued on the OGTR website and emailed or posted to those who are registered with the OGTR.

When the draft Risk Assessment and Risk Management Plan has been prepared, the Australian community is invited to comment via advertisements in:

- The Commonwealth Government Notices Gazette;
- The Australian newspaper;
- Any relevant regional press; and
- OGTR website www.ogtr.gov.au.

- **30 day public comment period**

A detailed Risk Assessment and Risk Management Plan is prepared for every application for the release of a GMO into the environment. A minimum of 30 days is set aside to give members of the public, a wide range of experts and other stakeholders the opportunity to comment on the Risk Assessment and Risk Management Plan.

The Regulator is committed to making applications and risk assessment/risk management plans available to anyone who wants to see them, you can access them, along with summary information prepared by the OGTR, by:

- Accessing the OGTR website www.ogtr.gov.au;
- Contacting the OGTR on 1800 181 030; or
- Reading the full application in our reading room.

- **Get on our mailing list**

You can get on the OGTR mailing list by contacting the OGTR at the address below. Alternately you can access the OGTR client register form via the OGTR website (www.ogtr.gov.au/contact/register.htm).

- **For further information contact us:**

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MDP 54, PO Box 100
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Freecall: 1800 181 030
Fax: 02 6271 4202
Email: ogtr@health.gov.au
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