



Summary of Licence Application DIR 226

Pioneer Hi-Bred Australia Pty Ltd (Pioneer) has made an application under the *Gene Technology Act 2000* (the Act) for Dealings involving the Intentional Release (DIR) of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) into the Australian environment.

Project Title	Commercial release of canola genetically modified for herbicide tolerance (DP73496xRF3) ¹
Parent organism	Canola (<i>Brassica napus</i> L.)
Genetic modifications	
Introduced genes	Introduced genes conferring herbicide tolerance: • <i>gat4621</i> gene from <i>Bacillus licheniformis</i> for glyphosate tolerance • <i>bar</i> gene from <i>Streptomyces hygroscopicus</i> for glufosinate tolerance Introduced gene conferring fertility: • <i>barstar</i> gene from <i>Bacillus amyloliquefaciens</i> for fertility restoration
Genetic modification method	Conventional breeding of genetically modified (GM) canola lines generated by <i>Agrobacterium</i> -mediated transformation
Principal purpose	Commercial release of GM canola
Previous releases	The parental GM canola lines have been approved for commercial release in Australia under licences DIR 021/2002 (RF3) and DIR 139 (DP73496).
Proposed location	Australia-wide
Proposed period of release	Ongoing from issue of licence

Next steps

The Gene Technology legislation sets out what the Regulator must do, as well as what the Regulator can or must consider, before deciding whether or not to issue a licence for this application.

After seeking advice from prescribed experts, agencies and authorities, the Regulator's staff will prepare a consultation version of the Risk Assessment and Risk Management Plan (RARMP) considering aspects of the application in accordance with the legislation.

The Regulator will seek comment on the consultation RARMP from the public, as well as a wide range of experts, agencies and authorities. The public and experts will be invited to provide submissions on the risks to human health and safety, and on risks to the environment from the proposed release.

At this stage, the consultation RARMP is expected to be released for comment in **December 2026**.

After consultation, the Regulator's staff will finalise the RARMP, taking into account advice on relevant matters. The finalised RARMP will form the basis of the Regulator's decision whether or not to issue a licence. The consultation and final versions of the RARMP and associated documents will be available on the [OGTR website](#) when they are released.

¹ The title of the application submitted by Pioneer is "Commercial release of DP73496xRF3 canola genetically modified for herbicide tolerance, glyphosate tolerance, and glufosinate tolerance".

Other regulatory approvals

If a licence is issued, the GM canola would enter general commerce, including use in human food and animal feed. Food Standards Australia New Zealand has assessed and approved food made from both parent GM canola. These approvals include food made from any offspring produced through conventional breeding, and therefore no further food approvals are required for DP73496xRF3 canola.

The applicant may also need approval from the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) as well as the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) if importing any GM seed into Australia.

More information is available from the [OGTR website](#) on:

- this application (search for **DIR-226**)
- how to [subscribe](#) to our client list
- [genetic modification methods for plants](#) and [marker genes in GM plants](#)
- [Australia's national scheme for regulation of gene technology](#) and
- the [approval process](#).