



Australian Government

Department of Health, Disability and Ageing
Office of the Gene Technology Regulator

Questions and Answers

Cost Recovery Implementation Statement

Why cost recovery is being introduced?

The National Gene Technology Scheme has been government funded for nearly 25 years. While cost recovery was intended from the outset, it was deferred to support the emerging biotechnology sector and encourage innovation. With advancements in the gene technology sector, the volume and complexity of regulatory activities undertaken by the OGTR has increased. This growth has driven greater demand for regulatory assessment, compliance, stakeholder engagement and policy support functions across an increasingly diverse and commercially mature sector. In recognition of these changing demands, the Australian Government provided funding through the 2026–27 Budget to implement a sustainable funding model for the Scheme, including the phased introduction of cost recovery arrangements.

What is a Cost Recovery Implementation Statement?

The Cost Recovery Implementation Statement (CRIS) is a public document that ensures transparency and accountability for the level of charges and demonstrates that the purpose for charging, as decided by government, is being achieved.

When will cost recovery commence?

Phase 1 of cost recovery arrangements are planned to commence on 1 March 2027.

What activities will be cost recovered?

The *Gene Technology Act 2000* and the *Gene Technology (Licence Charges) Act 2000* allow the OGTR to charge application fees for certifications and licences and annual charges for holders of licences.

What is the methodology used to calculate the cost?

The proposed costs have been developed using an Activity-Based Costing (ABC) methodology that links fees and charges to regulatory activities based on the level of effort and resources required to undertake them. This approach provides a transparent and evidence-based method for identifying the efficient costs of regulatory charging activities while minimising cross-subsidisation between activity types. Only costs attributable to chargeable regulatory activities are recovered through fees and charges. Further information on methodology is found within the CRIS.

How can I comment on the draft CRIS?

The draft CRIS and supporting documents are available on the [OGTR website](#), the [consultation hub](#) or via the contact information listed below. You are invited to submit your written comments (via the consultation hub or by email) on the draft CRIS. Comments must be received by the close of the consultation period on 13 November 2026.

What are the next steps in the process?

Following the consultation period, the CRIS will be finalised, taking into account submissions received. A de-identified summary of feedback received and consideration of those comments will be included in the final CRIS. The OGTR will then be seeking Ministerial approval of proposed cost recovery arrangements.

The Office of the Gene Technology Regulator