



**Australian Government**

**Department of Health**

Office of the Gene Technology Regulator

13 June 2007

## **DECISION ON ISSUING A LICENCE FOR APPLICATION DIR 071/2006**

The Gene Technology Regulator has made a decision to issue a licence in respect of application DIR 071/2006 from the Victorian Department of Primary Industries. The applicant has received approval for the limited and controlled release of GM wheat lines containing introduced genes for drought tolerance.

The trial is authorised to take place at two sites in the local government areas of Horsham and Mildura, Victoria, on a maximum total area of 0.315 hectares over one growing season (May 2007 – March 2008).

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 and Water Resources, the Gene Technology Technical Advisory Committee and the 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 on this application were considered in finalising the RARMP and in making the decision to issue the licence.

The Executive Summary, Technical Summary, the complete finalised RARMP, together with the licence conditions and a set of Questions and Answers on this decision 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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