

**Email Submission: Christine Bennett**

Please accept my contribution to the discussion and my strong opposition to deregulation of these techniques.

It may well be said that the new genetic engineering techniques pose significant threats to humanity and to our environment; that they may result in a new form of warfare... that deregulation of GE forces society into front-lines in the next wave of terrorism, and that this dire fate was launched upon us all by our own Government.

This plan to deregulate the industry brings huge safety risks. One would be naive to believe that these techniques cannot affect humanity adversely. Amateur biohackers, industry and terror groups would be free to use these techniques to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. Unknown diseases and foreign toxins may be developed. Our food chain and our environment would be utterly vulnerable with no safety testing and no labelling. These risks would be catastrophic!

Like many in the community, I am entirely opposed to the whole GM industry! I believe that the Government should stop favouring Gene Tech CEOs, stop rubber-stamping or funding this research and technology, stop supporting agro-chemical corporations such as Dow, Syngenta, Bayer and Monsanto and either provide stronger regulations or disband FSANZ, preferably, the latter.