

Submitter	Submission
Stephen Howard	All genetic engineering, should always be closely monitored and regulated. This is an absolute requirement to protect misuse, and under no circumstances should there be ANY interactions between the regulators, and associated authorities, and commerce.
Claire Mcfee, Victoria	Due diligence should require any new technologies to be independently assessed for the safety. End of story, Thanks for listening.
Jennifer Castledine, Victoria	We the people need to have our health and safety protected by the government. If GM techniques are deregulated there will be consequences for our health, and that of future generations. These corporations do not have our interests at heart they are only interested in profit. If government does not act to protect the interests of the people, then why are we bothering to pay taxes. Protect our interests and ensure these corporations are held accountable and regulated.
Geoff Heard	Gene manipulation is evidently hazardous to me and the environment and must be subject to the strictest possible regulation. Think of your responsibility to the biosphere which will support us and all future generations
Dawn Pearce, Queensland	Don't allow deregulation of new genetic modification techniques by OGTR in Australia. We need to protect our produce from unproven GM techniques which have raised concerns overseas.
Rebecca Millar	<p>Please do not let unregulated gene technology loose on Australia. The past is littered with examples of human failure to anticipate the consequences of newly introduced technologies – even those that seem initially to offer nothing but benefits, such as anti-biotics, the uncontrolled use of which we which we now know has led to anti-biotic resistance, and which is increasingly being implicated in alterations to the human gut biome and the increase in allergies.</p> <p>The industrial revolution would once have been seen as having no possible downsides, yet we now know the myriad of adverse side effects from environmental pollution of all kinds.</p> <p>Gene technologies are no different and we would be naiive to presume that they could be. Careful control, monitoring, and regulation is essential to prevent repeating the errors of the past. We simply do not know the consequences and no amount of profit or convenience should blind us to the uncertainties.</p> <p>I urge you not to deregulate these new technologies.</p>
Denise Fernie	GM technology is still in its infancy. It is arrogant and juvenile to think we are in control of the outcomes when it is released to the outside world. Without strict monitoring, testing and control it potentially poses, I believe, the greatest threat to mankind. These techniques need to be properly and strictly regulated.

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George Dion	<p>We are really concerned about the deregulation of GMs.</p> <p>If the OGTR deregulates these new GM techniques there will be no monitoring or surveillance. Anyone from amateur biohackers – to industry – to terror groups would be free to use them to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made. And they could enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The risks could be catastrophic.</p>
Blandine Boulekone	<p>We eat imported food from Australia and we don't want a deregulation on GM.</p>
Amanda Evans	<p>If these new GM techniques are deregulated then there will be no monitoring or surveillance. Anyone from amateur biohackers – to industry – to terror groups would be free to use them to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made. And they could enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The risks could be catastrophic.</p> <p>Don't allow this to happen, make monitoring &amp; surveillance a necessity for the well being of the everyones future.</p>
Alexandra Harry, Western Australia	<p>If the OGTR deregulates these new GM techniques there will be no monitoring or surveillance. Anyone from amateur biohackers – to industry – to terror groups would be free to use them to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made. And they could enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The risks could be catastrophic.</p> <p>Stop now and protect our unique world and it's occupants!</p>
Damien Mandin, Western Australia	<p>Dear friends of Earth Please be considerate by respecting what earth has to offer. Human kind do not need to appropriate what have been here well balanced and maintained for millennium. It has been created to sustain live at its best. We do not own the right to modify its DNA for sustaining our unreasonable way of living. Please be smart, not ego centric. Try to think holistically with your heart, if you have got one and not with your unscientifically proven mind.</p>
Susan Ablitt, Victoria	<p>I strongly request that the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator (OGTR) does not deregulate any new or existing GM techniques. The office must continue to take an active role in maintaining biosecurity, including monitoring, reporting and regulation of all genetic technology.</p> <p>I am disturbed at the prospect that anyone could conduct genetic modification, including amateurs, and that these products could be released into our environment and food chains without monitoring or the knowledge of the Australian community.</p> <p>It is essential also that clear and transparent labelling of all GM and GM derived products is mandatory, so that at the very least consumers can chose whether to use or purchase these products.</p> <p>Reviews commissioned by the Austrian and Norwegian governments concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by new GM techniques. They recommended that products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments.</p>

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Mick Gentry	If the OGTR deregulates these new GM techniques there will be no monitoring or surveillance. Anyone from amateur biohackers – to industry – to terror groups would be free to use them to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made. And they could enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The risks could be catastrophic.
Emmanuel Varipatis, New South Wales	I add my voice to those who also wish that gm technology remain strictly regulated and one step removed from the industry profiting from it.
Maria Hoffmann, New South Wales	human population is NOT to be treated as item for experimentations. STOP playing with a trusting population suffering your criminal games unconsciously. Use your scientific discoveries only when it is strictly necessary in specific, particular cases and under total disclosure of the reasons for it to the people involved.
Donald Bretherton, New South Wales	There is no justification for GM technology other than profit for the multinationals. Trials have shown the claims of the biotech companies either totally false or at least grossly exaggerated. The long term results of releasing these manufactured organisms into the environment have not been determined. The only case they can present is that it walks like a duck, quacks like a duck and looks like a duck therefore it must be a duck. Stupid naive reasoning. I am totally opposed with every fibre of my being to this dumb exploitation of our planet and the populace.
Graham Connell	I am dismayed to hear you are working in conjunction with the promoters of GMO'S to achieve their ends -wide spread release of the technology into the wider environment, this is, I am sure, not the objective of your office nor is it ethical to do so. You as the regulator have a responsibility too the public to do the right thing by all of us-i for one dont want it and i am not alone This industry doesn't have THE WIDER COMMUNITIES concerns at the forefront of its charter and i wish to protest strongly that this technology be very well regulated and all checks and balances be adhered to properly. Once it out there in the environment there is no going back and it will have an adverse economical effect for -Australian producers -environment -internal consumer trade and -overseas trade as its not an technology needs or wants
Raymond F, Queensland	GM have never been proven safe and I consider that it is being dump onto Australia like most of the poisons that have been allowed into this country
Emily Wallis, Western Australia	I am very concerned about the CRISPR technology. I understand the Office of Gene Technology Regulator does not test new GM foods for safety but relies upon the studies of the proponent. This is not satisfactory and unconscionable not to mention very unscientific.

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Linda Dal Castello, Victoria	<p>If the OGTR deregulates these new GM techniques there will be no monitoring or surveillance. Anyone from amateur biohackers – to industry – to terror groups would be free to use them to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made. And they could enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The risks could be catastrophic.</p> <p>Reviews commissioned by the Austrian and Norwegian governments concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques. They recommended that products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments.</p> <p>Should:  All new GM techniques be regulated to protect human health and the environment?  Products derived from all new GM techniques be labelled?  The offspring of GMOs that have theoretically not inherited the GM trait be assessed for safety? Should their products be labelled?  Amateur biohackers be allowed to use GM techniques on living organisms in unregistered laboratories with no regulation?</p>
Trevor Hywood	Please respect that GM is not a safe method of food production, this has been proven by independent experts. We do not want any further lack of transparency that excludes us the consumers
Bernardo Alayza Mujica	Documents revealed under Freedom of Information laws show that the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator (OGTR) has been colluding with industry for years to deregulate a range of new genetic modification (GM) techniques If the OGTR deregulates these new GM techniques there will be no monitoring or surveillance. Anyone from amateur biohackers – to industry – to terror groups would be free to use them to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made. And they could enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The risks could be catastrophic. Reviews concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques.
Sandy Morse, New South Wales	<p>All new GM techniques must be regulated to protect human health and the environment, and all products derived, or part thereof, from GM food should be labelled. We, the purchasers have a right to know what we are putting into our bodies and those of our children and grandchildren.</p> <p>Lastly and most importantly, pollination insects and the wind are not able to recognise boundary fences or the difference between GM and non GM crops.</p>
Paresh Bhambhani, New South Wales	This would be detrimental for the country and for our sweet future generation. If the Government doesn't take the ownership of the issue, who will? Please make sure actions are taken.

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Lisa Anderson, Victoria	<p>If the OGTR deregulates these new GM techniques there will be no monitoring or surveillance. Anyone from amateur biohackers – to industry – to terror groups would be free to use them to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made. And they could enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labelling.</p> <p>Reviews commissioned by the Austrian and Norwegian governments concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques. They recommended that products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments.</p>
A R Polack	<p>All new GM techniques should be regulated to protect human health and the environment. Products derived from all new GM techniques should be labelled. The offspring of GMOs that have theoretically not inherited the GM trait should be assessed for safety and their products be labelled. Amateur biohackers should not be allowed to use GM techniques on living organisms in unregistered laboratories with no regulation.</p>
Melinda Menzies	<p>I am horrified that we even have GMO foods for whatever reason! I do not wish to eat unnatural foods and I believe I have the right to do so ! Label all GMO foods!!!</p>
Marianne Bekkema, Tasmania	<p>Absolutely NO GMO's in my lifetime!NO [REDACTED] in all forms or shapes who want to control whatever they consider could make a lot of money.</p>
Margaret Byron, Victoria	<p>The Austrian and Norwegian governments in their reviews of such deregulation concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques. They recommended that products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments.</p> <p>Such caution makes good sense and I think Australia should not endorse any deregulation of Gm techniques. There is a strong case for diligent monitoring and surveillance of the impact of GM techniques.</p>
Greg Warwick, New South Wales	<p>If the OGTR deregulates these new GM techniques there will be no monitoring or surveillance. Anyone from amateur biohackers – to industry – to terror groups would be free to use them to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made. And they could enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The risks could be catastrophic.</p> <p>Reviews commissioned by the Austrian and Norwegian governments concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques. They recommended that products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments.</p>
Flo Lisner	<p>I write to strongly uphold the need for stringent regulation monitoring and surveillance in relation to all GM techniques and technologies.</p> <p>Not enough is known about the potential risks posed by these practices.</p>
Mel Burns	<p>Seeing what has been happening to our climate &amp; environment, this issue of change in the deregulation of GM techniques is quite concerning and worrying us consumers, future of agriculture in this country Any lack of action in this regard will have a slow but dire consequences in the future of this unique land We need to preserve what Australia represents and we should be embracing and protecting it at all costs</p>

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Lionel Fisher	Stop mucking around with our food by stopping GM modification. It will be too late when your grand children have grown an extra head because of what you allowed to happen.
Tony Ahearne, Victoria	Please do your job and protect us against stealthy GM introduction into our food supply
Troy Ellis	STOP THIS NOW!
Audrey Cooke, Victoria	<p>My family and I are most disturbed about this development. It is unacceptable that new GM techniques will be deregulated – resulting in no monitoring and surveillance of these new techniques?</p> <p>What benefits come out of this proposal; other than to rush production of new GM products?</p> <p>Please consider our concerns and stop experimenting with us.</p>
Anna Zilli, Queensland	<p>If the OGTR deregulates the new GM techniques there will be no monitoring or surveillance. Anyone from amateur biohackers – to industry – to terror groups would be free to use them to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made. And they could enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The risks could be catastrophic.</p> <p>Please for the sake of my children and future generations do not deregulate!!!!!!</p>
Bronwyn Zemanek	I STRONGLY disagree to any changes to allow genetic modification techniques to be used without very stringent regulations. I am opposed to the introduction of genetically modified (gm) products into our environment without full and wide public disclosure. I do not want MY children exposed to gm products and will fight to keep my kids gm free.
Maureen Kelly, Victoria	<p>I am not a scientist but I do agree with the idea that the possible risks posed by some new GM techniques could be valid.</p> <p>On behalf of my generation and those to follow us I plead with your office not to regulate them until the recommended case by case risk assessments are undertaken.</p>
Barry Nethercote, Queensland	<p>Documents revealed under Freedom of Information laws show that the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator (OGTR) has been colluding with industry for years to deregulate a range of new genetic modification (GM) techniques.</p> <p>If the OGTR deregulates these new GM techniques there will be no monitoring or surveillance. Anyone from amateur biohackers – to industry – to terror groups would be free to use them to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made. And they could enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The risks could be catastrophic.</p> <p>Reviews commissioned by the Austrian and Norwegian governments concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques. They recommended that products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments.</p> <p><i>[continued on next page]</i></p>

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Barry Nethercote <i>[continued]</i>	<i>[continued from previous page]</i> I submit that All new GM techniques should be regulated to protect human health and the environment; Products derived from all new GM techniques should be labelled; The offspring of GMOs that have theoretically not inherited the GM trait should be assessed for safety? Their products should be labelled; Amateur biohackers should not be allowed to use GM techniques on living organisms in unregistered laboratories with no regulation.
Anthony Orpen, Victoria	Enough is enough
Emmanuel Letellier, Queensland	All new GM techniques should be regulated to protect human health and the environment. Products derived from all new GM techniques be labelled. The offspring of GMOs that have theoretically not inherited the GM trait should be assessed for safety. Amateur biohackers shouldn't be allowed to use GM techniques on living organisms in unregistered laboratories with no regulation.
Jonathan Peter, Queensland	We strongly urge you to increase the surveillance and regulation of GMO techniques and processes in order to adhere to the Precautionary Principal, and protect us from potential future health impacts from these products. By not implementing this increase and cooperating with commercial interest to keep their processes 'secret', you are failing in your duty of care, and possibly putting us all at risk. The 'offspring' of GMO processes should be considered as still a source of potential risk and continued to be monitored and assessed by independent analysis.
Lee McLennan, Queensland	Many children, animals and crops are very sick on the planet right now, huge increases in autism and weakened immune systems. It has been provided that GMO crops, foods and chemicals, e.g. Roundup can cause many issues. Glyphosate has been linked to numerous health problems in animal studies, among them birth defects, reproductive damage, cancer and endocrine disruption. Perhaps the number one health concern over GM technology is its capacity to create new allergens in our food supply. Allergic reactions typically are brought on by proteins. Nearly every transfer of genetic material from one host into a new one results in the creation of novel proteins. Genetic engineering can increase the levels of a naturally occurring allergen already present in a food or insert allergenic properties into a food that did not previously contain them. It can also result in brand new allergens we've never before known. Genetic engineers rely heavily on antibiotics to guide experiments. It works like this: Not all host cells will take up foreign genes, so engineers attach a trait for a particular type of antibiotic resistance to the gene they introduce into host cells. After they've introduced the gene into the cells, they douse all the cells with the antibiotic to see which ones survive. The surviving cells are antibiotic-resistant, and therefore engineers know they have taken up the foreign gene. Overuse of antibiotics can potentially cause the development of antibiotic-resistant pathogens. <i>[continued on next page]</i>

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Lee McLennan [continued]	<p>[continued from previous page]</p> <p>Milk from cows injected with a genetically engineered growth hormone was found by a number of researchers, including those published in the journal Lancet, to have substantially higher levels of a compound known as insulin-like growth factor-1, which is linked to human breast, colon and prostate cancers. The milk also has higher levels of bovine growth hormones in it, along with pus and sometimes antibiotics. GM crops have been linked to health problems as diverse as reproductive damage, cancer, Alzheimer's disease and diabetes.</p> <p>Please reconsider deregulating techniques which could lead to even wider planetary disaster.</p>
Lee Miller	<p>Enough of the Investor Investor State dictating what we can eat and grow. GMOs are not proven to be safe. Once unleashed, there will be no ability to turn back the damage.</p>
Sue Williamson, New South Wales	<p>I feel very strongly that all GM techniques must be monitored and regulated to protect people and the environment. I already grow much of my own food to protect myself and family. This legislation would mean I could no longer even protect myself.</p> <p>My friend has had cancer, her daughter has a serious illness and it is critical that they have chemical-free food and GM-free food. How can she ensure this when GM techniques could result in even our organic food being infiltrated.</p> <p>It is essential for the protection of our nation and our world, that any GM products be scientifically demonstrated with peer reviews, to not cause harm.</p>
Tim Wright, South Australia	<p>Please do not deregulate GM techniques, if the OGTR deregulates these new GM techniques there will be no monitoring or surveillance.</p>
Ewen Kloas, Victoria	<p>All new GM techniques be regulated to protect human health and the environment?</p> <p>Products derived from all new GM techniques be labelled?</p> <p>The offspring of GMOs that have theoretically not inherited the GM trait be assessed for safety? Should their products be labelled?</p> <p>Amateur biohackers be allowed to use GM techniques on living organisms in unregistered laboratories with no regulation?</p>
Martin Siegrist	<p>If the OGTR deregulates these new GM techniques there will be no monitoring or surveillance. Anyone from amateur biohackers – to industry – to terror groups would be free to use them to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made. And they could enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The risks could be catastrophic. don't let them free</p>
Rosi Pilgrim, New South Wales	<p>Am I writing to ask that you please ensure the GM industry is properly regulated. New technology and requires ongoing assessment and monitoring. Deregulation is not for the GM industry – please please make sure there is appropriate supervision of new GM techniques. The more information you have as a regulator can only lead to better outcomes for all concerned.</p>

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Simon Venning, New South Wales	<p>Our family has elected to invest in organic food week in week out since my now teenage children were born. It is imperative that we are alloud to make informed choices on the food we buy.</p> <p>If you don't provide clear production regulation and labeling transparency you are taking away our right to choose. You are either taking responsibility for the for the Entirely new diseases and poisons that could be made as a result of this experimentation.</p> <p>They would enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The risks could be catastrophic.</p> <p>Reviews commissioned by the Austrian and Norwegian governments concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques. They recommended that products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments.</p> <p>Please consider the people first. Big business that urges you to look to their profits before you look after your constituents are clearly not looking at the big picture.</p>
John Wood, Western Australia	<p>The introduction of any genetic manipulative strategies to our community is not something to be taken lightly and each needs to thoroughly examined and reviewed.</p> <p>The past natural selection procedures and crossbreeding practices were subject to slow lifespan changes and not rapid insertion as is the case with this type of technology and so it is very difficult to see the long term implications of such strategies.</p> <p>Reviews commissioned by the Austrian and Norwegian governments concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques. They recommended that products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments.</p>
Shelley Ingle, Victoria	<p>All new GM techniques be regulated to protect human health and the environment</p> <p>If the OGTR deregulates these new GM techniques there will be no monitoring or surveillance. Anyone from amateur biohackers – to industry – to terror groups would be free to use them to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made. And they could enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The risks could be catastrophic.</p> <p>Reviews commissioned by the Austrian and Norwegian governments concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques. They recommended that products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments.</p> <p>I would like to see Products derived from all new GM techniques be labelled The offspring of GMOs that have theoretically not inherited the GM trait need to be assessed for safety GM products be labelled Amateur biohackers should not be allowed to use GM techniques on living organisms in unregistered laboratories with no regulation</p>
Burwell Dodd	<p>Please do not proceed with proposed deregulation of new genetic modification techniques. The US government has listed them as “weapons of mass destruction and proliferation”. With no monitoring or surveillance they can be used to destroy food and other plants necessary for human survival and to create diseases and poisons. To allow them would be, to say the least, extremely ill advised.</p>

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Lorna Harris	All new GM technique show be regulated to protect human health and the environment, all GM products show be labelled GM so we have a choice.
Trevor Steele, South Australia	The production and use of GM materials should be determined by the representatives of the people, not by the corporations producing them.
George Chandler	<p>In Tasmania our farmers are fighting against, and here are only a few, these introduced organisms. Briar roses, gorse, blackberries, hawthorn, blackbirds, white cockatoos, rabbits, hares, starlings, sirex wasp, etc. Each one of these organisms are costing the farmers a fortune and lowering our balance of payments and GDP. We are making a lot of money by advertising that we are GM free. Global warming and change in rainfall is costing them money for destroyed fencing and river bank repair.</p> <p>Please do not risk lowering their income further.</p> <p>Please do not risk damaging Australia further by colluding with GM firms. Our farmers, bee keepers etc have too much to lose. Just like the decisions of past generations to introduce new and different organisms we will pay the price. In your role with GM crops you are tasked with preventing this</p>
Bronwyn Davies, New South Wales	Australia is slipping behind the rest of the world on so many fronts, endangering not just itself but sometimes the rest of the world. Insufficient care in the regulation of GM products is yet another area in which we look like becoming the worst of the worst. Please ensure that the dangers this technology can release are prevented
Helga Kuhnert	<p>All new GM techniques shall be regulated to protect human health, the society at large and the environment!</p> <p>Products derived from all new GM techniques shall be labelled!</p> <p>The offspring of GMOs that have theoretically not inherited the GM trait shall be assessed for safety! Their products shall be labelled!</p> <p>Amateur biohackers shall not be allowed to use GM techniques on living organisms in unregistered laboratories!</p>
Jen Boon	<p>GM “technology” is fraud on the people. and has never been independently tested for safety. We have more sick people than ever, some 200,000 children suffering needlessly with cancers, more children and adults suffering with extreme allergies and NO one wants to know WHY? But think it is oK for doctors to just prescribe more drugs, and Epi pens? Stop messing with nature. and cancel ALL GM ingredients in all foods and manufactured products. Return to what nature provides excellently, no nation needs GM technology. And the Government of the people MUST stop all talks with the GM lobby, i.e. [REDACTED] world leaders in an artificial unproven product. And it is essential that Government must stop these companies from destroying and high jacking monopoly status of our food supplies. I suggest you search the net for GM seed vegetable crops that have collapsed, and left destitute farmers in their wake along with contaminated soils on farms through the us</p> <p><i>[continued on next page]</i></p>

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<p>Jen Boon [continued]</p>	<p>[continued from previous page]</p> <p>e of highly toxic chemicals used for weed and insect control. Check the net for independent news on class actions against ██████████ for poisoning the farmers, workers, their families. animals, water and environment with their Roundup, i.e. Glyphosate must have herbicide poison when using GM seeds?</p> <p>This is another Government department that just cannot function independently, and should be disbanded immediately, and staff either placed elsewhere OR jobs cancelled without compensation, as it appears that it is solely in the pocket of the GM industry that wants to control the world's food supply. NO Government has a mandate to control our food and destroy the goodness in fresh fruit and vegetables OR poison the manufactured foods even more with herbicides. Check the Doctors, and Scientists that have been studying the detrimental effects of herbicide killer Glyphosate Dr Don Huber, for instance who has decades of studies on this herbicide alone? Stop taking orders from Multinational chemical companies that after all simply want to sell their product and make squillions of dollars, and force their way into Australia's GM Free states and in the near future, via the forced by stealth and misrepresentation and or inadequate information, as to the very negative health and side effects of GM products which are made even worse by Australia's Not At ALL FREE TRADE AGREEMENT which are being negotiated by politicians and bureaucrats that are grossly unqualified for such negotiations and there for are grossly failing their duty of care to protect the well being of the Australian people.</p> <p>How about changing the industrialised farming to all organic.. ... and in the process increase the level of employment of? Australians in producing healthy food that a significant amount of people are demanding. No chemicals are needed for growing food. We have millions of people in Australia's close neighbourhood that want clean unpolluted and GM free food..... Why are the people in Australia's Government and Bureaucracies so silly and sooo very blind or taking bribes? Just like it is reported a candidates in the present election for US President is being financed by the GM Industry. Quite honestly all those in favour of GM and FTAs should be sacked, as you are all not acting on behalf of the people you have sworn to represent. ICAC is demanded to clean out many Government departments on State and Federal levels.</p>
<p>Rüdiger Stegemann</p>	<p>I request you and demand:</p> <p>All new GM techniques shall be regulated to protect human health, food and agriculture, and the environment;</p> <p>Products derived from all new GM techniques shall be clearly labelled;</p> <p>The offspring of GMOs that have theoretically not inherited the GM trait shall be assessed for safety! Their products shall be labelled;</p> <p>Amateur biohackers must not be allowed to use GM techniques on living organisms in unregistered laboratories with no regulation!</p>

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Wanda Grabowski, Queensland	<p>██████████ and I are worried about documents revealed under the Freedom of Information Laws that show the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator (OGTR) has been colluding with the industry for years to deregulate a range of new genetic modification (GM) techniques. If the OGTR deregulates these new GM techniques there will be no monitoring or surveillance. These means that anyone including amateur biohackers, industry or terror groups would be free to use them to genetically modify plants, animals, microbes and bacteria. This could open the door to a range of new diseases, poisons etc. These substances could enter the food chain and affect the environment with no safety testing or labelling which would be catastrophic.</p> <p>We have read reviews commissioned by the Austrian and Norwegian governments which concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques. It makes sense to use the 'precautionary principle' and therefore we recommend that products derived from them be required to undertake comprehensive case by case risk assessments and analysis.</p>
B Barry	<p>Everybody has the right to know where their food comes from, if it is totally natural and does it contains anything other than the original product mother nature made.</p> <p>Products containg GMOs should be labelled as to allow consumer choice.</p> <p>No organization, corporation, or governments should treat the people with such contempt as to not enforce labelling GMO products.</p>
Don and Liz Hutchison	<p>We are concerned that the OGTR has been has actually been planning to deregulate a range of new GM techniques which could have catastrophic effects on our food supply. Reviews conducted by overseas governments concluded these new GM techniques are too risky and that more assessment and regulation is needed to avoid the risks posed when no testing and labelling is done.</p> <p>These GM techniques MUST be regulated and not let out without monitoring or surveillance to protect human health and the environment.</p>
Jennifer Brett	<p>All new GM techniques should be regulated to protect human health and the environment. Products derived from all G techniques, new and old should be registered. All offspring of GMO's should be trait assessed for safety and their products should be appropriately labelled to indicate their link to GMO parents, at the very least. All GM techniques on living and not living organisms should be strictly regulated and carried out only in registered laboritories.</p>
Jill Fitzroy, Victoria	<p>I request that you regulate GM without reduction of standards. Consumers have the right to make informed decisions about their consumption of GM products.</p>
Kylie Gillespie, Queensland	<p>I am finding it difficult to believe that any regulating body would collude with corporations to try to hoodwink the public! GM techniques must NEVER be deregulated.</p> <p>We have a basic right to KNOW what is in our food, and where and how our food is produced. If you want to experiment with GM plants and techniques, fine, just make sure you allow us the basic right to avoid them totally and consciously!</p> <p>Governments across the world have stated that there is not sufficient information to guarantee safety, and that is NOT good enough to permit the techniques to be deregulated and used without monitoring or surveillance or disclosure.</p>

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Anne Lockett, Tasmania	Please do not approve these untested GM's as they most certainly will end up in our food chain. Worse still, they may be used in poisons or new diseases. Certainly our environment will be compromised by this action. As a Grandmother, I am horrified at the world we may be leaving our descendants.
Judith Wade, Queensland	I am very strongly opposed to GMO foods. Need to de-regulate or unknown risks to our health will be the consequences. So I say NO to ALL GMO crops.
Dulcie Sutton, Victoria	All GM techniques should remain fully regulated so should offspring products be tested for safety and be labelled. Protect the consumer first, then the industry.
Sue Flowers, New South Wales	I am horrified to discover that the OGTR has been colluding with industry to deregulate a range of GM techniques. It is a no brainer this should not be deregulated. Amateur biohackers, big business, terror groups – one and all will be welcome to genetically modify anything at their disposal. I can't even imagine the fallout from such a stupid idea. Please ensure they remain regulated.
Kerry Dwyer, New South Wales	I am presuming no woman would be so shortsighted as to allow the GM industry to de-regulate the range of new genetic modification techniques..  This is stupidity of the most selfish kind – foisting on future generations who knows what consequences from this attempt to control the production of food, and thus make obscene amounts of money in the process.  Do not, I beg you, allow the regulations to change. We need to keep the GM industry on a tight rein.
Kerry Ross, New South Wales	I am making this submission as I feel very strongly about this issue. We do not know enough about these technologies to further de-regulate them – the overwhelmingly majority of studies into the impact of GM have been funded by industry with questions directed toward industry needs. Before we move forward with this technology we need studies funded by government and looking at the potential health and environmental impacts of GM.  And I also understand the secrecy around this – public engagement is difficult – but without it, you are taking risks that will be borne by the public without their knowledge or consent. You do not have the authority to do this to me and my family, I'm sure I am not alone in this sentiment.  Do your job properly (I know the legislation allows for public engagement) and manage this in the full light of public knowledge.
Jennifer Carroll	It is my opinion that all GM techniques be regulated. It is also my opinion that genetic modification is a threat to the survival of our planet and its occupants and we should be extremely careful with who has access. I also believe that we should be labelling our food to make consumers aware of what we are eating so we have a choice. This is supposed to be a democracy after all??  At least regulate all new GM techniques!!!!

<b>Submitter</b>	<b>Submission</b>
Ronan O'Connor, New South Wales	<p>I am deeply concerned with OGTR collusion in GM regulation limitation.</p> <p>This issue has major implications for future generations and it is vital to firstly ‘do no harm’ by taking the most cautious position when it comes to GM.</p>
Kylie Storey, South Australia	<p>I am shocked and deeply concerned to learn that the Office for Gene Technology are considering deregulating a number of new gene modification techniques.</p> <p>Reviews commissioned by other European governments conclude that not enough is known about the risks these new GM techniques pose. Deregulation could lead to disaster for human health and the environment.</p> <p>I call for all new GM techniques to be regulated to ensure that human health and the environment are not compromised in any way.</p> <p>I call for all products derived from new GM techniques to be clearly labelled so that the consumer has a choice in whether they want to compromise their health and that of their family.</p> <p>I call for strict regulation to ensure that there are no unregistered laboratories able to use GM techniques on living organisms.</p> <p>The risks are too great to ignore. Please make GM techniques a water tight area of strict regulation.</p>
Mark Rich, New South Wales	<p>The OGTR is planning on deregulating a range of new genetic modification (GM) techniques. If the OGTR deregulates these new GM techniques there will be no monitoring or surveillance. Anyone from amateur biohackers – to industry – to terror groups would be free to use them to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made. And they could enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The risks could be catastrophic.</p> <p>Reviews commissioned by the Austrian and Norwegian governments concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques. They recommended that products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments.</p> <p>On your website the OGTR professes a commitment to “accountability: through open and transparent processes” however, the agency has already issued drafting instructions to deregulate a number of these new GM techniques, which occurred without any public input or consultation.</p> <p>Please put public health and our environment before private profit.</p>

Submitter	Submission
Kane Lunn, New South Wales	<p>Documents revealed under Freedom of Information laws show that the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator (OGTR) has been communicating with industry for years in regards to the deregulation of a range of new genetic modification (GM) techniques</p> <p>If the OGTR deregulates these new GM techniques there will be no monitoring or surveillance. Anyone from amateur biohackers – to industry – to terror groups would be free to use them to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made. And they could enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The risks could be catastrophic.</p> <p>Reviews commissioned by the Austrian and Norwegian governments concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques. They recommended that products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments.</p>
Dell Taranto	<p>Please could food with any GM interference be labelled?</p> <p>Could the regulations not be influenced by big business?</p>
Elisa Alvarez	<p>These new GM techniques must be under controlled and protected from general use. Life is sacred. These techniques, too.</p>
David Maxwell	<p>It is my understanding that you are considering exempting specific genetic manipulation techniques from scrutiny by your agency, on the grounds that they are highly precise, and therefore will have wholly predictable effects. Doing so would constitute a profound failure of your proper function. Genetic manipulation is genetic manipulation wholly independent of methodology. You are responsible for ensuring the safety of genetically modified organisms and foodstuffs, not just to Australia and NZ, but to the entire world, (for any loopholes industry may manage to create with you will establish a precedent. In addition the products resulting from unregulated processes will be distributed world-wide). This being the case, you have to regulate with the interests of the public at heart, as well as following the precautionary principle. Gene expression and interactions are not really understood in detail – the effect even of a single highly precise gene change is not actually accurately predictable. It is incumbent on the regulator to ensure that the predicted effects actually occur and that unexpected effects do not. There is no place to by-pass this function on any reasonable grounds.</p>
Jim Phillips	<p>NO to GMO's.</p>
Mark Jones, Queensland	<p>The offspring of GMOs that have theoretically not inherited the GM trait must be assessed for safety, and their products must be labelled.</p> <p>Products derived from all new GM techniques must be labelled.</p> <p>Amateur biohackers must not be allowed to use GM techniques on living organisms in unregistered laboratories with no regulation?</p> <p>All new GM techniques must be regulated to protect human health and the environment.</p>

Submitter	Submission
James Buckman	<p>All new GM techniques should be regulated to protect human health and the environment.</p> <p>Products derived from all new GM techniques should be labelled.</p> <p>The offspring of GMOs that have theoretically not inherited the GM trait should be assessed for safety.</p> <p>Their products should be labelled.</p> <p>Amateur biohackers should not be allowed to use GM techniques on living organisms in unregistered laboratories with no regulation.</p>
Robert Patey-Downes , New South Wales	<p>I'll keep this simple corporations don't and should never have the right to change or modify food without notification they have done so. People have a basic human right to have the choice in what they eat and drink. Humans should not be used as guinea pigs without thorough and independant scrutiny and research. Please regulate in accordance and have some respect for humans right to naturak foods and clean drinking water</p>
Sandra Allen, Western Australia	<p>Please do not allow these new GM techniques as not enough is known about the risks. We only have one planet &amp; have to think about the future inhabitants. The health and welfare of people, flora &amp; fauna are much more important than money.</p>
Karen Neubauer, Queensland	<p>I am not happy about Genetically Modified crops andproducts being in Australia. For a start, will all new GM techniques be regulated to protect human health and the environment? And will products derived from all new GM techniques be labelled? Because they absolutely should be!</p>
Ginger Gordy	<p>not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques.</p> <p>Anyone from amateur biohackers – to industry – to terror groups would be free to use them to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made. And they could enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The risks could be catastrophic.</p> <p>for the sake of our health and the future of our children, we MUST adopt the precautionary principle and make sure these new technologies are not released or utilised — until all independent scientists agree they are proven to be safe.</p>
Brenton Rittberger, Victoria	<p>I am asking the Office of the Gene Regulator to declare a moratorium on all Genetic Modification techniques which would impact on food or medicine. It's time our regulators stopped letting industry write the rules for them and put public health and our environment before private profit.</p>

Submitter	Submission
Rachel Lehman	<p>We already know that GM is risky business and we must maintain strict regulation on its experimentation and use.</p> <p>The potential of GM to contaminate legitimate crops is high. This is also well known. Therefore deregulation is sheer recklessness and stupidity.</p> <p>Enough said. Protect the genetics of plants and we protect our very own DNA and that of future humans....if we want to continue as humans stop messing with DNA of our food and environment. Hello there, you are your environment, you are not separate. Wake up people.</p>
Christine Berrill	<p>All new GM techniques should be regulated to protect human health and the environment. Products derived from all new GM techniques should be labelled. The offspring of GMOs that have theoretically not inherited the GM trait should be assessed for safety. Their products should be labelled. Amateur biohackers would be allowed to use GM techniques on living organisms in unregistered laboratories with no regulation.</p> <p>If the OGTR deregulates these new GM techniques there will be no monitoring or surveillance. Anyone from amateur biohackers – to industry – to terror groups would be free to use them to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made. And they could enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The risks could be catastrophic.</p>
Roberta Mckibbin, Victoria	<p>Surely not keeping GM products regulated will make things unsafe in many way...health wise for many people and in relation to security.</p> <p>We have had the cigarettes and the asbestos sagas...with these industries being supported by governments and things that were known about their products being hidden from those who would be affected by them, the innocent public. We know that these big pharmaceutical and chemical companies fudge trial results and can be very devious in their dealings when trying to sell a product.....thalidomide drugs, other drugs which have been withdrawn after killing or maiming people, unsafe pesticides and poisons withdrawn from sale after years of use and damage to people..... who really cares how many lives have been damaged and destroyed and taken by these companies as long as they can keep on making money and keep the political parties they are supporting in command!</p> <p>We know that these companies put much money into the coffers of governments and that in the US in particular many of the people who are responsible for allowing these things to be regulated either are previously employees of these companies or become employees or on the boards of them after.</p> <p>There is not enough known about the affects of anything GM so why would you even consider deregulating anything to do with it. There are many scientists the world over who believe that GM's are not safe. Unless there is truthful and unbiased information to say these are safe, then nothing should be regulated. Deregulating these products is not something that should be done so appease these multi-national companies....the lives and well-being of people of the world...and that includes the families of those making this decision, will be adversely affected.</p> <p><i>[continued on next page]</i></p>

Submitter	Submission
Roberta Mckibbin <i>[continued]</i>	<p><i>[continued from previous page]</i></p> <p>I personally know of people who have died from exposure to asbestos, chemicals used in carpentry, gardening and from taking drugs for their illnesses that have later been withdrawn because they are unsafe. They could be your families.</p> <p>So think very carefully about what you are proposing...the next in the way of the thalidomide, asbestos, tobacco debacles might be just around the corner and you could be part of the reason it is happening. You might think the effects won't matter to you but it might when it is a member of your family dying from something caused by GM techniques.</p> <p>I want to know that all GM products are regulated and labelled clearly so that we know what to avoid.</p>
Helke Fahrner, Western Australia	<p>I am strictly against deregulating genetic modification techniques because of the risks and uncertainties such actions pose and recommend that</p> <p>1) All new GM techniques be regulated to protect human health and the environment? 2) Products derived from all new GM techniques be labelled 3)The offspring of GMOs that have theoretically not inherited the GM trait be assessed for safety. Their products should also be be labelled. 4) Amateur biohackers must be prevented from using GM techniques on living organisms in unregistered laboratories with no regulation.</p>
Marie Klarich, Western Australia	<p>We do not know what the long term effects of GMOs are. We need to tread very carefully on gene modification – whilst we may or may not be alive when any adverse events become apparent, your name will be linked and you, amongst others, will be vilified for the reprehensible act of allowing gene modification of foods to affect our population.</p>
Betty Russell, Victoria	<p>Until the effects of gene technology can be limited to the products of the people who use it, it needs to be regulated and carefully monitored. Where contamination beyond that scope occurs, regulations need to ensure that the owners of the technology, the users of the technology and the organization responsible for monitoring are all held accountable.</p> <p>There needs to be more regulation not less.</p>
M Morrisey	<p>Do not allow the new GE techniques to be implemented.</p>
Elliot Lemmon	<p>My great concern regarding the impact of long term use and essentially setting free into the environment of GM products and organisms is supported by the science outlined in, for example, Seeds of Deception and Genetic Roulette by Jeffrey Smith.</p> <p>The unknown repercussions of allowing these organisms into Australia must be considered. Not even labelling products containing them as such is a gross violation of the absolute necessity of keeping people informed and educated regarding such an essential part of our lives.</p> <p>I strongly support requiring labelling of GM products but beyond that the REAL science, not doctored, cherry picked so called science and studies undertaken by GM manufacturers themselves must be paid attention to.</p>

Submitter	Submission
Lisa Barry, Queensland	<p>Please, stop enabling genetically modified techniques and organisms – Australians don't want them (any poll shows low support for GM) and what's more, our 'clean' reputation will be harmed as consumers worldwide don't want GM either, not matter what the GM companies tell their former colleagues now working for government. We don't believe it's safe, and we don't want the earth being used as a guinea pig for their money motivated experiments. GM herbicide resistant plants are already butterfly killing weeds all over the USA – and GM crops, because of that herbicide resistance, are sprayed with more weedkiller than other crops.</p> <p>Please, don't deregulate these new techniques. We don't know enough about the risks, and when the only studies used to decide are funded by the GM companies, it's not rational to say it's ok.</p>
Maria Miranda	<p>I am concerned about the possible risks if the OGTR deregulates new GM techniques. Living in Australia we are all familiar with risky biological solutions. Just think of the cane toad invasion – a great idea at the time. yet no-one could have imagined the destruction and how out-of-control these toads would be and the subsequent disaster they are having on our wildlife.</p> <p>I am only asking that we stop and think, and put good regulations in place before releasing anything we will regret later. With life processes there are no second chances and I, and many other people, do not want to take unnecessary risks with unknown consequences.</p> <p>It's about common sense and looking ahead. It's about thinking before you leap. And it's interesting that the Australian and Norwegian governments have concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques. They recommended that products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments.</p> <p>I agree!</p>
Lee Virgo, Western Australia	<p>I sincerely hope that the deregulation of new genetic modification techniques will not go ahead. I am concerned about the health of myself and my family and want to know if any GM foods are contained in my food chain and my pets. It is not wise to be playing with nature this way, at least give us the choice to say no by being able to read properly labelled GM ingredients – all GM ingredients should be labelled no matter what. Please take this seriously and do not look at profits above peoples health.</p>
Glenys Davies	<p>If the OGTR deregulates these new GM techniques there will be no monitoring or surveillance. Anyone from amateur biohackers – to industry – to terror groups would be free to use them to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made. And they could enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The risks could be catastrophic.</p> <p>Reviews commissioned by the Austrian and Norwegian governments concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques. They recommended that products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments.</p>
Eugenie Lee	<p>As a well informed consumer, I'd like to know what and how the Gene Technology is used and regulated into the food we eat. I'm not after stopping the GM produce at all, but I'd like to have the proper information freely available so that I can make informed choice for what I and my family eat. I believe this is extremely important for me to have control over what I choose to put into my body.</p>

Submitter	Submission
Alison Collins, Queensland	All GMO techniques should be regulated, if not stopped all together. The polluting of our food supply with “GMO food like products” is causing untold health problems, that of which will be magnified in future generations if changes are not made soon. All products containing GMO substances should be clearly labelled so that consumers can make informed decisions about what they are buying and consuming.
Jaksic Jadranka, Western Australia	Products made by GMO are causing deceases in humans, a s well as animals. Australia is a country known for taking care of its population so it is important that it has a full control on all genetic modification (GM) techniques. There must be regulations for safety testing of products and honest labelling. Products derived from new GM techniques require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments. My opinion is that there is risk of damages that can't be fixed.
Philip Tuuta	Please ensure all Gm technologies be regulated to protect human health and the environmemt. Products derived from new GM technologies be labelled or better still all food produced for human consumption be fit for purpose and of a high standard.
Marika McLaughlin	Should: All new GM techniques be regulated to protect human health and the environment? Products derived from all new GM techniques be labelled? The offspring of GMOs that have theoretically not inherited the GM trait be assessed for safety? Should their products be labelled? Amateur biohackers be allowed to use GM techniques on living organisms in unregistered laboratories with no regulation?
Hannah Wattel	L.S., Documents revealed under Freedom of Information laws show that the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator (OGTR) has been colluding with industry for years to deregulate a range of new genetic modification (GM) techniques. How can the OGTR deregulate these new GM techniques if there will be no monitoring or surveillance? Genetically modified plants, animals and microbes. Terror groups will have a hay day! Bioterrorism will raise its ugly head! Overseas governments concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques and products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments. I beg you, for the future of this country to under no circumstances allow industry to write the rules about any genetic modification.

Submitter	Submission
Peter Greening	<p>What a perverse attitude to permit tampering with the wheel-work of nature. Traditional farming, organic or otherwise in the hands of thousands of independent farming families is the source of invention, better quality and constant supply AKA food security for the nation. Whereas GM techniques are designed to profit the few at the expense of the many. GM monopolization of other natural food products is a curse upon humanity. GM monopolization leads to the destruction of traditional long proven farming techniques. GM monopolization destroys livelihoods and freedom of choice for consumers. GM foods are linked to physical and behavioral abnormalities within certain study groups, yet your unnatural science ignores this. There are no safeguards with GM foods, that's why the GM 'food manufacturers' have successfully petitioned &amp; bribed law makers to banned labeling of GM products so consumers can make an informed decision about what they and their families consume. So cal led "Round Up Ready" cultivation has led to inordinate amounts of pesticides having to be use and the growth of hybrid weeds that can by-pass attempts a eradicate such with known herbicides. The whole process is becoming one gigantic catastrophe for farmers and consumers alike, and why? For the profit of a few and the wages of an ignorant, amoral &amp; selfish scientific community and the corrupt, yet equally ignorant politicians that permit such crimes against nature &amp; the general community.</p>
Peter Volker	<p>Gene technology is a potentially dangerous technique. It can be used for various motives and by various organisations for various results. In a civil society we do not want to offer everybody the possibility to launch new organisms. Even, if done not for an intended malicious purpose purpose, the release of GM organisms can have large scale adverse effects. No full understanding exists of the technology and its effects. A not acknowledged harmful property of a new organism can lead to a calamity of large scale, since organisms can replicate. This is 'a spirit which must be kept in the bottle'.if we are to keep a safe society..</p>
Walter Steensby	<p>Smart move: get rid of the regulations now before some disaster happens and no blame will accrue to OGTR, the elected government or our unelected corporate governors!</p> <p>Anything that goes wrong will simply be another instance of The Market doing what markets do.</p> <p>Since when has industry self-regulation been adequate or any regulation? Retail price maintenance comes to mind as an example of an industry practice that needed elected government intervention to bring to an end. Now we have the ACCC and other bodies constantly monitoring marketing and selling practices. So it should remain with the OGTR: we need it to monitor and interfere with industry behaviour, beliefs and practices</p>
Eric Joblin, Queensland	<p>Please do not allow the OGTR to approve GM FOODS in Australia to the detriment of community health. Thanks you</p>
Andre Nuelant, Victoria	<p>It is with great concern that I learned about the OGTR's plans to deregulate a range of new GM techniques. It seems ludicrous if not bordering on criminal neglect that such fundamental engineering should be left left unregulated in the hands of corporate interests. Above all, please do not allow GM derivatives to enter the food chain without labelling, so that I may have a choice. This is a choice that corporations do not want me, and many others, to make. Please do not erode my freedom.</p>

Submitter	Submission
Graeme Batterbury	<p>The GM giants are currently making a concerted push to have these emergent techniques escape GM laws in the United States, Europe and Australia. Industry is arguing that these techniques – which include oligo- directed mutagenesis (ODM) and site-directed nucleases (SDNs) such as zinc-finger nucleases (ZFN) and CRISPR – only result in small predictable changes to the genome and are therefore much more precise than earlier genetic engineering techniques. Interestingly, this is exactly the same argument they used when GM crops were originally introduced – and is equally untrue for these techniques.</p> <p>Unfortunately, our regulators – the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator (OGTR) and Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ) – seem all too ready to allow products derived from these risky new techniques to go untested and unlabelled into our food chain.</p> <p>Austrian government agencies are among the few globally to consider the biosafety risks posed by new GM techniques. Their conclusion, over three separate, high-level reviews of the biosafety risks, is that there is insufficient knowledge regarding the risks posed by these techniques. On this basis, they argue that products derived from new GM techniques should be regulated in the same way as those created using older GM techniques and require a comprehensive case-by-case risk assessment. The Norwegian Environment and Development Agencies also recently commissioned a review of these techniques. This concluded that further biosafety research needs to be performed before these techniques are commercialised.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• These new GM techniques and the products derived from them to be subject to a comprehensive case-by-case risk assessment, including full molecular characterisation and independent safety testing to minimise any potential risks to human health and the environment;</li> <li>• All products derived from new GM techniques to be labelled to protect choice for farmers, producers and consumers;</li> <li>• The precautionary principle to be enshrined in both the Gene Technology Act and the Food Standards Australia New Zealand Act, given the experimental nature of these technologies and the risks associated with them;</li> <li>• The Government to impose strict liability on all dealings with GMOs licensed by the OGTR, so that liability for GM contamination and the resultant losses and costs rests fully on the licensees and the owners of GM patents;</li> <li>• A moratorium on the commercialisation of these new GM techniques until our regulatory system for GMOs is adapted to deal with the potential risks posed by them.</li> </ul>
Laura Angel	<p>NO! to all GM techniques and products in Australia and worldwide.</p> <p>Information is needed to educate the public in general on the dangers of GM. There is plenty of information on the subject, but politicians and the media are experts at keeping this information away from the public. I wonder Why?</p>
Leila Huebner	<p>It seems that there is no conscience attached or moral boundaries set to proliferating profits through reducing necessary safeguards to the foods we consume. The OGTR must be fully aware of risks that cannot help but occur when there is an absence of regulations to prevent abuses throughout the GMO industry. Therefore, this recent outrageous collusion with GMO industries is simply untenable.</p> <p>How on earth this proposal to reduce or even eliminate health safeguards on an unproven technology using GMO engineering as far as safety is concerned, beggars the imagination. Appalling to say the least and cannot be tolerated.</p>

Submitter	Submission
Josephine Prowse, Queensland	<p>I would like to propose that the STRICTEST regulations apply to GMO techniques as it is not full understood long term, as to GMO's effects on living things.</p> <p>Industry should be kept well away from GMO..as they tend to want short term financial gain ...not long term health. I do not ever want to buy or use a GMO product...&amp; as you well know there are many more like me...Why not aim at food that people want to eat &amp; feel good about...not be fearful of. If there is GMO in a product it MUST be labelled....so that we can choose NOT to buy it...if not you are decieving the public.</p>
Sandra Dara, Queensland	<p>I am very concerned about GM foods and the potential risks to our health and environment. There is simply not enough known about the risks. Whilst big business are motivated to push GM due to the profits they will make. Comprehensive risk assessment is essential.</p>
Oscar Revilla	<p>All new GM techniques be regulated to protect human health and the environment?</p> <p>Products derived from all new GM techniques be labelled? The offspring of GMOs that have theoretically not inherited the GM trait be assessed for safety? Should their products be labelled?</p>
Nerida Riley	<p>If the OGTR deregulates these new GM techniques, anyone from amateur bio-hackers, to industry, to terrorists would be free to use them to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. These could enter our environment and our food chains with no safety testing or labelling. The risks could be catastrophic.</p>
Jenny Thompson, New South Wales	<p>Please do no deregulate these proposed GM techniques – please can we just leave nature alone to do what it does best.</p>
Todd Johansson, New South Wales	<p>Documents revealed under Freedom of Information laws show that the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator (OGTR) has been colluding with industry for years to deregulate a range of new genetic modification (GM) techniques. And now the rest of us have just 6 weeks to make the case why they should be regulated!</p> <p>If the OGTR deregulates these new GM techniques there will be no monitoring or surveillance. Anyone from amateur biohackers – to industry – to terror groups would be free to use them to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made. And they could enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The risks could be catastrophic.</p> <p>Reviews commissioned by the Austrian and Norwegian governments concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques. They recommended that products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments.</p>

Submitter	Submission
Nea Makowski	I always try to live by the following words: first do no harm. Please understand that all new GM techniques need to be regulated in order to protect human health & the environment. I have always said that all products derived from all GM techniques need to be labelled – and I include here all new GM techniques, and even the offspring of GMOs that have theoretically not inherited the GM traits. They all also need to be thoroughly assessed for safety. Strict regulation is required of GM techniques which are used on living organisms! Thank you for your consideration.
Anat Harari, New South Wales	It is with a sense of dread that I read that The OGTR is considering deregulating new GM techniques which could potentially allow anyone, from amateur bio hackers, terrorists or industry, to use them on plants animals or microbes. The consequences could be catastrophic as new poisons and diseases can be made without any monitoring , surveillance, testing or labeling. Reviews commissioned by the Austrian and Norwegian governments concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques. They recommended that products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments. It shocked, but not surprised me to find out that documents revealed under Freedom of Information laws show that the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator (OGTR) has been colluding with industry for years to deregulate this range of new genetic modification (GM) techniques. I hope that shining a light on this potential hazard to our rights as consumers, would bring this collusion to an end and that deregulation will not go ahead for the sake of our children and all future generations, including your own. With hope for sanity and right action.
Meredith Stanton, New South Wales	<p>Please accept this as my submission to the Technical Review of the Gene Technology Regulations 2001.</p> <p>I object to any de-regulation of gene modification technology on the basis that these technologies are relatively new and still experimental, with long term impacts untested in the field. The consequence of allowing unregulated laboratories to create GMO's which are independent of oversight and beyond any authorities remit could unleash any number of disrupting organisms, plant species and animals onto an unsuspecting public. Are we ready for that?</p> <p>All gene modification techniques must be strictly regulated to protect our environment and human health from unforeseen impacts from experimental GMO's which may not be in the best interests of society and future environmental sustainability.</p> <p>This ‘for profit’ corporate sector needs to prove the safety and efficacy of its products before they are unleashed to pollute our heritage gene pools. Deregulation of GM technology could create chaos in an emerging industry with specialised techniques potentially capable of doing great good or great harm.</p> <p>Also important are the laws governing land use, water and air. GMO's must not be allowed to infringe on our human right to clean water, soil and air or interfere with the sustainability of neighbouring non-GMO enterprises. Introducing GM food species by stealth will not benefit society, because we have a right to know what we and our livestock are eating. All GM food ingredients must be fully tested as safe and clearly labelled to meet consumer expectations.</p> <p>We do have to ask, “What will we leave our children?” when weighing up the pros and cons of messing with nature. Nature has already produced the best genetic footprints across the earth, if we respect nature she will respect us.</p>

Submitter	Submission
Adrian Price	<p>I request that growers of GM crops be made responsible for any spread of their GM plants into GM free crops and areas of native flora. At present, canola is invading native plants along roadsides and bush reserves.</p> <p>Our major markets for our food crops give preference for GM free food and therefore reducing any marketing resistance.</p> <p>It is important that food products be clearly labelled to indicate their GM status so that consumers can be informed.</p>
Judy Unger	<p>Gene technology may be found in the future to be a great boon to humanity. However, it is far better to take things slowly &amp; cautiously for the time being.</p> <p>We in Australia found to our great detriment that the introduction of the cane frog (not a genetically modified organism) to control the cane beetle has caused enormous damage to our environment &amp; animals. In just the same way unintended consequences can arise from rushing in with GM technology.</p> <p>For all our sakes please ensure that strong regulations exist &amp; strong clear &amp; meaningful labels are always used when any GM technology is introduced.</p>
John Kahler	<p>In a recent message I received, speaking about how the OGTR is planning stupid decisions on deregulating certain GM techniques, we need you to reverse this decision and keep Australia free of these vile, disgusting and immoral activities. The regulator system should not be approving any GM products at all, and the country should be working towards a complete ban from local and overseas “suppliers.” We should be a country to look up to in this area, and by sliding down this path of living abominations, we are setting a bad example, not only to our own people, but those from abroad as well. I urge you to work towards a GM-free Australia in all areas and prevent the rape and mutation of our living organisms, which should be respected and not abused for any gain.</p>
Marj Bullivant, New South Wales	<p>I am extremely concerned over the possibility that OGTR may be involved in plans to deregulate a range of new GM techniques. The outcome could be disastrous for our food chain, our environment and our health.</p> <p>I do not believe that the risks that this deregulation would bring cannot be justified when there are too many unknowns. This is about industry making money, not what is best for our country and ourselves.</p> <p>Please do not continue with these plans. Making money at any cost is not a risk that your Office should be considering.</p>
Peter Taylor	<p>Genetic modification is an unmitigated assault on the biodiversity that nurtures us all. Allowing industry agenda to control laws is Ecocidal.</p>
Andrea Flory, Victoria	<p>I call on the precautionary principle when it comes to these new techniques to create genetically modified organisms. The general public is already suspicious of all things GM and wants more oversight, not less.</p>
Geraldine Luck, Western Australia	<p>The deregulation of GM modification techniques is not an option. Not enough is known with these techniques and the risks are too great and could be catastrophic to humans, and the food chain.</p>

Submitter	Submission
Ruth Johanne, Victoria	Dear Sir/ Madam, Consumers want to know what they are eating. Growers of organic crops don't want their crops contaminated with GM crops and pollen spread. Certain countries wont allow GM products to be imported. Therefore it is logical that we, ordinary people and small business people are protected from the companies with the money who think that by virtue of their wealth they should call the shots. You are there to protect fairness to the general public. We already feel that industry has far too much power to demand special consideration. Consider please all the other interests and don't allow deregulation. Maintain ongoing monitoring to detect unforeseen problems, safety testing and keep our food supply out of the hands of monopolies.
Linda Mclean, Western Australia	I would like to see all new GM techniques be regulated to protect human health and the environment. Products derived from all new GM techniques be labelled very clearly.
Simon Wilson, New South Wales	No GM everrrrrrr
Sara Nagamori	I am just one voice and not one that often gets involved in these discussions hoewever I felt the need to this time. Please reconsider the the decision to deregulate GM techniques in Australia. The potential long term consequences are just too significant to risk. I hold an advanced degree in genetic engineering and am familiar with both the technical aspects as well as the potential gain however I am also acutely aware of the risks involved. Please reconsider and allow us to tread gently and with due care into the future. Some mistakes can't be undone.
Greg Revell, Victoria	I write to you today to express my concern over the push by the OGTR to de-regulate as revealed in a FoI request made by Friends of the Earth. Enforcement of the precautionary principle should always apply to GM techniques, and as such, the OGTR has a duty of care to ensure that these techniques are highly regulated and controlled to ensure public safety. The risks posed are totally unknown and represent an unreasonable risk to society and community, especially given that the the primary push is from commercial interests in the biotech industry. I urge you to strictly apply the highest levels of regulation to ensure that duty of care is responsibly executed by the government

Submitter	Submission
Lalitha Chelliah, Victoria	<p>Why is it that such collusions with the industry is being allowed? This is equivalent to allowing the fox to guard the chickens; Are we not concerned about the people?</p> <p>Is this what we want for the people or for PROFIT hungry manufacturers and industries?</p> <p>Please do not sell the people down the drain. You may be responsible for many health issues that may affect adults and especially children. YOU are public servant not private employees. People FIRST!!!</p> <p>Do not betray the people please.</p>
Hilary Brown, Victoria	<p>To whom it may concern</p> <p>And it should be of concern to everyone in this country!</p> <p>I would like you people to tell us who you are. If you believe that what you are doing is right then you will be happy to share that with us.</p> <p>Please make a list of your names easily available to the general public and your reasons for considering taking the risks implied by deregulation, which is exactly that! No regulation.</p> <p>If that information is already available please make it accessible and back up your actions with full transparency.</p>
Lara Caruso	<p>Please ensure GM techniques be regulated to protect human health and the environment, and products derived from all new GM techniques be labelled.</p> <p>We have a right to make sure practices of GM are safe by having an overseeing body regulating GM products. Also as consumers we need to be informed where GM practices have been used- not all of us want to support GM.</p>
Corinne Coombs, Tasmania	<p>I object to any GMO technology being applied to any foods in Australia. I also want all current foods removed until they are independently proven safe. you have no right to dictate what I should be eating especially given that you and your buddies appear to not want disclosure of these foods mentioned on any packets. if they were so harmless why would you be objecting? oh yes, its because you know they kill the gut and create auto immune and diseases in humans and animals. but lets not let the truth get in the way of ████████ et al making a lot of money now...</p>
Kenlyn Culka	<p>I am writing to insist that stringent regulations are enforced with regards to all GM technology and techniques. Rigorous testing, monitoring and surveillance needs to be mandatory to ensure the safety and efficacy of all GM products. Anything less would be blatantly neglectful and reckless for anyone or any government to agree to. Any industry or persons trying to change, evade or deregulate these conditions should be investigated thoroughly and charged with wilful dangerous conduct, intent to harm, and murder.</p>

Submitter	Submission
Ruth Partridge, Victoria	<p>I am very concerned to hear that the OGTR is planning to deregulate GM techniques. I am strongly of the opinion that all GM techniques should be regulated to protect human health and the environment.</p> <p>I am also very strongly of the opinion that all GM products in food should be clearly identified on the label. The population of Australia has a right to know what is in their food.</p> <p>I believe that the OGTR has a duty to the Australian people which demands clear and open disclosure of GM content in all products. We know that industry will lie and deceive, that is why we have consumer protection laws and pay to have regulators.</p> <p>The damage being done to people and to the environment worldwide by GM crops and their associated products is already serious. Please ensure that those who wish to avoid GM products can easily identify them.</p>
Pam Staples	<p>*All new GM techniques must be regulated to protect humans, animals, the environment and the future *Products derived from all new GM techniques must be labelled for freedom of information, choice and possible protection of our health *All offspring of GMOs that have theoretically not inherited the GM trait should be assessed for safety because traits can appear after several generations. All their products must be labelled *Amateur biohackers must not be allowed to use GM techniques on living organisms in unregistered laboratories with no regulation – the potential for dangerous outcomes is huge and we need to protect future generations. *</p>
Robin Gardner	<p>FOI documents appear to show that the OGTR has been compromised by the major agricultural companies on the safe control of GM. It is another case of a regulator colluding with Industry at the risk of consumers and the general public. The Norwegian Gvt. has confirmed a detailed analysis is required on a case by case basis. Could you please ensure that we are similarly protected and that our grandchildren's health is not put at risk by uncontrolled actions.</p>
Monica Jurman Biess	<p>I am very concerned about GM foods in the food chain.</p> <p>The following are some suggested questions you could answer in your submission:</p> <p>Should:</p> <p>All new GM techniques be regulated to protect human health and the environment? Products derived from all new GM techniques be labelled? The offspring of GMOs that have theoretically not inherited the GM trait be assessed for safety? Should their products be labelled? Amateur biohackers be allowed to use GM techniques on living organisms in unregistered laboratories with no regulation?</p> <p>I am very interested and worried consumer and would like all of the above answered satisfactorily.</p>

Submitter	Submission
Sean Corrigan, Queensland	<p>Documents revealed under Freedom of Information laws show that the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator (OGTR) has been colluding with industry for years to deregulate a range of new genetic modification (GM) techniques.</p> <p>If the OGTR deregulates these new GM techniques there will be no monitoring or surveillance. Anyone from amateur biohackers – to industry – to terror groups would be free to use them to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made. And they could enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The risks could be catastrophic.</p> <p>Reviews commissioned by the Austrian and Norwegian governments concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques. They recommended that products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments.</p>
Ray Cowling, Victoria	Cane toads were a good idea too, and salvation jane (Patterson's curse) and prickly pear. In organic matter there are too many one way paths which keep spreading and cannot be turned back.
Anthony Lunken	All new GM techniques should be regulated to protect human health and the environment. Products derived from all new GM techniques should be labelled. The offspring of GMOs that have theoretically not inherited the GM trait should be assessed for safety and their products labelled?
Kim Sibley, Queensland	Gene Technology is very much a new science and still very experimental. There have been cases where genetic modified seeds have escaped their quarantine areas and contaminated pure crops. Alarmingly entirely new diseases and poisons can be made by biohackers, and terror groups. It is not safe. This technology needs regulating, policing, and controls.
Rowena Russell	Not another toxic industry! Please OGTR consider and implement regulation of any further genetic modification techniques. The time is now that the ethics of this industry be upheld with regard to respecting nature first and human health and the environment. Australian and Norwegian governmental reviews recommend risk assessment in the first instance. I believe the people seek even more precaution, after all we still do not have secure labelling. What are we doing in this industry? Who is benefitting and who is accountable and who is paying the price?
Bill Armstrong, Queensland	Any collusion by the OGTR and the GM industry is shameful and violates any degree of honesty in those involved.
Janet Grogan, Western Australia	It is imperative that these new range of GM techniques be regulated, as they pose such a risk to us all. In the wrong hands they could be used to develop (either accidentally or maliciously) new entities which could prove disastrous to us. We should heed the warnings that have come from the proponents of CRISPR (such as Jennifer Doudna) to put a moratorium on these novel techniques until we have tight regulations to ensure that they are controlled, assessed and correctly labelled.

Submitter	Submission
Anthony Hale, Victoria	<p>Seriously in this day and age and with all the technology and information available on the internet through out the world, i'm so disappointed that regulatory bodies can still be so ignorant , stupid and manipulated to allow any GM foods on the planet ... I cannot put into words how destructively devastating this is for the human race on the our planet and the future generations. Why are we even having this conversation.. Just get the job done that you are there to do !!! Simple !!! I do not want to hear of this ridiculousness any more, just get rid of GM permanently off this planet once and for all and let's not have this discussion ever again</p>
Phyllis Menos	<p>As a consumer I and the rest of the community want GM techniques that affect our foods regulated. The risks imposed by the new GM techniques have not been fully assessed. When one sees the mass die off of bees in US, and the affect that has on their agriculture, having to source bees from Australia and elsewhere to preserve their agriculture. We can't assume a technology is beneficial because its new, I would recommend following the example of Austria and Norway who will be undertaking comprehensive case by case risk assessments.</p> <p>OGTR is funded by the public to serve its interests, which do not always coincide with the interests (mainly financial) of the GM industry. Deregulation puts our food supply chain and public health at risk, who will stop amateur biohackers use GM techniques on living organisms in unregistered laboratories with no regulation?</p> <p>I do not consent to to GM techniques being deregulated without rigorous case by case risk assessments.</p>
Kerry Whitaker	<p>Please stop any further negotiation towards planning any kind of approval that will allow industry to use a blanket ruling to freely employ various gene tecniques to genetically modify any food, plant, seed, animal or microbe.</p> <p>I request on behalf of my family, children and all who may come in the future that you ensure each and every plan to use Gene Technologies to genetically modify as above is fully studied and individually assessed and tested for its safety including long term safety. That needs to include appropriate length of testing time to esure long term outcomes are safe.</p> <p>Please do not dilute the existing safety controls covering the management of the safety both current and on going of any Gene Technologies used for genetic modification conducted in or approved by Australia. I believe existing controls should be extended with strick labelling and tracking but definitely not diluted or simplified. Such controls are essential for our safety.</p>
Jack Claff, New South Wales	<p>My understanding of the situation regarding gene modification techniques is that there are plans to deregulate a whole range of them. Surely the potential effects of modifying the genetic structure of plants, animals and microbes is serious enough to require monitoring and regulation.</p>
Louise Henry, Queensland	<p>It concerns me that you are considering deregulating a range of GM techniques. So many times people have introduced 'foreign' elements into the ecosystem without considering the long-term effects – think cane toads for one prime example. There are no guarantees that these techniques won't harm the environment and the way it operates. How can you know whether or not you will be harming the delicate balance that allows us all to live here on earth and survive they way we do. How can you be sure these new techniques will be used responsibly or ethically? Just because you have the knowledge doesn't mean it should be used.</p>

Submitter	Submission
Candy Disch, New South Wales	I feel that without investigating for long periods the new GM techniques we could be making the same mistakes that we are seeing from some GM crops over 20 years of testing on the unknowing American guinea pigs
Vicki Ross, New South Wales	Please keep corporations out of the GM regulation process; or at least include all parties involved.
Sierra Sue Mitchell	<p>I am led to believe that there is a move to deregulate a range of new genetic modification (GM) techniques.</p> <p>If the OGTR deregulates these new GM techniques there will be no monitoring or surveillance. Anyone from amateur biohackers – to industry – to terror groups would be free to use them to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made. And they could enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The risks could be catastrophic.</p> <p>I hear that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques. Products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments.</p>
Karen Andrewartha	No food should be Modified. .. nature leave it alone to be how it was meant to be.... you will destroy everything and then look back when all has been destroyed and tampered with....and all goes tails up. Learn while your ahead.... not when its to late.
Penelope Mossop	It's about time OGTR looked at protecting the people they represent rather than allowing free reign to bio tech companies so they can make more profit
Hugh Frith	<p>We have great opportunities to continue the growth of organic food production in Australia. Which has had a constant 20 % growth over many years.</p> <p>Today we see conventional dairy farmers changing to organic production This is because conventional dairy pay outs have decreased to a level which have made many dairy farms uneconomic. While organic production can provide farmers with higher returns per kg of milk fat produced. Making the farms more profitable.</p> <p>The introduction of GM will only weaken Australias position in being seen as a clean green organic marketer.</p> <p>There not enough known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques. The products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments.</p>
Joan Christensen	GM should be regulated to protect the health and welfare of people who would innocently be exposed to modification.

Submitter	Submission
Sally Jones, South Australia	<p>I feel very strongly that new GM techniques should not be deregulated. They must be regulated, if they are to be undertaken at all, to maintain control of GMOs for the sake of our health and the precious environment that we rely so heavily on to be healthy.</p> <p>All products that derive from new and “old” GM techniques must be labelled, regardless of whether they inherit GM traits or not. This is the only way to give transparency to consumers about what they purchase. GM foods should never have been allowed on the shelves of Australian supermarkets without clear GM labelling in the first place.</p>
Elanor Mooney	<p>Based on the below information and all other relevant information I have read about GM technology and resulting GM foods, I am not in support of the production of GM foods, animals or substances and there is much to support the fact that they are harmful to our health and the health of our ecosystems.</p> <p>"Documents revealed under Freedom of Information laws show that the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator (OGTR) has been colluding with industry for years to deregulate a range of new genetic modification (GM) techniques. And now the rest of us have just 6 weeks to make the case why they should be regulated!</p> <p>If the OGTR deregulates these new GM techniques there will be no monitoring or surveillance. Anyone from amateur biohackers – to industry – to terror groups would be free to use them to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made. And they could enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The risks could be catastrophic.</p> <p>Reviews commissioned by the Austrian and Norwegian governments concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques. They recommended that products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments."</p>
Pen Donovan, Queensland	<p>It is only sensible to regulate an industry that has not been fully tested or understood in its ramifications into the future. At the very least any foods containing genetically modified material at any stage of its production should be labelled. To not do so shows a callous disregard for the customer and is patronising in the extreme. This issue is not about belief or ideology but about common sense. to not consider the risks is foolhardy.</p>
Elizabeth Byrne, Victoria	<p>Are you mad?! Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made. And they could enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The risks could be catastrophic.</p>

Submitter	Submission
Glenn Johnstone	<p>I write to you to implore you not to deregulate our GM laws.</p> <p>We currently have a high standard of ‘food rules’ in our country &amp; as a result, our level of health remains reasonably high due to this.</p> <p>Should we not continue to regulate GM so that people are aware of what they are consuming? Should we not keep these safeguards in place?</p> <p>Modification has not been in (commercial) existence for a long enough period to truly study its effects; so why would we simply fling open the proverbial laboratory door to anyone with some half-cooked knowledge of sequencing &amp; potentially cause irrevocable damage to our food supply?</p> <p>Worse still: the industry push to refuse to label GM foods?</p> <p>As you sit here reading this, I understand if you're rolling your eyes... but just for a second, think about the future generations. Your children..? What world are you helping to usher in by simply ‘doing what you're told’? Have a think about it.</p> <p>Please keep these safeguards as they are. Our future health &amp; biodiversity depends on it.</p>
Tim Welch	<p>Allowing GM deregulation could be compared to the introduction of the Cane Toad into Australia. Once you open that door it becomes almost impossible to close it or undo the damage that has been done. If a GM species comes into contact with the natural world, it could take millions of years for it to become compatible or for the eco-system to adapt to it's unique gene presence. Humans have the potential to make mistakes, but not always undo them. Fortunately we have the power to prevent them.</p>
Lisa Christensen	<p>I believe that the OGTR should NOT deregulate the new GM techniques as they pose a threat to us all in the form of danger to human health. With no monitoring nor labelling the general population has no chance to make a choice. With no choice we are proceeding down a path of no return as original/natural products will have been altered forever. I also believe that it opens the door to further methods for both bio-hackers and governments both friendly and enemy to create even more bioweapons in the future.</p> <p>Please continue to monitor and procedures and label products so we all have a choice and a chance to survive in these uncertain times.</p>
Ken Reiman, New South Wales	<p>Deregulation of the Gene Technology Regulations, could have disastrous and irreversible consequences and as has been evidenced in the past, these results don't become evident until after the fact, no matter what modelling is done on the perceived outcomes. In Australia we have the perfect geographical situation in that we are a large Island nation with substantial water boundaries and so are ideally positioned to be completely GM FREE and so be the “safety net, back up” to be able to supply the rest of the world with GM FREE produce, that is increasingly requested by informed consumers as well as supplying the world in the case of an ecological/biological disaster as a result of Gene Technology deregulation.</p>

Submitter	Submission
Paula Greenough, Victoria	<p>I am writing with grave concerns in regards to the latest gene technologies being discovered and used and the seeming lack of stringent regulation currently in play. As history has so often shown us , that all new and unfolding technologies have often had disastrous impacts on health, wellbeing and environment when they have not been zealously monitored and limited for extended periods that may reveal the true nature of long term impacts. Having self interested industry groups regulating these technologies is a gross conflict of interest , as the monetary gains will always take precedence over common sense/good in the early release of new technologies. As with the 90 days for GM agricultural products or the advent of wifi and microwave radiation which are now proving to be problematic with their radiation exposure and correlated health issues to mention a few.</p> <p>I can only put forward a call for the strictest of government regulation with consultation with technology experts that are not vested in companies or individuals seeking monetary gains.</p>
Rob Ritchie	<p>With the greatest respect for the particular opinions you each may hold about globalization and neo-liberal economics; I am driven to the conclusion that governance of large commercial organizations is currently inadequate.</p> <p>These organizations are by definition competitive and therefore inclined by their nature to aggressively pursue the interests of their owners/shareholders.</p> <p>For years there has been a call to strengthen governance of commerce, especially internationally. It is heartening to see that the up-til-now legal use of practices such as BEPS [base erosion and profit shifting] is being addressed at an international level.</p> <p>So, you will not be surprised to hear that I strongly support the call by Friends of the Earth to exclude the participation of of large corporate commercial organizations in regulation of GMOs.</p>
Debra Rein-Tourenq, South Australia	<p>We are very concerned about the deregulation of a range of new genetic modification techniques.</p> <p>We believe all new techniques be regulated; products derived from all new GM techniques be labelled; all offspring of GMOs be assessed for safety and labeled; anyone or any organisation using GM techniques on living organisms must be registered and regulated.</p> <p>All of these things are so important for the safety and well being of us all, please help.</p>
Catherine Seybold	<p>Reviews commissioned by the Austrian and Norwegian governments concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques. They recommended that products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments.</p>
John Schembri, New South Wales	<p>I am distressed to read that the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator (OGTR) and other non-government agencies that regulate or sell food and food products are diluting GM techniques so consumers are unaware of the true nature of the food they buy. I need to know any modification or additions made to food and food products as I have food intolerances. As a consumer I also want the right to know what my food really is.</p> <p>Reviews commissioned by the Austrian and Norwegian governments concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques. They recommended that products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments.</p>

Submitter	Submission
Linda Giddy, Victoria	I am not an expert, but I live in a community that values its access to clean, green, local, organically grown food – REAL food. From everything I've read over the past many years, the risks associated with GM technology far outweigh the potential benefits. I believe we must tread very cautiously and ensure that the industry – if it is to exist at all – is rigorously controlled and monitored. There is no way that a company like ████████ – or any company – should be unregulated. The downside is far, far too great.
Matt Cole	<p>All new GM techniques be regulated to protect human health and the environment.</p> <p>Products derived from all new GM techniques be labelled</p> <p>The offspring of GMOs that have theoretically not inherited the GM trait be assessed for safety? Should their products be labelled?</p> <p>Amateur biohackers be allowed to use GM techniques on living organisms in unregistered laboratories with no regulation?</p>
Allison Knox	<p>For these new GM techniques there will be no monitoring or surveillance. Anyone from amateur biohackers – to industry – to terror groups would be free to use them to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made. And they could enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The risks could be catastrophic.</p> <p>Reviews commissioned by the Austrian and Norwegian governments concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques. They recommended that products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments.</p> <p>We do not need this GM technology in Australia for any useful purpose , including not for The Economy.</p>
Matt Swale, Victoria	<p>I have grave reservations about GM technology and believe that we have better methods for producing abundant food. Like the Sundrop farm in South Australia that is built and thrives in the desert. I think that GM promotes the use of toxic pesticides and monoculture belts of land.</p> <p>Therefore, as a consumer it is my choice that my family does not eat these GM products. It is important to have these technologies regulated as an industry standard. We still do not know the long term risks posed to our populace. They can infuriate our food chain and environment widely. Our governing bodies should carry out a comprehensive case study by an impartial and respected lab.</p>
Elizabeth Wangman, Queensland	Business interests should never be able to control the outcome of an industry they have a vested interest in changing. Caring people want to know, by product labelling, exactly what they are buying. Money from big business should not outweigh the need of consumers to make informed choices.
Bill Jessup	I prefer non GMO food. I believe that GMO food does not provide healthful results.

<b>Submitter</b>	<b>Submission</b>
Sheri Lochner, Northern Territory	<p>If the OGTR deregulates these new GM techniques there will be no monitoring or surveillance. Anyone from amateur biohackers – to industry – to terror groups would be free to use them to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made. And they could enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The risks could be catastrophic.</p> <p>Reviews commissioned by the Austrian and Norwegian governments concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques. They recommended that products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments.</p> <p>Please regulate all GM techniques!</p>
Lorraine Toone	<p>All new GM techniques should be regulated.</p> <p>Not enough is known about the risks.</p>
Dianne Hutchens	<p>I am writing to express my concern about the deregulation of GM techniques and food. As a human being and a mother living on planet earth I deserve to have safe food and environment to live a healthy safe and honest life. By deregulating, not lableing and not assessing the safety of GM products, it is taking away my rights and my choice of how I want to live my life and how the food I eat and feed my family is produced and grown. As well as the inhumain treatment animals. It is to soon to prove the safety of GM products and the effect they have on the environment. I do not agree that a few people have the right to make decisions that threaten the safety of every living being on this planet for their own gain or agender. I ask that you please consider your decision very carefully. Thank you</p>
Christopher Lamb	<p>I am very concerned at the proposed deregulation of GM techniques and the lack of oversight and monitoring that will result, as well as the actual use of new techniques, with no proper safety trials or testing.</p> <p>The environment and the public must be protected from any risks posed by genetic modification – their safety is the government's first responsibility, not something to be gambled with or neglected in the furtherance of industry profit.</p> <p>The negative consequences of the unregulated use of GM procedures would range from expensive clean-up efforts (funded by the public purse) to unforeseen and dire effects on the ecosystem. This area of activity is too novel, complex and potentially disastrous to be anything other than carefully assessed, scrutinised and regulated.</p> <p>There should also be standardised labelling of all GM products. The public must be properly informed.</p>

Submitter	Submission
Deborah Kelton	<p>I am very concerned at the proposed deregulation of GM techniques and the lack of oversight and monitoring that will result, as well as the actual use of new techniques, with no proper safety trials or testing. The environment and the public must be protected from any risks posed by genetic modification – their safety is the government's first responsibility, not something to be gambled with or neglected in the furtherance of industry profit. The government must have the oversight and power to stop any risky or unassessed genetic modification work, whether carried out by companies or individuals. The negative consequences of the unregulated use of GM procedures would range from expensive clean-up efforts (funded by the public purse) to unforeseen and dire effects on the ecosystem. This area of activity is too novel, complex and potentially disastrous to be anything other than carefully assessed, scrutinised and regulated. There should also be standardised labelling of any GM products. The public must be properly informed in this area.</p>
Howard Roe, New South Wales	<p>All gene techniques should be regulated to protect health and the environment. Products that contain GM should be labeled.</p>
Margaret Foy	<p>I would sincerely hope that ALL GE /GM products, are completely monitored and have full surveillance from the experimental to fully developed products. All Regulation must be legal and ratified by Parliament and be totally foolproof. To allow unregulated GM products to be used willy nilly all over crops anywhere in the Country would be irresponsible, immature and unreliable. Scientific evidence after 6 years research on GM use in Canada and USA have shown that more insecticide is used, less crop yield is produced, and the amount of fertiliser is almost unchanged. We do not want GM used in Agriculture at all. Please take notice of all scientific research and comparisons between Europe GM free, and USA which is not.</p>
Joy Danielson	<p>Products derived from new GM techniques be labelled to protect human health &amp; the environment.</p>
Tina Daly, Western Australia	<p>My family is concerned about the proposed deregulation of new genetic modification techniques. If industry or amateurs are allowed to produce new genetically modified plants, animals or microbes without monitoring or surveillance, this could have profound effects on biosafety. Not only could it negatively impact continued healthy food production, but it may lead to new plant or animal diseases being deliberately or accidentally introduced which may be difficult or impossible to eradicate or control.</p> <p>There have been no longitudinal studies which prove that GM foods are safe. In fact, independent studies have demonstrated that animals that ingest GM foods experience organ changes and in some cases develop tumours. There have also been reports from farmers relating to health and fertility problems in livestock and even death.</p> <p>Please do not expose our country to the indiscriminate application of these new techniques which, in addition to the comments above, may result in products entering the retail market which present health risks including potentially deadly allergic responses. An ever increasing number of consumers worldwide actively try to avoid GM products, just as insects and animals also instinctively avoid them. If the OGTR deregulates these techniques and allows unlabelled GM products to enter the market, then the Australian people lose their ability to make educated decisions about what they choose to feed their family.</p> <p><i>[continued on next page]</i></p>

Submitter	Submission
Tina Daly <i>[continued]</i>	<i>[continued from previous page]</i> Please follow the lead of the Austrian and Norwegian governments in recognising the potential risks associated with GM technology. The Austrian government has concluded, after three separate high level reviews of the biosafety risks, that there is insufficient knowledge regarding the risks posed by these new techniques. On that basis, they argue that products derived from new GM techniques should be regulated in the same way as those created using older GM techniques and recommend that products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments.
Denis Daly	This proposal is highly unethical and has obviously been developed to evade regulation. Gene technology is the ultimate scientific euphemism. It is a similar nomenclature to defining poisoning as inappropriate nutrition. GMO has been developed primarily not to increase the world's food supply, but to control commodity markets and make traders rich. There would be more than enough food in the world if the United Nations and multinational agribusiness ceased to interfere with local farming practices. Deregulating this sinister industry would allow companies to poison the planet with impunity.
Antonia Myers, Victoria	All new GM techniques should be regulated to protect human health and the environment Products derived from all new GM techniques MUST be labelled The offspring of GMOs that have theoretically not inherited the GM trait MUST be assessed for safety. AND THEIR PRODUCTS LABELLED. Amateur biohackers MUST NOT be allowed to use GM techniques on living organisms in unregistered laboratories without regulation. LABELLING IS A MUST FOR ALL GM PRODUCTS TO ALLOW PEOPLE TO MAKE A CHOICE. THEIR LONG-TERM SAFETY HAS NOT BEEN ASSESSED.
Monica O'Leary, South Australia	Please do not deregulate any gm techniques. They could fall into the wrong hands with disastrous results.
Rod May	I am writing to submit that I believe that all Gm techniques should be regulated to protect human health and the environment. Furthermore I strongly believe that all products derived from new Gm techniques should be clearly labelled.
Yosefine Deans, Victoria	Thank you for your time in reading this. I would very much like GM not to be allowed and if so then labelling would be a must. It is a technology that is no better than a more natural approach and in my health professional opinion, worse than the natural approach.

Submitter	Submission
Narelle Patterson, New South Wales	<p>I am writing to you because I have very serious concerns about the GM industries and the new techniques that these bodies are trying to have deregulated.</p> <p>I believe it is time for the regulators to stop letting industry write the rules for them and put public health and our environment before private profit.</p> <p>If the OGTR deregulates these new GM techniques there will be no monitoring or surveillance. Anyone will be able to use them to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. New diseases and poisons could be developed, which could enter the food chain and the environment with no safety testing and no labelling. Consumers must be kept safe through proper checks and balances.</p> <p>The Austrian and Norwegian governments commissioned reviews and concluded that not enough is known about the risk posed by these new GM techniques. These reviews recommended that products derived from them require comprehensive case by case risk assessments. Australia should do no less than these recommendations.</p>
C Harrison, Victoria	<p>Nobody wants or needs genetically modified food-or environment-and if there must be such dangerous gameplay-at least give consumers the ability to make our own choices-labels and regulations are a must-whatever money you make from these meddlers, I'm sure you also want to continue living in our world too, we love our country please keep it uncontaminated-from now on-or at least label everything and I really am saying the makers of gmo products should label clearly, "made from genetically modified organisms "...not the ones who make good products, which forces them to have to pay more to sell products- This really is a no-brainer-what about your kids/grandkids-don't you even care? Is money really the only thing worth living for?</p>
Emma-Kate Rose	<p>Documents revealed under Freedom of Information laws show that the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator (OGTR) has been colluding with industry for years to deregulate a range of new genetic modification (GM) techniques.</p> <p>If the OGTR deregulates these new GM techniques there will be no monitoring or surveillance. Anyone from amateur biohackers – to industry – to terror groups would be free to use them to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made. And they could enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The risks could be catastrophic.</p> <p>Reviews commissioned by the Austrian and Norwegian governments concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques. They recommended that products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments.</p>

Submitter	Submission
Revelly Robinson, Victoria	<p>The Office of the Gene Technology Regulator (OGTR) has been colluding with industry for years to deregulate a range of new genetic modification (GM) techniques. If the OGTR deregulates these new GM techniques there will be no monitoring or surveillance. Anyone from amateur biohackers – to industry – to terror groups would be free to use them to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made. And they could enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The risks could be catastrophic. Reviews commissioned by the Austrian and Norwegian governments concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques. They recommended that products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments.</p>
Jean Terry, Queensland	<p>Please protect the people. Do not allow GM products to be unlabeled.</p>
Maggie Zuvela	<p>All new GM techniques should be regulated to protect human health and the environment.</p> <p>Products derived from all new GM techniques should be clearly labelled.</p> <p>The offspring of GMOs that have theoretically not inherited the GM trait should be assessed for safety. AND their products should be labelled.</p> <p>Amateur biohackers SHOULD be BANNED from using GM techniques on living organisms in unregistered laboratories with no regulation.</p>
Marion Cook, Victoria	<p>I urge the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator to strictly regulate and require licensing of ALL genetic modification techniques.</p> <p>How foolish it would be to enable any person/group or company to experiment with genetic modification with no limits and no way of checking what they are doing, or what they are releasing into the world.</p> <p>Of course it could be very profitable for those individuals short term and equally it could be disastrous for international markets, community health and species diversity. It COULD make global warming seem a trifling problem in comparison.</p> <p>No reasonable person would even contemplate not strictly regulating such possibilities.</p>
Karen Brassington	<p>All new GM techniques need to be regulated to protect human health and the environment. They should not be allowed to enter our food chain and our environment without adequate evaluation, thorough safety testing, monitoring and labelling.</p> <p>Reviews commissioned by the Austrian and Norwegian governments concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques. They also recommended that products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments.</p>

Submitter	Submission
Susan Daquin	<p>I think these techniques should be properly regulated. If the OGTR deregulates these new GM techniques there will be no surveillance or monitoring. What is stopping anyone from amateur biohackers, to industry, to terror groups to use them to genetically modify animals, plants and microbes? Entirely new poisons and diseases could be created, entering our food chain and environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The risks will be catastrophic! There will be no turning back. Not enough data is known on the long term effects of GMO'S as it is, humans are the guinea pigs. Governments of countries like Austria and Norway have commissioned reviews that concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques.</p>
Ros Whiteley, New South Wales	<p>STOP! Think again before finally making a decision about deregulating GM techniques!</p> <p>Consider the possible consequences should the science be released. The negatives could outweigh the positives.</p> <p>Not everyone has a kind heart or socially positive ambitions.</p>
Roman Revyakin, Victoria	<p>This is my follow up on the previous submission on the GM food labelling (see below), sent to MP Catherine King – on which I received a response that though no changes to the current food labelling standards are foreseeable, “Labor also believes it is essential that Australia maintains an independent, scientific and evidence-based regulatory system for GM crops to ensure their safety.”</p> <p>And now the Office of the One Technology Regulator (OGTR) proposes that the regulation should be removed! If the OGTR deregulates these new GM techniques there will be no monitoring or surveillance. Anyone from amateur biohackers – to industry – to terror groups would be free to use them to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made. And they could enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The risks could be catastrophic</p> <p>Please do not allow that to happen.</p> <p>----- Original submission:</p> <p>In case a ban on the GM foods is lifted I want all GM foods to be labelled because I care what I eat and what I put on my kids table for dinner.</p> <p>Informative food labels that let me decide what to buy because I want to be able to choose what to eat.</p> <p>I would also like my state government to review the release of GM crops because I believe there is a now quite a few studies available which point to the danger of the GM crops harming the environment. There is also a lack of evidence how the GM food affects those who consume them on a regular basis in the long term.</p> <p>I also insist on the protection for farmers, most of whom remain GM-free, because the GM crops contaminate land and those who choose to grow organic foods are in danger of becoming another victim of their neighbours – such as ██████████.</p>

Submitter	Submission
Robert Skappel, New South Wales	We the people demand that all GM products be labelled & conform to strict safety tests !
Richard Stanford	<p>There are potential dangers with genetic modification, no GM techniques should be deregulated.</p> <p>There needs to be close scrutiny and strict regulation of all genetic modification, using a principle of extreme caution.</p>
Christine Bennett	<p>Should all new GM techniques be regulated to protect human health and the environment?</p> <p>IN A WORD: YES!</p> <p>There is a vast difference between breeding a new type of grain resulting from pollination between two compatible grain varieties and that of performing mutations in genetic engineering. For example, wheat grains engineered with toxic organophosphates, such as glyphosate, are NOT FIT FOR HUMAN OR ANIMAL CONSUMPTION.</p> <p>Consumer Rights must be upheld! In discussion of GM labelling laws on consumer products, I strongly support the current requirement that the GM market should remain regulated. Informative food labels allow me to decide what I wish to buy and, because I value my health and wellbeing, I DO NOT choose to buy GM products! For this reason, I purchase those products that specify they are NOT GM.</p> <p>Should GM products be labelled? ALWAYS!</p> <p>I support much stronger regulations: Labelling laws must be extended further to provide full information on all GM ingredients because all consumers have a right to be fully informed in their choice of foodstuffs.</p> <p>I have not yet seen products that supply full information, advising of GM ingredients, except in imported goods. The Australian market appears to be lagging in this requirement. It is the democratic right of all Australian consumers to be fully informed through comprehensive GM labelling of these ingredients.</p> <p>Should amateur biohackers be allowed to use GM techniques on living organisms in unregistered laboratories with no regulation?</p> <p>DEREGULATION? NO, NO, NO... WHAT MADNESS!</p>
Chelsea Benton, Victoria	If GM deregulation occurs, the repercussions could be fatal for us all, in more than one way. Please consider that it is too big a gamble to sign of on. STOP DEREGULATION!

Submitter	Submission
Clare Loughlin, Victoria	<p>I am extremely worried about the possible consequences of these new techniques and their safety. I think all products derived from new GM techniques should be absolutely be labelled. It is a no brainer. These techniques NEED to be regulated to protect our health, and the health of our environment. How could anyone with children support the deregulation, and non-labelling of these new techniques – it is crazy to me. We are not a science experiment. I want transparency in my food, and I have EVERY RIGHT to know what is in the food I am consuming. These large agrochemical companies continue to harm our health, and our environment...don't give into them and their corporate power.</p> <p>Take this public consultation seriously, and take the potential risks of these new technologies seriously, I beg of you.</p>
Weston DeLomba	<p>Hey, sorry, I'm a biochemist in northeastern America, so this may seem random. But I've heard quite a lot about this deregulation/under-regulation business concerning GMs in Australia. I urge you to reconsider your stance, or at least, proceed with the utmost of caution with regard to liberal use of these gene modification techniques. It's open knowledge that this type of activity often has undesirable and/or deleterious effects, especially within the industry- I mean, this is a knowledge of the public, as well as anyone. Failure to address public concern is a failure of government and of science. Given recent events in my country, I do not wish to see the ideals of democracy crumble without the rest of the world, so I'd say that if people are resisting deregulation, it's best to pacify their concern. As with many things, more time and consideration is necessary. The implications of GM technology are broad and far-reaching, and, most importantly, mostly unknown.</p>
Steve Payne, New South Wales	<p>I have only just found out about the proposed new proposals to deregulate new GM technologies. i call on the OGTR to make these proposed changes more widely known and to give at least six months for the public to give feedback. Not enough warning has been given and these technologies may pose a serious threat to the environment and people as other GM plant technologies have already done.</p>
Barry Miller, Queensland	<p>My understanding is that Genetic Modification has not been proven safe in the long term. Therefore deregulation of GM techniques could pose unacceptable risks and should therefore be subject to regulatory scrutiny.</p> <p>To deregulate could pose irreversible problems in the future.</p>
Barb V	<p>Option 2 seems to be best option, as it seeks to regulate certain new technologies. As noted, it gives legal clarity as to which technologies are subject to regulation, and so provide certainty for researchers and industry. Full oversight is needed as these technologies are so new, and there is not sufficient understanding as to the consequences and impacts, especially the unintended consequences.</p>

Submitter	Submission
Sally Wylie, Western Australia	<p>It has come to my notice that the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator (OGTR) has been colluding with industry to deregulate a range of new genetic modification (GM) techniques. Why is Australia once again the bunny state. Round the world other governments are much more cautious. The US Government has listed them as potential “weapons of mass destruction and proliferation” in its recent annual worldwide threat assessment report.</p> <p>What monitoring and surveillance will be done to assess potential harm or misuse of these techniques</p> <p>Anyone from amateur biohackers - to industry - to terror groups would be free to use them to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made. And they could enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labelling. This is madness. The results could be catastrophic. Who is leading this charge?</p> <p>The Austrian and Norwegian governments concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques. They recommended that products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments. Australia should do the same .</p>
Lyn Serventy	<p>It is necessary to ensure that All new GM techniques be regulated to protect human health and the environment. Products derived from all new GM techniques should be labelled. The offspring of GMOs that have theoretically not inherited the GM trait be assessed for safety. Such products should be labelled. Amateur biohackers must not be allowed to use GM techniques on living organisms in unregistered laboratories with no regulation.</p>
Robin Trouchet, Western Australia	<p>I am opposed to the deregulation of new GM techniques on the grounds that there is currently no clear understanding of the risks they pose and no proposed monitoring of their proposed use. it is inconceivable to me that the OGTR which was presumably set up to protect us and our environment can propose what seems effectively a rubber stamp on processes which have the potential to wreak massive havoc- in our food chain. our environment, air and waterways and our health without rigorous testing case by case and strict labelling laws. We leave ourselves open to contaminations, new diseases, irresponsible amateurs and terrorists. I believe the OGTR should mandate monitoring proposed new products derived using such techniques and require strict labelling to enable investigation into any unforeseen catastrophic effects.</p>
Timothy Randall, New South Wales	<p>As a student of ecology, I extremely concern about the deregulation new genetic modification techniques. I am specifically concerned of any techniques promoting monoculture, or any production of herbicide or pesticides. Gene technology should be one of the most highly regulated industries because of the exponential nature of life!</p>
Diana Dixon, New South Wales	<p>Surely it is madness to feed ourselves, our children and our future generations food that we don't know is safe, not to mention any particular harm to the environment.</p> <p>Again it sounds like a government regulatory body willing to compromise for the sake of a deal. Please let common sense rule and let the reason you signed up for this body be altruistic. Do something that will allow you and the everyone else sleep at night.</p>

Submitter	Submission
Marsha Emerman	<p>I am dismayed to learn that you may be considering deregulation of a range of new GM technologies. That would be highly irresponsible and could be a recipe for disaster. Any alteration of living organisms – plant, animal, or microbe – has risks that need to be carefully assessed and monitored. Without regulation, there is no way to prevent many possible adverse outcomes including: -irreversible environmental damage - impacts on human health and safety -biohacking and experimentation in unauthorised laboratories -untested foods entering the food chain</p> <p>All new GM technologies need to be carefully assessed on a case by case basis. If they are allowed to proceed, any of their products, must be properly labelled.</p> <p>It is your job as a Regulator to regulate, not to give free reign to industry to unleash new, and potentially dangerous, products.</p>
Robin Percy, South Australia	<p>Documents revealed under Freedom of Information laws show that the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator (OGTR) has been colluding with industry for years to deregulate a range of new genetic modification (GM) techniques. And now the rest of us have just 6 weeks to make the case why they should be regulated!</p> <p>If the OGTR deregulates these new GM techniques there will be no monitoring or surveillance. Anyone from amateur bio hackers – to industry – to terror groups would be free to use them to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made. And they could enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The risks could be catastrophic.</p> <p>Reviews commissioned by the Austrian and Norwegian governments concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques. They recommended that products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments.</p> <p>Natural health scientists are very alarmed by the measured impact on the environment and our food chain of GMO products and science. The supposed benefits have not materialised. To the contrary alarming side effects are appearing.</p> <p>In view of the above which is a muted understatement of what I have believed to be the case for years I believe that</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. All new GM techniques should be regulated to protect human health and the environment.</li> <li>2. Products derived from all new GM techniques should be labelled very clearly and truthfully with no attempt to deceive or obfuscate.</li> <li>3. the offspring of all GMO's that have theoretically not inherited the GM trait need to be assessed for safety by people not associated with the GMO industry in any way. in any case these products should be labelled as having a close association with the GMO industry.</li> <li>4. All personnel involved in producing, selling or advertising these GMO products should be licensed and subject to a code making them liable for all they produce, market or advertise and able to be sued for full compensation any for any detrimental effects.</li> </ol>
Martin Oliver, New South Wales	<p>I do not support new-generation GM techniques from being exempted from GM food labelling requirements, and believe that these novel foods must be regarded as GM by Australian regulators.</p>

Submitter	Submission
Anna King	<p>Please regulate all new GM techniques and assess/investigate possible health impacts on humans and their food chain.</p> <p>Please label ALL GM products and derivatives including ingredients bases on new techniques.</p> <p>Please assess the offspring of GMOs that have theoretically not inherited the GM trait, and label the products that contain them.</p> <p>Please prohibit amateur biohackers from using GM techniques on living organisms in unregistered laboratories with no regulation.</p>
Miguel Pez, Western Australia	<p>I feel strongly that all GM products or products derived from GMO's to be properly labelled. It would be criminally deceitful by the producer and abusively endorsed by the authorities if GMO's in any form or amount are allowed to be in our food chain by stealth. Not labelling is a blatant attack on my basic rights to know and chose what I eat and I demand the authorities that have employment to look after our (the community) interests – and not the biotechnology interests, to do for once the job they are paid to do.</p> <p>As far as all other GM techniques, which are coming of fashion, they must be fully regulated, and labelled, before the horses bolt. If free rain is given to these new technologies we may end with an uncontrollable plague of biblical proportions. Caution must be enforced before it is too late, anything else would be an act of criminal negligence.</p>
Alex Hodges	<p>To put it bluntly, it is our opinion that the OGTR is a vested interest organisation, principally in existence to further the heinous agenda to poison our planet with dangerous organisms for which there is no end to cross-contamination with the natural environment. ??? The fact that Australia is not standing up to this disgusting agenda, and completely ignoring the concerns and desires of the Australian people, makes us ashamed to live here. Other countries have more guts and duty of care than this pathetic one, and the fact that the OGTR wants to just “rubber stamp” every horrific invention of these evil vested interests, says to us, that the OGTR is just a “prostitute” to the industry ?? How people can sell their souls and work there is just beyond us ?!</p>
Tiffany Schultz, South Australia	<p>Consumers have a right to know what they are eating. Without proper testing and regulation we do not know if these new GM techniques that are proposed to be deregulated, are safe and we cannot chose whether or not we consume them. There is plenty of evidence that the impact of the existing GM foods on health and the environment is potentially detrimental. Although the testing of these foods often lacks rigour and independence.</p> <p>Safe food is a basic human right. Please continue to regulate these new GM techniques independently and thoroughly.</p>
Salome Argyropoulos, Victoria	<p>All GM should be stopped. Not only is it unnatural but it is also dangerous.</p>
M Claire White, South Australia	<p>It is of great concern to my family and I that organisations and individuals may be permitted to design and distribute some GM techniques without thorough and independent testing. We implore you to seriously revisit any decision that may have been made or about to be made regarding the deregulation of the GM industry. One must consider the ‘genie in/out of the bottle’ . Thank you.</p>

Submitter	Submission
Patricia Kahler, New South Wales	If the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator deregulates these new GM techniques there will be no monitoring or surveillance. Anyone from amateur biohackers – to industry – to terror groups would be free to use them to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be created that could enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labeling. The risks could be catastrophic and as such I ask you not to deregulate the industry
Janine Perry, Victoria	Please stop further genetic modification of our food. I appreciate that the world human population must be reduced but by making people sick & then die a terrible death is not the best way to go. Education & birth control would be far better. Some humanity is required – not poisons.
Gabrielle Richardson, New South Wales	<p>The use of any technology to modify genes that may impact our environment and our food require extensive testing and regulation to ensure both long and short term safety.</p> <p>Not enough is known about these new techniques or in fact genetics in general to ensure safety without regulation and restrictions.</p> <p>Individuals also deserve the right to know what products contain GMO products through clear labeling and transparency of production.</p>
Sharon Wallent	<p>If the OGTR deregulates new GM techniques there will be no monitoring or surveillance. Anyone from amateur biohackers – to industry – to terror groups would be free to use them to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made. And they could enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The risks could be catastrophic.</p> <p>Reviews commissioned by the Austrian and Norwegian governments concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques. They recommended that products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments.</p> <p>Protect our biodiversity, our horticultural and agricultural industries. Australia should be the country of uncontaminated and non-GMOs for global biosecurity.</p>
Carolyn McMahan, South Australia	please assess, regulate, and licence all new genetically engineered/ modified techniques, (CRIS PR; ZFN; RNai; etc.) and their living GE/GM PRODUCTS. I CHOOSE OPTION TWO [2] FOR NO EXEMPTIONS.
Deborah Hart, Victoria	<p>Is it because GM technologies are not independently tested (to be clear, by scientists who are not paid for by the vested interests seeking to maximise profits from the experimental technologies) that consumers don't want them?</p> <p>Or is it that GM threatens natural systems in ways that could be catastrophic (ie superweeds) in the long run?</p> <p>Or is it because GM enables food systems to be owned and controlled by a cable of profiteering biotech corporations with zero regard for the longterm health of humans and nature and beyond the laws of democratic governments?</p> <p>Expressed another way, except for profiteering biotech corporations and their servants in decision making positions in governments, who wants GM?</p> <p>In case I haven't stated clearly enough, our family intends to keep fighting any moves towards GM.</p>

Submitter	Submission
Gina Winter, Queensland	Please don't deregulate the new GM techniques. Our food is too precious to mess with. These companies don't care about our health. We are depending on you to do the right thing
Malcolm Thorei	<p>Documents revealed under Freedom of Information laws show that the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator (OGTR) has been colluding with industry for years to deregulate a range of new genetic modification (GM) techniques. And now the rest of us have just 6 weeks to make the case why they should be regulated!</p> <p>If the OGTR deregulates these new GM techniques there will be no monitoring or surveillance. Anyone from amateur biohackers – to industry – to terror groups would be free to use them to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made. And they could enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The risks could be catastrophic.</p> <p>Reviews commissioned by the Austrian and Norwegian governments concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques. They recommended that products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments</p>
Erica Corr, Victoria	<p>All new GM techniques must be regulated to protect human health and the environment against ‘unforeseen circumstances and effects’.</p> <p>Any products created using these techniques must be labelled appropriately and as transparently as possible for the above reasons and to show respect for consumers' intelligence and right to choose.</p> <p>Any young that are born or created from living creatures and plants need to be tested and certified for the absence of the GM traits of their parents. These products need to be labelled as certified for all of the reasons already stated.</p> <p>No amateur bio-hacking should be allowed using GM techniques on living organisms in unregistered laboratories (or premises used as a laboratory) with no regulation. This is necessary to protect people and the environment from ‘unforeseen consequences’ and malicious intent.</p> <p>Humans make mistakes and some of these mistakes are irreversible and deadly. The consequences need to be taken into account and the humility of knowing that we don't know everything must be present in our decision-making about these technologies, no matter how many perceived benefits there may be for humans.</p>
Eleonora Faraone	No matter what the opinion on whether GMO's are safe, at a minimum the public should know what they are buying. Labeling needs to be essential to the selling of GMO products. No one is permitted to take away my freedom to choose.
Natalie English, Queensland	All GM products should be tested by completely independent scientists and the testing should be long term, not just for a few months.

Submitter	Submission
Melanie Spicer, New South Wales	<p>Please do not allow the Australian population to become even larger Guinea pigs to GMO experiments.</p> <p>The people of Australia deserve to be able to make informed choices about the origin, production and GM status of the food they put into their bodies. Aside from being able to make truly informed decisions, allowing GMOs into our environment to potentially contaminate our food chain via pollination and seed scattering on the wind further degrades this right.</p> <p>Industry will finance studies to serve their purpose; to skew the data and hide any evidence of GMOs being detrimental to our health. They have no way to prove long term consumption or exposure to GMOs is safe.</p> <p>I am both disgusted and terrified by the notion of industry influencing the regulation laws surrounding GMOs in Australia.</p>
Paula James	<p>Please exercise the utmost caution when it comes to genetically modified foods. Support ways to enhance the beauty of the natural earth we have – without modifying it.</p>
Maureen Grant, New South Wales	<p>Please give urgent consideration to these points listed below. There is not enough evidence to give any body the right to muck about with genetic material.</p> <p>All new GM techniques be regulated to protect human health and the environment? Products derived from all new GM techniques be labelled? The offspring of GMOs that have theoretically not inherited the GM trait be assessed for safety? Should their products be labelled? Amateur biohackers be allowed to use GM techniques on living organisms in unregistered laboratories with no regulation?</p>
Michael Bushel	<p>I want to see clear and transparent labeling on all food. I choose not to eat GM foods and I should have the right to make up my own mind</p>
Peter Dawson, South Australia	<p>It appears that corporation is out of control and that our governments are controlled by these corporations. However, it also appears that the people are waking up to this and say no more. This means whoever makes bad decisions against the people will be made liable for their actions very soon.</p>
Patrick Lias, Victoria	<p>I am concerned that the science around these new GM techniques don't take into account the plethora of unforeseen consequences that can result when complex systems (in this case biological systems) are altered in novel ways.</p> <p>Furthermore, I am concerned that there will not be the necessary testing or regulation to ensure that the public is not exposed to potential harm that may result from these techniques, or at least, be able to make up their own mind on the issue (through their consumption choices) because of a lack of product labelling and transparency of information.</p>

Submitter	Submission
Krystal de	<p>There is insufficient knowledge regarding the risks posed by these techniques. There should be a comprehensive case by case risk assessment and we should proceed with caution since these products can not be recalled in entirety once unleashed into the environment. Chinese love us for our “clean and green” products, unfortunately most Chinese have no knowledge of the heavy use of pesticides, insecticides and gene modification techniques already going on in this country. There is a lot more to safe food and a safe environment than visible factors such as smog and air pollution. Our skies may be clear and blue, but manipulation of plants, animals and microbes at the genetic level is fraught with potential risks and dangers, and deregulation of new techniques opens the floodgates – allowing anyone to tamper with nature. There are serious biosafety risks at stake and it is the role of the regulators to keep us safe, not expose us to greater risk.</p>
Jeremy Douriaux	<p>Documents revealed under Freedom of Information laws show that the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator (OGTR) has been colluding with industry for years to deregulate a range of new genetic modification (GM) techniques.</p> <p>If the OGTR deregulates these new GM techniques there will be no monitoring or surveillance. Anyone from amateur biohackers – to industry – to terror groups would be free to use them to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made. And they could enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The risks could be catastrophic.</p> <p>Reviews commissioned by the Austrian and Norwegian governments concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques. They recommended that products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments.</p>
Jade Hedges	<p>I am going to keep this short and sweet, it is very concerning to me that any modified food, organism or substance should be excluded from GMO regulation. The answer is so utterly simple, anything that has been modified needs to be regulated.</p>
Nicole Hargreaves, Queensland	<p>To whom it may concern, I have become aware that there is a chance that the OGTR may be about to deregulate a number of new genetic modification techniques. I have grave concerns, as does the Austrian and Norwegian government, from what I read, that the risks associated with these techniques have not been thoroughly investigated. I am aware of scientific literature detailing significant health concerns from some GM organisms that have, in the past, required withdrawal from the market. If these new techniques are de-regulated, how is the public to be protected from any new potentially dangerous products like these previous ones?</p> <p>I am writing to request that the OGTR ensure that all products derived from genetic modification techniques, and that all new genetic modification techniques, be regulated and assessed on a case-by-case basis for safety. I strongly oppose any move to de-regulate these techniques and products, and any move to allow GM techniques to be used in unregistered bodies or outside of careful surveillance overseen by independent (not industry) regulators.</p> <p>I firmly believe that consumers have a right to choose what they purchase and/or consume with full information as to whether the product contains any material derived from GM techniques, including offspring of GMOs. Please do not allow unlabelled GM products to reach our fields and shelves.</p>

Submitter	Submission
Christina Bishop, Tasmania	<p>GMO foods have been a great concern for many people around the world for many years. Many countries have started to ban their cultivation and import. I believe the reason for this is that there are no long term independent studies that show they are safe for human consumption in the long term. As a government body whose primary concern should be the welfare of it's citizens, I implore you to keep GMO crops and imports under strict regulation. Where GMO products are sold, labelling laws are made to protect mostly the producers and do not give any rights to the consumer who could well end up being the very ones to be harmed. I believe that as an Australian citizen I should have the right to know if my food is genetically modified. I take my health very seriously and would never willingly eat a GMO product.</p> <p>I urge you to stand up for every Australian citizen by keeping strict regulation on GMO crops and enforcing labelling laws on foods that have been genetically modified.</p>
Lyndal N, South Australia	<p>I am deeply concerned, as a mother, an Aunt, a Remedial Therapist and Nutritionist that there is such talk of deregulating a range of new genetic modification techniques. There is scientific evidence that suggests this is detrimental to our health and that of future generations, yours and mine. Please reconsider as a matter of moral urgency.</p>
John Kahler	<p>In a recent message I received, speaking about how the OGTR is planning unwise decisions on deregulating certain GM techniques, we need you to reverse this decision and keep Australia free of these vile, disgusting and immoral activities. The regulator system should not be approving any GM products at all, and the country should be working towards a complete ban from local and overseas “suppliers.” We should be a country to look up to in this area, and by sliding down this path of living abominations, we are setting a bad example, not only to our own people, but those from abroad as well. I urge you to work towards a GM-free Australia in all areas and prevent the rape and mutation of our living organisms, which should be respected and not abused for any gain. Also, the fact that a Gene Technology Regulator actually exists, shows how bad the current situation is as well, when it should be just a total ban, that would not require such a department.</p>
Jon Schnauffmann	<p>Just a quick note to say that the movement to regulate GM technology has been hijacked by the uneducated and willfully ignorant. Any regulatory policy concerning such matters should be informed by both experts in the field (scientists) and the latest empirical findings. I trust that input from activist groups and unqualified bodies will be excluded. This includes online petitions.</p> <p>End the war on science.</p>
Diana Leaver	<p>For the safety of all human beings, there Regulation (including monitoring and surveillance) should remain for all Genetically Modified (GM) techniques. In fact, in my opinion, there should be no messing with nature.....there should be NO genetically modified anything. The arrogance of certain individuals or companies who, because of greed and the desire to control others, feel it necessary to mess with nature astounds me. Without tight legislation and regulation on any genetically modified activities, there is a risk that entirely new diseases and poisons could be made. And they could enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labeling. The risks could be catastrophic. Not enough is known about the risks posed by the current and the new GM techniques. Any products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments. OR BETTER STILL.....JUST STOP TRYING TO MESS WITH NATURE in the first place. If Organic, Rotational and Companion farming practices were adhered to the world and it's beings would be a lot better off.....</p>

Submitter	Submission
Janine Zar, Western Australia	Two issues are of concern to me in relation to the use of GM technology in our food supply 1) I want the regulatory body to provide assurance that all new GM techniques be highly regulated to protect all human and animal health as well as to ensure the protection of our land and water. 2) I want all GM products to be clearly labelled so that I can make an informed decision when exercising my buying power as a consumer.
Holli Harrison, Victoria	<p>GMOs need to be regulated. I am fearful that we will soon not be able to identify GMO's in products and not have the choice to opt out. This is all about giving people the opportunity to make a choice to consume them or not. I have MS and I want to give my children food that is not tampered with, to ensure that they don't get MS, as I believe that combined with all the environmental toxins we ingest, GMO's also play a huge part in illness and well being.</p> <p>Even to the point of animal feed. There is a giant loophole that needs to be filled. A chicken can be fed GMO's and it's eggs don't need to be labeled as GMO, as the feed is a biproduct of the chicken. This is so wrong. These eggs are created with GMO's. As a parent, when I was trying to get pregnant, I ate a healthy organic diet. Which is what I would expect the chicken to eat.</p> <p>Environmentally it's wrong too, that one monopoly owns the rights of a seed.</p> <p>Let's feed people with healthy good organic food, not Frankenstein food.</p>
Lynne Morrisin, Victoria	Please help us look after our health. No GMO in australia. Health before profit.
Kris Kern, Western Australia	<p>Everyone deserves to know what they are eating!</p> <p>While some people may not care, I certainly do and I believe it's totally unethical for the OGTR to deregulate GM techniques.</p> <p>Already the Austrian and Norwegian governments have come to the conclusion that too little is known about the possible and potentially enourmous risks and damage associated with GM technology. Russia has rejected GM foods.</p> <p>There is too much at stake! Regulation and labelling of GM technology and foods must be mandatory and not self-regulated by the industry that stands to profit at the expense of human health and the health of the planet!</p>
David Harrison	<p>All techniques in regards to GM food need to be monitored, regulated and tested.</p> <p>Think about your kids, kids, kids and how your decision now will affect people for all time.</p>
Chris Tancik, Victoria	Food for the people and not for the profits of the agrichem companies, but why would you listen to the people for you mongrels

Submitter	Submission
Franklin Bruinstroop, Queensland	<p>I have been made aware that documents revealed under Freedom of Information laws show that the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator (OGTR) is preparing to deregulate a range of new genetic modification (GM) techniques. Further, it seems that the deregulation is happening to support industry with limited consultation on long term impacts of the decision.</p> <p>I write firstly because it is my understanding that generally any modification and engineering of food away from its natural state reduces the value of the food ( I do know that First Peoples have found that some food need to undergo limited modifications to remove toxins, though this is quite different from genetic modification).</p> <p>In particular, I am concerned that CRISPR techniques may proceed without regulation. If the OGTR deregulates these new GM techniques anyone from amateur biohackers – to industry – to terror groups would be free to use them to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. And they could enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The risks could be catastrophic.</p> <p>Even the way that some of these techniques work is still hotly contested among scientists. The idea of deregulating something we still don't fully understand is very unscientific</p> <p>As a government body it is your specific role to protect the health and safety of people, and to protect the environment, and without solid peer reviewed longitudinal studies of these new technologies, I don't see how you can fulfill the specific role for which you were established.</p> <p>I therefore call on you to resist the deregulation of any new gene modification techniques, and to advise the people of Australia of precisely the work you are doing and the evidence to support it</p>
Kylie Wilson, Western Australia	<p>There is a growing understanding of the risks of GM foods and with this comes a massive population who want to avoid GM foods altogether.</p> <p>By not regulating this area of science and food you are taking away peoples choice to decide if they want to put these foods in their and their childrens bodies or not.</p> <p>If there is concern that monitoring production and labelling foods may cause people to avoid buying these foods (and thus affecting profits of such food company), then is this not a clear indication that people don't want this?</p> <p>The world is steering away from manipulation of nature and more towards wholistic unmodified ways of living. This goes beyond 'clean' food but also clean energy, reducing waste and carbon foot print.</p> <p>If you were sincerely in touch with what the general people on this planet value and thus where we put our energy and resources to, then you would definitely understand how important it is to monitor, independantly regulate and truthfully label any and all foods affected by genetic manipulation or modification.</p>

Submitter	Submission
Mimmi Rose Paljakka Mcanenu, New South Wales	GM techniques should be tested not only in order to protect human health but in order to protect animals. Animals that pollinate these crops may be affected by GM techniques and we have a responsibility to ensure that their future is safe for them and for us as their existence is crucial for ours.
Nicole Punte	Please keep our food healthy and ensure GM techniques are heavily regulated and all GM foods are labeled accordingly.
Sherre Chambers, New South Wales	I want labelling of genetically modified food so that I know what is on offer and can make rational choices about the food that I consume and feed my family. This tai labelling seems to me simply commonsense, and it's hard to imagine why we would even have to argue for this. Thank you very much for making the fair decision that protects consumers by giving them the information we deserve.
Lynette Shallis, Queensland	These techniques should be regulated, to not do so could endanger the health of all our citizens, please dont let us be guinea pigs like the Americans, its wrong.
Adam Espiner, Victoria	I do not want any GMO component in food and demand that any food containing GMO is CLEARLY labelled, taking into account accessibility guidelines. I demand
Colin Robertson, Queensland	Not enough is known yet about the long-term effects of GM foods. Consumers need to know, and have a right to know. Beware of what you may allow to be unleashed.
Chris Ryan, New South Wales	GMO's are not proven to be safe so therefore you cannot justify deregulation of new GM techniques and jeopardize the safety of Australian consumers.
Marlyse Carroll, Victoria	I'm writing to ask that all new GM techniques are regulated to protect human health and the environment. As a consumer I also want to know if the products I buy have been genetically modified. So please ensure that labelling is adequate so health-conscious Australians can choose what they eat. Please do not sell out to the industry.
Andrew Preece, Queensland	<p>Of the four options the OGTR presents in its discussion paper, Option 2 is the only one that will require the labelling and safety testing of ALL products derived from new GM techniques such as CRISPR. This is the option I urge you to adopt.</p> <p>Also,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All new GM techniques should be regulated to protect human health and the environment.</li> <li>• Products derived from all new GM techniques should be labelled accordingly.</li> <li>• The offspring of GMOs that have theoretically not inherited the GM trait should be assessed for safety and these products should be labelled accordingly.</li> <li>• Amateur biohackers be not be allowed to use GM techniques on living organisms in unregistered laboratories with no regulation.</li> </ul>

Submitter	Submission
Brigitte James, Western Australia	The public has a right to know if GMO's are in our food. Your job is to protect us not hurt us. I will only trust organic now.
Trevor Hywood, South Australia	<p>There is very good evidence (contrary to what the vested interest organisations such as ██████ say) that GMO food has serious health effects on the human gut. Already, GMO canola is rife in our processed food system because it is a cheap source of oil, albeit in small quantities percentage wise, although I wouldn't necessarily trust that to be true. We know commercial interests only have the bottom line result in mind so we need tough regulation from government otherwise consumers will bear the brunt of their recklessness and greed. The evidence is quite clear that better and more natural farming practices are more efficient and produce better quality food than GMO methods. If Australia allows these GM corporations to infiltrate and spread their GM seeds further there is no turning back, it cannot be reversed. We have a great opportunity to produce GM free food produce and the world wants this in greater numbers. China seems to be allowing GM into their food chain through b</p> <p>uyouts of GM companies. Imagine the hundreds of millions of Chinese middle class wanting to buy our GM free produce in the future. Please toughen the regulations and do surveys, the majority of people do not want GM food, for many reasons.</p>
A Blake	<p>Contrary to the scientific opinions of the Tobacco industry in the 50s, we have since learned that cigarettes are not safe and never were. This generation must learn from the mistakes of the past. We simply must have strict perimeters placed around the genetic engineering of foods. Our current generation has seen unprecedented escalations in allergies, food intolerances etc that our grandparents never had. We must remain objective and open to the possibility that this could very well be the result of genetic engineering of food.</p> <p>At the very least, these foods/products must be clearly labeled so that the average family has a chance to protect themselves against this large-scale genetic experiment.</p>
Valerie Stevens	Please, think of health costs when considering this,. I and others I know will not purchase items containing Genetically modified organisms. If you care about ou health and costs associated with it and also wish to continue being profitable then choose Organic farming. It is the only way to preserve the soil and microorganisms that help produce a healthy,huge crop to feed the masses!
Trevor James, Western Australia	No GMO's – ever. It is a dangerous practice. Frankenfood. Not fit for human consumption.
Andrew Ian Johnston, Victoria	Plan and simple manipulating the genome is a bad idea. Look how we messed up the world already just by playing with chemicals. The only reason this has gotten so (past common sense) is that people are willing to ignore their consciences and intuition when they see large amounts of money.

Submitter	Submission
Roe Sybylla, Australian Capital Territory	I do not want the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator (OGTR) deregulate any new genetic modification (GM) techniques. I advocate Option 2 given in the OGTR discussion paper which requires the labelling and safety testing of ALL products derived from new GM techniques. It is unthinkable that the OGTR or the Government should even consider deregulating the new GM techniques, which would allow anyone, including terrorists, to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes without surveillance. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made and they could enter our food chain and environment with no safety testing and no labelling. Such a decision would be unconscionable.
Courtney James, Western Australia	Protect us from this Frankenfood. It is a disgrace that the Agency that is supposed to protect us is using us as guinea pigs.  NO GMO's
S Nash	Like most members of the general public I think it's essential to know what is in our food. Every survey shows that consumers are very resistant to foods labelled with GM ingredients and for good reason. Sufficient research has not been done on the long term effects of consuming GM foods & those laboratory tests that have shown up evidence of birth defects etc in animal studies have been ignored – presumably because large companies like ██████████ have the ear of government. When are regulators going to realise that they cannot inflict this experimental technology on the public at large. Please do all in your power to keep this genie in the bottle – future generations will thank you.
Corinne Coombs, Tasmania	I wish to strongly object to any GMO technology being used in food or cosmetics without correct labeling. you have not convinced me of its safety and the testing has been woefully inadequate with no accumulative testing of diets high in GMOs secretly secreted in food.  I am forced to only eat certified organic foods as not only do I not want to eat GMOs but pesticides and chemicals too.  I realise your pay packet comes from these Frankenfood manufactuers and I have no idea how you sleep at night thinking this can have any positives for this country or its people.  shame on you!
Dana Alfred, Queensland	Australians do not want to eat Genetically Modified produce – Ever increasing demand for higher priced organic produce proves this fact. Buying Australian made is another way Australians try to avoid GM imports from the US and other less trusted countries. Trying to avoid products with known GM ingredients such as corn, canola and soy is another way consumers try to avoid GM food. It should not be so difficult to avoid consuming GMOs.  Australia must be a trusted food producer and exporter to demand the highest prices for farmers. Producing inferior GMO produce leads to the world labelling a country as an inferior food bowl. We do not want Australia holding such a label. We want to eat safely in Australian restaurants without feeling the need to home cook every meal from scratch, just to avoid GMOs.  <i>[continued on next page]</i>

Submitter	Submission
Dana Alfred [continued]	<p data-bbox="315 193 725 225"><i>[continued from previous page]</i></p> <p data-bbox="315 244 2069 312">We do not want to buy inferior produce in our shops, sneakily imported without GMO labels. Our children deserve the highest quality of food.</p> <p data-bbox="315 336 2085 405">We do not want biodiversity destroyed by higher pesticide use and organism killing seeds. We do not want patented plants that destroy the rights of individuals to plant and own what they plant without paying royalties to mega corporations.</p> <p data-bbox="315 429 2101 497">We want Australia to be a Garden of Eden with every plant and animal, not a wasteland caused by GMO plants that can't support insect life nor human life. With the destruction of biodiversity comes the loss of species, from one to the next that relied upon it for its existence.</p> <p data-bbox="315 521 1249 553">No GMOs produced in Australia. No GMO imports. Australians say NO.</p>
Mary Vice, Western Australia	<p data-bbox="315 572 2136 748">I cannot believe that I am having to do this, as it is plain common sense to have anything that is modified (in any way) regulated. Governing bodies are always far more willing to please big business and to save money, than they are to protect individuals. I have been plagued with illness for the past 10 years and have a weak digestive system at the best of times and I need to know what I am putting into my body; that is my right. There has to be full labelling and testing of all products derived from new GM techniques. So option 2 has to be the one you choose. We always seem to be way behind other health concious countries like Austria and Norway. DO THE RIGHT THING.</p>
Richard Eves	<p data-bbox="315 759 2136 967">I do not want the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator (OGTR) deregulate any new genetic modification (GM) techniques. I advocate Option 2 given in the OGTR discussion paper which requires the labeling and safety testing of ALL products derived from new GM techniques. It is unthinkable that the OGTR or the Government should even consider deregulating the new GM techniques, which would allow anyone, including terrorists, to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes without surveillance. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made and they could enter our food chain and environment with no safety testing and no labeling. Such a decision would be unconscionable.</p>
Leslie McCawley	<p data-bbox="315 983 2119 1051">Any GM techniques need to be assessed, licensed, and carefully monitored regarding their creations. Such use of GM techniques should also be strictly limited by law to specific and appropriate organisations and/or disciplines, and not be open to the public to experiment with.</p> <p data-bbox="315 1075 2085 1107">I am against GM and think it is very dangerous but I am also realistic and know that my earnest stand is ignored in this 'brave new world'.</p> <p data-bbox="315 1131 2136 1200">But allowing genetically altered organisms free access to our animal and plant kingdom is a huge gamble. Utmost havoc can be wreaked from this choice, so please think very, very carefully and take the most cautious and conservative path available to you.</p> <p data-bbox="315 1224 2033 1276">Please try to be wise when you make your decision on behalf of the rest of us who have no voice in the matter, including the beautiful, wonderful animal and plant kingdoms.</p>
Trish Miller, New South Wales	<p data-bbox="315 1307 2092 1375">Take the responsible position as others have done. You are there to protect the society, not expose it to abuse – mostly for the sake of short term monitory gain. Take time to think sensibly about the repercussions, for the sake of our future and that of the planet.</p>

Submitter	Submission
Rachael Oakley, Queensland	This is vital to keep Australian's healthy along with our flora and fauna. We need regulation to stop unscrupulous humans speeding up the demise of our country and planet. Please do not allow this to happen.
Maree Kratzer, Victoria	I am very concerned that all products of all GM technologies be required to undergo rigorous and ongoing safety testing and that they be subject to strict and unambiguous labelling laws. Therefore, of the four options the OGTR presents in its discussion paper, Option 2 is the only one I endorse. The very nature of genetically modified organisms dictates that it be used with extreme care so that it is not misused. Technology like this cannot be rolled back once set in motion as it is not able to be undone, once released into the environment.
Kris Schmah, Queensland	<p>I'm writing to seek that GM techniques be properly regulated.</p> <p>It's not scientifically proper or right that the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator (OGTR) colludes with industry to push through and deregulate a range of new genetic modification (GM) techniques.</p> <p>A safe, ethical and scientific approach relies on detailed monitoring, and making sure all new products require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments. Regulations are needed to prevent new diseases and new poisons being made, and entering our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The risks are too great and could be catastrophic and irreversible.</p>
Rosemary Maher, Western Australia	As a concerned member of the public i wish to inform you that Option 2 is the only one I support. All the others leave too many loopholes for unintended consequences along with the possibilities of these technologies being used for nefarious purposes which could be disastrous.
John Smith	all new gene technology needs to be regulated to protect human health and the environment. i being a organic/biological farmer and see first hand the effects of treating the symptoms and not the true cause of problems, the problem just keeps going deeper and cure becomes more complex and urgent to fix correctly.
Stephen Savage, Queensland	<p>37 countries, including 19 of the 28 nations that make up the European Union, have either banned or have prohibited imports of GMO products or cultivation.</p> <p>The European Network of Scientists for Social and Environmental Responsibility (ENSSER) states there is a lack of scientific consensus on the safety of GM foods and crops is underlined by the recent research calls of the European Union and the French government to investigate the long-term health impacts of GM food consumption in the light of uncertainties raised by animal feeding studies (EU Food Policy (2012). Commission and EFSA agree need for two-year GMO feeding studies. 17 December).</p> <p>Assessment and regulation must be supported by strong scientific evidence on the long-term safety of GM crops and foods for human and animal health and the environment, obtained in a manner that is honest, ethical, rigorous, independent, transparent, and sufficiently diversified to compensate for bias (ENSSER, 2013)</p> <p>If the OGTR deregulates any new GM techniques without evidence to support the long-term safety of GM crops and products or even labelling such products as GMO sourced, will the OGTR be seen as giving way to industries such as ██████████ or other corporate bodies?</p>

Submitter	Submission
Susie Bunn, Victoria	It is the health interests of the entire population that you support Option 2 in the OGTR discussion papper, in order that we can maintain and upgrade monitoring and surveilance of everything that goes into our food. It is imperative that we and future generation have the capacity to determine what we eat, how it is modified and what the implications are for our health. No one can determine the impact of GMO on our health or our environment and therefore the greatest diligence is required. I urge you to support Option 2 in the OGTR discussion papper.
Dereka Ogden, Queensland	I do not like genetic modification of our food for the simple reason that those who are trying to do the right thing and farm organically are disadvantaged and sometimes even destroyed when rogue seeds from modified plants are gravitate or are blown on to the organic farmer's land. I also don't think it's wise to combine animal genes with plants. Who knows what ill effects will occur in future? We need our food well labelled, so we can support those foods that we agree with ethically. We don't want deregulation (look at the banks rampant with corruption) and these new genetically modified products need to be shown as such.
Mary Ellen, Western Australia	Option 2, please.
Leanne Lambert	We all deserve the right to know what we are putting into our bodies.
Bob Rich	Genetic modification technology is neutral, and can be used for benefit or harm. However, its use has been more than harmful. It has led to the impoverishment of farmers, the loss of seed diversity with consequent dangers of future extinction of entire useful species, a huge increase in pesticide use with dreadful consequences for human health and the ecology.  United Nations reports have shown that it benefits no one except the corporations that own the processes.
Dearne Nicholson, Victoria	I believe the risks to humans and the environment have not been assessed adequately by independent bodies.  Not in my name
Carlo Laruccia, Victoria	Of the four options the OGTR presents in its discussion paper, Option 2 is the only one that will require the labelling and safety testing of ALL products derived from new GM techniques such as CRISPR. This is important for the safety, freedom and respect of humanity and future generations and I recommend its adoption. We live in a free society and value it's members to be able to make informed choice with full information. Option 2 provides this. Remember that most of the Australian population dont even know about this submission or a too busy juggling their responsibilities to respond. So I am submitting for the millions who dont have a chance to voice their submission and who are fair paying tax payers and who delegate their responsibility to me and you to keep them safe and fully informed with the foods they choose to buy and consume.
Ann Gibson, Queensland	We wish to advise that NO GMO should be allowed in this country after proof that it has killed bees in the USA for years.
Tracy Churchill, Queensland	Please choose option #2. It is the only credible option.

Submitter	Submission
Lisa Nicholls	I do not want GMO in my food at all. Nor have it unethically unlabeled. Only fresh real food, support our Australian Farmers.
Philippa Coltart	Products derived from the new GM techniques require comprehensive case by case risk assessments. The Precautionary Principle should be upheld as a base line requirement keeping in mind future generations well being
Ming Lou, Victoria	I have to express my deep concern for the deregulation of GMO food labelling and GMO activities. disorder biological information will have serious consequences for human future. human fundamentally cannot order nature. we can use other ways to control population and save this world.
Nina Stick, Western Australia	This is disastrous! Like TPP, this cannot go ahead. The GM industry is already mostly unregulated, I demand further regulation, not the opposite as what has been proposed here. Complete transparency and documentation available to the public or NO GM!
Corey Story, Victoria	<p>ARE YOU JUST AFTER MONEY? PROFIT??? MORE than ever before CANCER is everywhere... WHY? Because the crappy food, water and living conditions and growing conditions for food... Are you seriously that stupid? What is happening to the world?</p> <p>If the OGTR deregulates these new GM techniques there will be no monitoring or surveillance. Anyone from amateur biohackers – to industry – to terror groups would be free to use them to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made. And they could enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The risks could be catastrophic.</p> <p>Reviews commissioned by the Austrian and Norwegian governments concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques. They recommended that products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments.</p> <p>WAKE UP.... Do not poison our food... do not deregulate new GM techniques...</p>
Don Dornan & Carol Cockburn Dornan	<p>Please look after the health of Australians and reduce the threat to the development of unregulated GMO organisms plant or otherwise. GMO organisms plant or otherwise have not been sufficiently tested and could have an accumulative negative effect. Rogue organisms could be used as terrorist weapons. Without regulation this becomes much easier.</p> <p>I trust in your wisdom to do the right thing by citizens rather than corporations. Yes, corporations are powerful and have lots of money to splash around to “buy” favour. However, you are not in office to benefit corporations but citizens.</p>
Peter Wynd, New South Wales	I wish to know exactly what I'm spending my money on and what I'm putting into my mouth. Considering all the diseases known to be caused by processed and junk foods, don't slip another unknown into the mix as it will muddy the waters. We all require well informed knowledge of the contents of our foodstuffs before we can give consent to eat it. If the government wilfully prevents such knowledge from being available then it becomes irresponsible and accountable. They are the people's representatives, not the corporations!!

Submitter	Submission
Sarah Chambers	<p>Everyone should have a choice as to whether they want to eat GM food. No one should have to eat GM food unbeknown to them. All GM foods should be well labeled so that gives people who do not want to eat it freedom of choice. The office of the Gene Technology Regulator (OGTR) must know the health risks and dangers that go with the techniques of what they are doing. I am wondering if each of their staff would sit down to a GM meal daily for 1 year and see how “good they feel” and then pass on the truth of their health to the general public? GM food causes many health issues. “Several animal studies indicate serious health risks associated with genetically modified (GM) food (AAEM 2009),” including infertility, immune problems, accelerated ageing, faulty insulin regulation, and changes in major organs and the gastrointestinal system. <a href="http://esponsibletechnology.org/gmo-education/health-risks/">esponsibletechnology.org/gmo-education/health-risks/</a></p> <p>Please wake up people!</p>
Merrilyn Craig	Do not deregulate new GM techniques! Not enough is known about the risk posed by these new GM techniques.
Warren Marrable	This should not be allowed to change, this will open the door for all sorts of major concerns.
Hans Mason, New South Wales	We would like to keep our food grown by nature in an unaltered manner.
Deborah Andrews, New South Wales	Please keep Australia clean. The world will be crying out for non gmo products. Many products do have that on their packaging as a point of benefit. I'm sure in time these products will sell at a premium price.
Jason Carmichael	I do not want to eat genetically modified food that poisons my body and destroys farming future.
Ruth Carrick	<p>As a consumer I have a right to know and demand to know if products I buy have been genetically modified. You have a duty to inform me if genetic modification techniques have been employed in producing a product. Then it is my choice whether or not to purchase said product. Please do your duty.</p>

Submitter	Submission
Vicki Kirss, South Australia	<p>I am terrified that the quality of our food may be deregulated in regard to GM and that there will be no monitoring or surveillance.</p> <p>This means that the quality of our food can be tampered with and we will have no means of discovering how it has been compromised.</p> <p>I am entirely non GMO and wish to remain that way for the rest of my life. I wish to be able to have a say into what goes into my food, or at least the choices I make as to whether I want to eat GM food or not.</p> <p>There has been no true long term testing as to the safety of GM foods and how they will affect humans, and animals, or animals that are fed a GM diet then eaten by humans.</p> <p>There is not enough known of the risks posed by new GM techniques so I would beg of you to keep regulations in place so that we know what we are eating, where it is coming from and be given free choice in this matter.</p> <p>It is a matter of our life!</p>
Linda Cheu	<p>Unlike astronomy and mathematics, gene manipulation is a new science. We do not even know for certain how each gene works with another, how can we then presume we can alter, subpress and move them. It is essential to observe the Precautionary Principle for the sake of our next generation.</p>
Wilma Stuart, New South Wales	<p>I do not want GM food and must be able to ascertain by the label what the food contains. Your job is to make sure I am able to do this.</p>
Serena Michielsen	<p>Please consider carefully the risks associated with deregulation of gm techniques that could be misused or abused and put the environment and people at risk</p>
Greg Moeliker	<p>Gene technology is an abomination that has been developed to benefit the corporations at the expense of the public's health. GMO's increase the amount of herbicides use including round up which has been classified as a potential carcinogen and is now found in Mother's milk. Stop this abomination please.</p>
Christine Baker, South Australia	<p>I have the right to know what is in my food and if it is GMO free. I choose not to consume foods that contain any GMO food as is my right. If food containing GMO I won't buy it so I need my food labels to let me know. I believe it is unsafe and don't want to put my or my family's health at risk. Is the possibility of suing the government for allowing this into products without labelling a possibility ?</p>
Jaya Lewis	<p>Money won't fix irreversible change to DNA.</p>
Kelly Hunt, New South Wales	<p>Will it be a regulated industry that can guarantee that there will be no health issues later on? Who exactly would be liable in an unregulated industry if these products cause health and/or invironmental issues in the future? And how will they know the cause if they cannot prove that they were eating GM foods as they were not labelled.</p> <p>It is highly irresponsible and arrogant not to regulate all new GM techniques to protect human health and the environment. Products derived from all new GM techniques should be clearly labelled, to do otherwise is preventing people from making informed decisions on what they are consuming.</p>

Submitter	Submission
Kara Hunt, New South Wales	Please do not deregulate GM techniques and make sure any in existence all are properly monitored.
Phyllis Vincent, Western Australia	Most of the countries in the world are now stopping GM if you look into America you will find endless studies from universities regarding ill health, too late when people are suffering goodnes knows what illnesses, it is all a profit making venture.
Ray Devereux, Western Australia	all medicine has to tested for a long time why would you treat altered food any different, look at gm corn in usa . America is now telling its people not to eat corn as gm corn in mixed with there corn and is now bad for you . please go with item 2 on your list if you have to . ban gm food in Australia for 10 years would be a fare time span to check if gm food is bad for us
Laurie Mitchell, Victoria	<p>I am seriously concerned that the rules about genetically modified food are being de-regulated. I really believe there is no evidence to support the de-regulations proposed.</p> <p>ALL health and environmental issues need to be vigorously studied beforehand.</p> <p>I also believe these are not the times to be attempting to make changes using subterfuge. We live in a hyper-vigilant society.</p> <p>Six weeks comment period over the Christmas holiday?! The consultants you have commissioned to do your consultation process should be fired.</p>
Marc Remond, New South Wales	<p>I write in regards to the recent OGTR discussion paper regarding products derived from new GM techniques.</p> <p>Being a father of two young children, a research scientist, and a concerned citizen I support Option 2 presented in the discussion paper: that there should be mandatory labelling and safety testing of ALL products derived from new GM techniques such as CRISPR. Each and every product needs to be comprehensively tested and labelled to ensure biosafety and individual consumer choice.</p>
Barbara Gropl, South Australia	Please make sure that all new GM techniques will be regulated and all products that contain them be labelled. Our family does not want to consume any food that contains GMOs and will do everything to avoid this.
Jason Ginn	<p>If the OGTR deregulates the new GM techniques there will be no assessment, licensing or monitoring of the organisms they are used to create. Anyone, from amateur biohackers – to industry – to terrorists, would be able to use them to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes without surveillance. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made and they could enter our food chain and environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The results could be catastrophic.</p> <p>Could you please stop this from happening!!!! Please!</p>

Submitter	Submission
Wendy Carroll, New South Wales	<p>It has been drawn to my attention that some of the newer genetic modification techniques are about to be deregulated. And that there is not yet enough known about the risks posed by the new GM techniques.</p> <p>I am writing to ask that comprehensive, case by case, risk assessments be carried out before deregulation. To do anything else seems foolishly dangerous and irresponsible.</p>
James Moyle	<p>Please do everything within your power(s) to ensure that such deregulation as is mooted be NOT ALLOWED TO CONTINUE. Surely it is obvious that, should regulation cease, the 'door' would be thrown open to anyone with a will to use GM modification techniques in any way that they saw fit - which may not necessarily be for the betterment of mankind.</p> <p>The whole GM issue is fraught with uncertainties, unpredictabilities and greed so please be VERY CAREFUL how you proceed with your governance.</p>
Christine Horner	<p>I write in favour of strict regulation of GM in Australia. In particular, I am greatly concerned by the level of influence that industry has over the process of GM regulation. Any regulation should consider at the very least the following points: All new GM techniques to be regulated to protect human health and the environment.</p> <p>That Products derived from all new GM techniques be labelled.</p> <p>That the offspring of GMOs that have theoretically not inherited the GM trait be assessed for safety and their products be labelled.</p> <p>That Amateur biohackers not be allowed to use GM techniques on living organisms in unregistered laboratories with no regulation.</p>
Helen Disler	<p>I am shocked to read of yet another way to remove or ease the protection for us from GM in our foods.</p> <p>It is sad when the evidence is mounting and many countries won't allow any GM foods and the chemicals that prop them up, that Australia is even considering allowing any relaxing of rules.</p> <p>Why do we have to prove deregulation is harmful? Why don't you have to prove that regulating these GM techniques carries absolutely no risk to the public?</p> <p>Perhaps it is because you can't.</p> <p>Who gave you the right to use us as guinea pigs? Test these techniques with your own family for the next generation and tell us they are safe.</p> <p>Please do not change any regulations except to tighten them. It is not worth the money.</p>
Kevin Crombie	<p>Choice is important, knowledge to make that choice is vital and must be required</p>

Submitter	Submission
Linda Djumljija	<p>Firstly, please research and INDEPENDENTLY assess each GMO that you wish to grow in Australia.</p> <p>Secondly, please regulate this industry and each GM technique, old and new.</p> <p>Consequently, provide legislation that prevents backyard biohackers from being permitted to use GM technology. I can't even imagine the potential for misuse which that will allow.</p> <p>Thirdly, the next generation, or the offspring of GMO's should be assessed for both environmental safety and health consequences and then labelled.</p> <p>Fourth, the economy should be considered when we have strong markets which wish to purchase GM-free food. As a continent, Australia is in a unique position of offering the world GM free food which is safely free from cross-contamination, this is already a sought after commodity.</p> <p>Finally, please let us have the option to pick up a package of food and be able to tell from the labeling what technology has been used to make that product. Currently, we can discern if a product is high in fat or sugar etc. but the fundamental right to know if there are GM ingredients is denied us.</p> <p>There is something implicitly wrong in our society when off-shore corporations can tell a government what it will permit it's citizens to know about the food they are consuming.</p> <p>Let us have the freedom to choose if we want to eat genetically modified organisms.</p>
Christine Bray	<p>Why is Australia going against the wisdom of developed countries which have voted to ban the growing of GM crops? Either we are we implying that their scientists don't know what they are talking about, or we are only listening to the pro-GM lobby and are allowing companies like ████████ to determine our economic viability and future health for their own gain.</p> <p>We will find it extremely difficult to sell our produce on world markets. Even those not growing GM stock are finding their own crops cross-contaminated by others.</p> <p>We don't know what impact the built-in pesticides and other chemicals will have on human and animal life in the medium to long term.</p> <p>Please heed the warnings given by concerned scientists all over the world and not the propaganda of the pro GM lobby.</p>
Alistair Jones	<p>I therefore vigorously oppose any measure that bypasses prudent oversight and science based process for any biological element introduced to the native biosphere. Once released , any deleterious affects can become embedded and thes affects may not be immediately discernible.</p> <p>Responsible husbandry of our fortunate heritage cannot be compromised for short term gain and the politics and ideology of The corporate lobby Let prudence, disciplined science and the national interest prevail, now and always</p>

Submitter	Submission
Luke Johnson	<p>I find it highly disturbing to hear new genetic modification techniques are being considered to be allowed into the Australian food chain without being labeled as such on our food.</p> <p>It is our right as consumers to know if what put into our body contains any genetically modified material, no matter what the technique, new or old, so that those of us who choose not to eat such foods can continue to do so.</p> <p>Please do not obfuscate our food chain. Please do not censor pertinent information. Please do the right thing.</p>
Heather Nott, Victoria	<p>All forms of genetic modification should be strictly researched, monitored, and, if released, LABELLED! None of this is being done adequately currently, and all consideration goes to companies making money without proper safety precautions. Regulatory bodies should be protecting the land, water, air and people. They fall down drastically in this, and only seem concerned about not impeding profit making. Not good enough!</p>
Janette Roberts	<p>As a health professional (Pharmacist, Nutritionist, Author and Educator) I want to voice in the strongest possible terms my opposition to deregulation of new genetic modification techniques. These are untested and the potential for long term effects is insufficiently understood!</p>
Vas McGuirk	<p>I want the freedom to choose what I eat and the information to make that decision. I have intolerances that are triggered by not knowing what is on my food. The freedom to know the content, provenance and integrity of my food source is essential to my wellbeing and survival. Fake food and Frankenfood are si debilitating for me.</p> <p>At least the right to choose should be preserved.</p>
Alexandra Dion, New South Wales	<p>I am totally outraged and vehemently opposed to ANY GMOs getting into our Food supplies of any sort. This needs to be stopped NOW</p> <p>██████ does not care about our health they care about their profits that's all I bet that they all eat Organic Food ██████ has cancer aged ██████ and ██████ oncologist said that pesticides in our food is bringing on a LOT of cancers presently.</p> <p>NO GMO in our food at all, and especially we do not need deregulation that the GMO guys would love we NEED More regulation and in fact Kick GMO food out of Australia</p>
Sandra Balic	<p>In the Best Interest obviously for Public Health and Safety in particular for the most vulnerable infants/children and the sick/elderly it is clear Option 2 is the only wisest choice that would provide some form of protection against sabotage of our food supply. Without Option 2 the Questions are: With a clear conscience, Do those who agree to deregulate this Option, sleep well at night, over this issue. Not a good thing to allow possibility of harm which affects a whole nations overall health. For the demographics re population/health and diseases to deregulate Option 2 is calloused, destructive foolishness. Obviously this risk would not even be considered if wise choices were in place. How low can one Bow the Knee to the Bucks\$\$\$ Where is Integrity in all this. Where is the Trust now.6</p> <p>These are the Values that are Priceless</p> <p>The People's voice will rise up on these and many more issues and Rightousness will Prevail</p>

Submitter	Submission
Rosemary Volpa	No way do we as mothers who are trying to feed our kids good healthy food want any sort of GMO with all its pesticides and unknown health hazards in our foods. NO GMO and we need MORE regulation not less do not let industry write the rules for OUR health... thanks
James Evans, Victoria	Opening Pandora's Box to any terrorist group with no control or regulation is crazy. Whats to stop them from developing a new strain of virus that could wipe us out?
SS	<p>All new GM techniques should be regulated to protect human health and the environment.</p> <p>Products derived from all new GM techniques should be clearly labelled.</p> <p>The offspring of GMOs that have theoretically not inherited the GM trait should be assessed for safety, and should be labelled.</p> <p>Amateur biohackers should not be allowed to use GM techniques on living organisms in unregistered laboratories with no regulation.</p>
Elizabeth Conlan, Queensland	All new GM techniques be regulated to protect human health and the environment
Susan Stephens	I strongly urge you not to allow the use of new genetic modification techniques. Many Australians have serious concerns about the safety and security of foods produced in this way. There IS evidence that GM foods may be a threat to our health. Surely we should apply the precautionary principle in this case. At the very least, labelling should allow those who want to avoid GM foods, and food with any GM ingredients, to do so.
Jasmine Stander-Neef	<p>I am writing to you today to request that your board do not deregulate the new GM techniques. The labelling and safety testing of all products derived from GM techniques is an essential component of monitoring and surveillance of food products and it is important that these be maintained.</p> <p>For the benefit of humanity and the element of freedom of choice it is essential that deregulation not be imposed.</p> <p>Thank you for your understanding.</p>
Gordon Herbert, Australian Capital Territory	<p>If the OGTR deregulates new GM techniques there will be no monitoring or surveillance. Anyone from amateur biohackers – to industry – to terror groups would be free to use them to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made. And they could enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The risks could be catastrophic.</p> <p>Reviews commissioned by the Austrian and Norwegian governments concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques. They recommended that products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments</p>

Submitter	Submission
Barry Balderson	I am personally against GM product as there is no long term product testing as to how it will effect humans and animals into the future. Take for example agent orange used in Vietnam and the long term effects it has had on humans who came into contact with this chemical. You will note that it has an effect on at least three generations even when they have not personally come into contact with this chemical and there is no reason to believe that GM could not have the similar effects. Long term testing has never been completed and it is dangerous to think that it will be alright because of some laboratory modelling. As a consumer I demand that all GM is properly labelled and that I have the right to choose it I wish to purchase products which are GM modified, or contain ANY GM product/ingredient, no matter how small a content there may be.in a product. I want a proper assessment and testing of any GM product/ingredient before it is allowed to be included in our food chain and that it is properly labelled.
Helen Nanos	Please respect the freedom and quality of our food! We really really really do not want our food supply to be contaminated with GM crops and techniques. Might sound cliché but our future really is in your hands, you have the power, please please think carefully and do not rush into something you might regret in years to come. Please take your time and listen to the opposition, you don't have anything to lose. This will also affect you and your families.
Julie Hausmanns, New South Wales	How can you vote to genetically modify or change our world? What is wrong with the nature we already have? Man will end up destroying us and this beautiful world we are lucky enough to live in. Shame on those who would profit from this lie!
Wal Thornhill	Our understanding of the complex interactions of living systems is rudimentary. But technology has always run ahead of the science. It is the art of the possible, driven by short term profits. And the history of technological innovation shows an unconscionable willingness to experiment on the general public. The unintended consequences of genetic engineering can be profound and totally unpredictable given our fundamental ignorance about life. It can be much worse than the introduction of cane toads into Australia since we may all become part of the experiment. It is disturbing to see scientists, backed by the modern colonial powers — the multi-national corporations, lobbying while avoiding investigative journalism, which is practically our only recourse when confronted with today's consensus science. Our legislators would be well advised to remember that a consensus isn't science! Genetically modifying our food is a supreme arrogance. The future will judge harshly those who allow it.
Janice Heading, New South Wales	I am writing to express my deep disapproval of the deregulation of GM techniques. All products that are genetically modified or have genetic inheritance should be clearly labelled as such. Failure to do this takes away our right to freedom of choice. As far as I can determine there is far too little independent research available to guarantee the safety of any GM products to the environment, humans and other animals. Are we to be used as human guinea pigs. And what is to happen if these techniques were taken up by unethical biohackers???
Sandra Psiroukis	Please reconsider your intentions to deregulate the genetic modification techniques. The outcomes of this decision could be catastrophic. If they do have an undesirable effect, it's not as if the decision can be reversed. The damage to our future generations will be permanent.  From a worried parent

Submitter	Submission
Lynn Micheletti	<p>I want to be able to choose what I want to eat and feed my family. It is critical that all GMO's be labelled and not be allowed to be used without peoples knowledge. We have no idea how these modifications will affect our bodies and the environment in the future. Please keep GMO's contained in the lab and leave food alone.</p> <p>The governemnt should be backing organic produce like European nations not going down the road of the US where most of their food is contaminated.</p> <p>WE should be able to choose to live a healthy life in full knowledge of what we put into our bodies, where it comes from and how it is grown and produced!!!</p>
Peter Hewitson	I don't want ANY GMOs in my food. PERIOD! Thank you very much.
Biannca Pace, New South Wales	<p>Please be advised that I am very concerned that we are considering importing GMO foods!</p> <p>I would like to be assured that GMO foods or additives in a product will be clearly labelled, the public has a right to make a choice, for we do live in a democratic country.</p>
Claire Bleakley	<p>I support option 2. This is the only option that allows me as a consumer to know what I am eating. I suffer from food allergies and am chemically intolerant and very vulnerable to what I eat.</p> <p>In New Zealand new techniques were used for swedes to make them tolerant to the herbicide chlorsulfuron. The swedes caused unexpected problems when they were fed to cattle and hundreds of animals died or were euthanased due to the effects of eating these manipulated swedes. <a href="http://www.ruralnewsgroup.co.nz/rural-news/rural-management/swede-cow-death-findings">http://www.ruralnewsgroup.co.nz/rural-news/rural-management/swede-cow-death-findings</a></p> <p>Unless the new techniques are properly tested for and labelled any unexpected or unknown adverse effects will go undetected and could cause fatalities.</p> <p>It is unacceptable to let harm happen, when proper testing, evaluation and labelling could avoid any catastrophe.</p>
Judith Cullity, Western Australia	<p>I wish to advocate in the strongest possible terms that only option 2 requiring the labelling and safety testing of ALL products derived from new GM techniques such as CRISPR should be considered.</p> <p>Without strict regulation, anyone from biohackers to terrorists could play around with these techniques with the possiblility of creating organisms as dangerous as biological weapons.</p>
Lisa Ambler, Queensland	I believe it is extremely important to protect human health by labeling all products derived from current and new GM techniques. It is our right to make a choice about what we eat and this is only possible if GM techniques are regulated and ALL food containing GM products are labelled. Thank you for considering my submission.

Submitter	Submission
Marta Martinez, Victoria	Please STOP!
Karen Zaskolny, South Australia	I am writing to you to ask that you please apply common-sense rules to the regulation of these new GM techniques. I find it amazing that in Australia, where we are so highly regulated in so many areas, that you are considering deregulating this area where so little is definite and so many things could go wrong. There will be a lot of finger pointing if the proverbial hits the fan and the safety of our population and our environment is put at risk. And of course it will be too late then.
Alexander Eden	<p>No company, group or organization has the right to force us to yield to their desires. These products have not had the test of time as nature has used. What kind of guarantee do we have that there is no possibility of these GMO's causing mutations in us over time. Will it affect our children, grand children or great grand children? How and when will affect our environment? Don't tell me it will not because you have no control over that. Look at what happened with the pill. No one expected it to cause disruption to the frogs and the crocodiles, but it did. Even that took thirty years before it showed up and took scientist a while to figure out where that problem came from.</p> <p>WE DO NOT WANT GMO PRODUCTS get the message. We will not yeild.</p>
Mark Mckenzie	My body requires nurishing food to keep me working to pay taxes. It does not need additive to increase my blood pressure or cholesterol level.
Denis Cooney, Queensland	<i>Submission not published.</i>
Helena Outerbridge	Your ego is just getting in the way – Get real for once, not enough is known or proven to make these unsafe modifications to our foods!
Gill Radford, South Australia	<p>I am completely dumbfounded that the GMO laws that are in place (even though they are not transparent enough now) – are under review.</p> <p>I do not support this latest development in the least &amp; insist that the public are treated with the respect that is out due as the general populace. We do not want Frankenfoods &amp; as government it is your responsibility to protect the wellbeing of the electorate,</p>
Margo Bartley	Gene technology should be regulated. Why should our government agencies be so compliant to industry when Austrian and Norwegian Governments concluded that there is too great a risk because not enough is known about these new GM techniques. Without monitoring and surveillance, anyone from amateur biohackers – to industry – to terror groups would be free to use them to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made. And they could enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labelling
Mary Crouch	Please choose Option 2 in the discussion paper, nothing less is acceptable.

Submitter	Submission
Marie Nakon	<p>My family absolutely DON'T want our food to be messed with and ultimately polluted. You are treading on dangerous grounds in the name of the almighty dollar. Don't play god, because once you let the genie out of the bag, you don't know what the outcome will be and you certainly will not be able to rectify what has gone horribly wrong.</p> <p>Have a conscience and morals,</p>
Sandra Rooke	I vote for option 2
Sandra Reed, Western Australia	<p>I was shocked to learn that after years of secret negotiations the public have a very small and unpublicised window for comments on gene technology deregulation that has enormous potential for long lasting and severe harm to the community and the environment.</p> <p>If the OGTR deregulates the new GM techniques there will be no assessment, licensing or monitoring of the organisms they are used to create. Anyone, from amateur biohackers – to industry – to terrorists, would be able to use them to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes without surveillance. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made and they could enter our food chain and environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The results could and most likely would be catastrophic.</p> <p>It would be totally irresponsible to take any other option than Option 2 which has safeguards in place for our future. Option 2 is the only one that will require the labelling and safety testing of ALL products derived from new GM techniques such as CRISPR</p>
Kirsty Fox, Victoria	<p>Everyone has a right to choice and genetic modification should be no different. As a scientist I see the benefits that genetic modification has provided and the potential benefits of the industry. However just because one genetic modified organism has proven to be safe and acceptable, it doesn't mean that all techniques or outcomes will result in the same conclusion.</p> <p>Each Genetically Modified Organism needs to be approved through the appropriate means and the public or the consumer of the GMO should have the right to know that this is the case.</p> <p>While many people are afraid of GMO's, many are in support of them or indifferent. So therefore people have a right to know of their food source, be it country of origin, chemical additives or genetically modified</p> <p>Please don't take away the right of choice by deregulation.</p>
Peter Scomazzon	<p>With all due respect, I'm not interested in GMO stuff. I don't want to see you shoving it into anybody else either ! If you're going to entertain this concept , you bloody-well make sure you label the product in LARGE LETTERING not writing that one needs a magnifying glass to read it. Understood ! Leave that crap alone !</p>

Submitter	Submission
Christopher Wells	<p>I am lodging this submission and calling for a freeze on all GM crops and food approvals in Australia. This means: no new GM crop approvals, no new GM foods and no new GM crop growing areas.</p> <p>The safety of GM foods for sale in Australia must be re-assessed and data on yield, pesticide use and effects on biodiversity of GM crops in Australia must be publicly investigated.</p> <p>The two crops that we grow in Australia, GM canola and cotton, should be reviewed. Data showing crop yield, quantity of pesticides used per area and weed resistance should be made available to the public and reviewed by an independent panel including overseas experts. There are numerous studies showing that GM feed causes harm to experimental animals, for example, Monsanto's canola Round Up Ready GT73 resulted in increased liver sizes of 15% when fed to rats in Monsanto's own feeding trial.</p> <p>There is wide concern about the risks of GM harm to the environment – in the 15 years since the introduction of GM canola to Canada there is a pronounced increase in herbicide use and weed resistance problems. Farmers are forced to resort to 2,4-D to control the superweeds. Farmers are signing contracts which stop them saving seeds. UK Government trials over four years resulted in a halt to GM canola cultivation due to environmental concerns.</p> <p>GM companies such as Monsanto and Bayer own the seed – the farmer no longer does. If GM canola grows on your property, even if you did not plant it, the chemical company can claim ownership of these plants. This is a great threat to farmers. Studies show the crops that thrive best are those that are adapted to their microclimates over many generations of local farmer knowledge.</p> <p>GM crops impact our health. they are a threat to farmer's livelihoods, food security, and the biodiversity of the planet. GM foods are minimally tested by the agrochemical companies and the results are often not made public.</p> <p>I am calling for an immediate halt to GM approvals in Australia and New Zealand, to any expansion of growing of GM crops, and a review of the crops that are currently grown.</p> <p>The other untested effect of GM is on our Bees. Australia is in the enviable position of having our bees free verolla mite. and we have no understanding of what impact GM has on bees – if we lose our bees we lose our food production.</p> <p>If the OGTR deregulates these new GM techniques there will be no monitoring or surveillance. Anyone from amateur biohackers – to industry – to terror groups would be free to use them to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made. And they could enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The risks could be catastrophic.</p> <p><i>[Continued on next page]</i></p>

Submitter	Submission
Christopher Wells <i>[continued]</i>	<p><i>[Continued from previous page]</i></p> <p>Reviews commissioned by the Austrian and Norwegian governments concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques. They recommended that products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments.</p> <p>As a biodynamic farmer I have seen at first hand the destruction to our soils from chemicals and GM will result in the same outcome.</p> <p>Australia is marketing its food etc to the World as “Clean &amp; Green” and GM will destroy this BRAND and what company would do that to its BRAND – it is madness</p>
Geoff Wells, South Australia	<p>The scientific research program looking at GM techniques has not provided clear evidence of the safety to these techniques. On the other hand a range of damaging impacts of these techniques, particularly with respect to crops, has been demonstrated. This is new technology across the board. We have no idea yet of their long-term impacts on human health and on the health of the environment. Many of these impacts, such as the release of new genes into the wild environment, are irreversible. Not to regulate them would be knowingly to put both at risk--something that should not even be contemplated. Please follow the lead of the Austrian and Norwegian governments in applying the internationally-recognised Precautionary Principle. I urge you to continue to regulate GMO products.</p>
Tristan Lee, New South Wales	<p>It should be our choice and right to know what is in our food. Stop favouring the big corporations. Your job is to serve the people.</p>
Jennifer McDowell, Queensland	<p>I would like to remind you that it is every persons democratic right to know what they are putting in their body. All foods available for purchase should be labelled accordingly to enable this democratic right. Please ensure you vote accordingly.</p>
Rhonda Daly, New South Wales	<p>Please be diligent at labelling all foods that contain GMO's</p>
Deb Trescott	<p>All GM techniques, products and offspring should be fully assessed for safety. It is the health of our future generations which is at stake here.</p> <p>Please consider carefully the weight of this decision.</p> <p>“All disease begins in the gut” Hippocrates</p>
Rosemary Blemings	<p>The OGTR needs to be subjected to the same stringent and precautionary regulations that any responsible government should institute as a protective duty of care towards its citizens.</p> <p>Accelerating and altering evolutionary processes is dangerous. Related experimentation needs to be regulated.</p>

Submitter	Submission
Naomi Rule, Queensland	<p>I want to know exactly what is in my food and how it came to be.</p> <p>Let me read the actual ingredients and GM status of my food and allow me to chose a healthier life.</p> <p>Nobody else should be tasked with this responsibility.</p>
Mavis McGregor	<p>Products derived from all new GM techniques be labelled?</p>
Jodie Pepper	<p>If the OGTR deregulates these new GM techniques there will be no monitoring or surveillance. Anyone from amateur biohackers – to industry – to terror groups would be free to use them to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made. And they could enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The risks could be catastrophic. THIS IS SIMPLY NOT ACCEPTABLE OR ACCOUNTABLE.</p> <p>Reviews commissioned by the Austrian and Norwegian governments concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques. They recommended that products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments.</p> <p>PLEASE STOP COLLUDING WITH THE BIOTECH INDUSTRY AND START LOOKING AFTER THE HEALTH OF THE PUBLIC, THE ENVIRONMENT AND CLEAN AGRICULTURE IN AUSTRALIA.</p>
Louisa Fitzhardinge, New South Wales	<p>As a mum, I would like to decide what I feed my children. Only clear labelling will allow me to choose foods free from genetically modified ingredients.</p> <p>Please choose option 2. Let me decide what to feed my kids, not some faceless bio geek.</p>
Peter Mackintosh, Tasmania	<p>I am very concerned about the consequences of deregulation of GM techniques. We need our government to take a very strong stance to protect the public against the possibility of bio hackers &amp; terrorists, or corporate interests compromising our food chain.</p> <p>Please keep the public safe by monitoring GM techniques.</p>
Carmen Iredale	<p>Don't mess with what we have naturally available.</p> <p>No one should have the right to mess with this. And should be highly regulated.</p>
June Baker, South Australia	<p>I sincerely request that you do not deregulate genetic modifications techniques. As far as I am able to I avoid foods with genetically modified ingredients, with no regulations or labelling I will lose my freedom of choice. Humans are not infallible and once genetic mistakes are made and out there they cannot be undone.</p>
Bruce Buggins, South Australia	<p>Can the Australian Government please look at all new GM techniques being regulated to protect human health and the environment. Ensure products derived from all new GM techniques be labelled, the offspring of GMOs that have theoretically not inherited the GM trait be assessed for safety, label their products as do other traditional products. Also should amateur biohackers be allowed to use GM techniques on living organisms in unregistered laboratories with no regulation?</p>

Submitter	Submission
Louise Edmunds, Victoria	<p>I am very concerned about the deregulation of genetic modification techniques.</p> <p>All new GM techniques need to be regulated to protect human health and the environment. Products derived from all new GM techniques need to be labelled. The offspring of GMOs that have theoretically not inherited the GM trait need to be assessed for safety and their products should be labelled. Amateur biohackers should not be allowed to use GM techniques on living organisms in unregistered laboratories with no regulation.</p> <p>We only get one chance to protect our health and planet. The cane toad's introduction to Australia illustrates how easy it is to invoke irreversable damage to our country.</p> <p>Please seriously consider the above recommendations.</p>
Michelle Schwal	<p>I wish all products to be labelled with exactly what is included I hope it is labelled with ease to read for the general public I hope that we can stop GMO's from our land I hope the Government can realise how worried the general public is regarding the health of our families Please label all food in easy to read terms and stopGMO's</p>
Kim Humphrey, South Australia	<p>Can the Australian Government please look at all new GM techniques being regulated to protect human health and the environment. Ensure products derived from all new GM techniques are labelled, the offspring of GMOs that have theoretically not inherited the GM trait be assessed for safety and label their products as do other traditional products. Also should amateur biohackers be allowed to use GM techniques on living organisms in unregistered laboratories with no regulation?</p>
Francis Panetta	<p>The people do not want GM food, they want clean, unaltered, unmodified, real food not frankenstein foods that we dont know the long term effects will be on humans and the rest of the food chain and on the earth. It is criminal and unethical to alter the foods without the peoples consent. All foods should be labeled clearly, whether they are modified in any way and what genes have been altered to achieve certain outcomes.</p> <p>Have a look to Europe who have banned GM foods, we can take their approach in protecting people from these so called foods.</p> <p>If they cant tell the people what potential risks they may face long term then there is no case for going ahead wiith any modifications.</p> <p>We have been told they are safe yet the evidence shows otherwise when these foods are fed to animals.</p> <p>We are the envy of the world with our clean, green, quality food that they are happy to import whatever we can give. They know how polluted GM or otherwise other food is grown around the world, that is why they want Australian food. NO GM FOOD FOR AUSTRALIA, KEEP IT CLEAN AND GREEN AND ORIGINAL.</p>
Graham Prosser	<p>All genetically modified organisms, plants, etc. need to be identified clearly as such and thorough research into their long term effects needs to be made before being permitted to be developed, grown and exposing them to the public.</p> <p>Anyone who considers there should be exemptions is, in my opinion, putting their own personal gain above the safety and wellbeing of humanity.</p>

Submitter	Submission
Vanessa Hewitt	Just stop
Helen Soul, New South Wales	Please do not Gm our food as there will be no one left to pay pollies wages and taxes as we will all be sick way to sick to worker don't know the consequences of such actions and we prefer organic food that food that has been interfered with and only for money reasons not health reasons Please do not do this
Margrit Rechsteiner, Queensland	I have the right to know and it is my choice of what I eat !!!!! I demand that it is all open and labeled. Besides if you think it is so good you would be very proud to be open about all of this and not trying to hide this info. What are you really hiding?
Elizabeth Lawson, Victoria	To the decision makers and leaders, It is without doubt that GM food entering the agricultural systems and food chain here will have a serious detrimental effect on peoples health and wellness. I work in health and have observed the trends in the US from a public health perspective. There are clear and dangerous consequences being observed where GM foods are entering the food chain affecting the human and also the animal populations. Chronic health conditions and autoimmune issues are prevalent and when GM food as replaced with organic and heritage food products there is often a complete resolution of the health issues impacting large numbers of US client populations. We do not want to adversely affect the health of Australian people just because the agribusiness industry defines it as progress. Please do not allow these deeply impacting deregulations come into place for the preservation of our heathy food supply and the health of the Australian people.
Francis Despina, New South Wales	If the OGTR deregulates these new GM techniques there will be no monitoring or surveillance. Anyone from amateur biohackers – to industry – to terror groups would be free to use them to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made. And they could enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The risks could be catastrophic. Reviews commissioned by the Austrian and Norwegian governments concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques. They recommended that products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments. Surely safety should come first and we here in Australia should not pass any law to make it possible for anyone to modify plants,animals or anything else without thorough safety testing.
Marcille Cameron, New South Wales	<p>I write to ask that you do not deregulate GM techniques.</p> <p>Reviews commissioned by the Austrian and Norwegian governments concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques. They recommended that products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments.</p> <p>Please consider regulating all new GM techniques so as to protect human health and the environment. Labeling products derived from all new GM techniques will give consumers choice.</p> <p>There are possible risks from amateur bio hackers using GM techniques on living organisms in unregistered laboratories with no regulation.</p>

Submitter	Submission
Ros Isbel, Victoria	<p data-bbox="315 193 1615 225">Please ensure that all new GM techniques are regulated to protect human health and the environment.</p> <p data-bbox="315 244 1485 276">Please ensure that ALL products that are derived from all new GM techniques are labelled</p> <p data-bbox="315 295 2056 363">Please ensure that the offspring of GMO's that have not theoretically inherited the GM trait, be assessed for safety and that any products produced from them should be labelled.</p> <p data-bbox="315 383 2074 451">Please ensure that amateur biohackers are not allowed to use GM techniques on living organisms in unregistered laboratories and with no regulations.</p>
Leza Ashford	<p data-bbox="315 483 2132 552">I am against GM use in this country and wish wholeheartedly that we had remained a GM free country – as we are isolated geographically we could have positioned ourselves as the clean food hub of the world.</p> <p data-bbox="315 571 2132 676">We had a chance to do this and failed, we have allowed GM crops to enter our beautiful country at an alarming rate. The least we can do now, and what we owe to our farmers and children and future landholders, is that advances in gene technology are at least regulated strictly and correctly.</p> <p data-bbox="315 695 2107 839">It is absolutely imperative that labelling standards are tightened and improved and transparent so the consumer can make informed and educated choices. Gene technology must always remain completely regulated to the highest degree – especially whilst in these early stages when we don't even yet understand future risks and implications. Once a crop has been exposed to GM technology then all uses of that crop ongoing must be labelled accordingly – that means not just all direct products, but all offspring too.</p> <p data-bbox="315 858 2132 963">I am not a scientist or a farmer or a biologist or anything that gives me exposure to what is going on at ground level in this field – but I can tell you that as a mother, and as a sufferer of food allergies leading to severe anaphylaxis – what the so called “experts” are doing in this field terrifies me. To do so further deregulated – this should not even be on the table.</p> <p data-bbox="315 983 2119 1126">In years to come we will look back on this time in history and wonder why we handed over our natural food sources big companies. We will wonder why we allowed our natural food sources to be contaminated by so many chemicals. We will wonder why we messed with gene technology on our natural food sources at a time when the long-term health and environmental implications are completely unknown. But let's not wonder why we failed to regulate the industry – let's not wonder why we failed to maintain stringent labelling standards.</p> <p data-bbox="315 1145 2119 1214">The government must stand for the people on this one – not for the big companies wanting to advance their business and line their pockets at the expense of the health of ourselves, our future generations, and our environment.</p> <p data-bbox="315 1233 1290 1265">You must act now to stop the use of untested, unlabelled GMOs in our food.</p>

Submitter	Submission
<p>Kerrie Sawyer, New South Wales</p>	<p>Documents revealed under Freedom of Information laws show that the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator (OGTR) has been colluding with industry for years to deregulate a range of new genetic modification.</p> <p>If the OGTR deregulates these new GM techniques there will be no monitoring or surveillance. Anyone from amateur biohackers – to industry – to terror groups would be free to use them to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made. And they could enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The risks could be catastrophic.</p> <p>Reviews commissioned by the Austrian and Norwegian governments concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques. They recommended that products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments.</p>
<p>Brian Farrelly, Australian Capital Territory</p>	<p>As I see it, this is a very simple issue. Genetic modification techniques are still very new, and the range of applications is potentially very large. GM technology simply is not old enough to have proven its safety or efficacy in but a handful of applications. This in no way justifies broad deregulation, as by definition these first applications are the most promising. As scientists push the techniques further, the risks increase.</p> <p>Consequently, it is essential that the manufacturers continue to absorb the costs and risks. All GM products should be clearly labelled. GM farmers should be responsible for costs resulting from contamination of non-GM crops and environmental damage. GM manufacturers should be responsible for future health issues in the population.</p> <p>GM absolutely requires mandatory labelling and regulation. The consequences of getting this wrong are disastrous, so this is no time for a laissez faire approach.</p>
<p>Jenni Howlett</p>	<p>I wish to voice my concerns over the proposed deregulation of GM techniques change. GM has not been proven to be safe in the medium or long term and NEEDS to be regulated.</p> <p>Our food source and environment should be of the highest importance.</p>
<p>Chris Murray</p>	<p>I am very concerned about the new techniques that could be used without any regulations or testing to ascertain if there are risks to our health should you allow them to be introduced. I am fed up with having to check every item of food for my family already because of the additives in so many of them. My children and I have developed allergies in recent years to foods that never affected us before so I always try to be careful about what I buy. I will not buy genetically modified food by choice and to hear that genetically modified food can bypass testing is a huge concern to me, as it should be to every body. I believe the GM industry should be kept to a minimum. I want to see all genetically modified food clearly labeled, as it is in England, identified as GM in large print so that I have the right as a customer to buy food that is safe and thoroughly tested so that I can make an informed decision on what I buy. At the very least option 2 should be the only option you allow with every product undergoing stringent testing and any byproducts too. Only registered laboratories should be allowed. Please do not add to the concerns that we already have about what is in our food because of poor standards in other countries and the ever growing list of additives and the changing of names of some of these to try to fool us.</p>

Submitter	Submission
Philip Gee, Victoria	WE DO NOT WANT GM FOODS IN AUSTRALIA, ITS ALL ABOUT TAKING OVER OUR FOOD AND WHO OWNS THE RIGHTS TO IT. GM FOODS ARE NOT GOOD FOR OUR HEALTH EITHER.
Ronald Pope	We don't know all the health risks with GM techniques, so they must be regulated. We can't have the cart before the horse again, just for big business dollars at the risk of our health and our childrens health.
Aiesha Grierson, Victoria	<p>Changing laws so that people are not able to know the origin of the food they eat is unethical. It takes away people's agency in making basic decisions about themselves, their diet and their health.</p> <p>Knowing what food I am eating and how it is grown is a right I demand to keep.</p>
Deborah Howlett	It is essential that GMO foods are not allowed to slip into the food chain. We have a right to know what we are eating and to choose not to eat GMO if we object to eat. Most people don't know that it's already here and in everyday foods (5% of food fed to ██████ free range chickens is GMO which I wouldn't have known if I hadn't asked).
Heather Marsh	From almost all I have read to date it seems that GM products should not be accepted as food until adequately tested. They have not been to date. it seems more a matter of one or two seed companies wanting to control every aspect of the seed market. Certainly crops 'created' to be herbicide resistant should not actually be used to feed any living creature including humans until techniques to remove those herbicides exist. I have seen nothing printed that states that the agents used to add new gene material become inactive afterwards. Until such time as 1. It is proven that the agents are definitely and permanently deactivated and 2. GM crop growers are responsible to remove GM plants (and GM plants ONLY) from their neighbours' properties. and 3. All techniques have been regulated to protect human, animal and environmental health I do not accept it is safe or responsible to add GM crops to Australian land.
Fernando Longo, Victoria	<p>My Will is that we do not allow the deregulation of genetic modification techniques.</p> <p>I do not accept the safety of Genetically Modified foods and thus do not accept genetic modification techniques.</p> <p>Reviews commissioned by the Austrian and Norwegian governments concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques. They recommended that products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments.</p>
Lisa Zerbe	Of the four options the OGTR presents in its discussion paper "Review of the Gene Technology Regulations" I believe option 2 is the best option, it is the only one that will require the labelling and safety testing of ALL products derived from new GM techniques such as CRISPR. As these technologies are so new, the effects are still unknown.
Janis Clague	There is not enough known about the risks posed by the new GM techniques for them to be introduced into the food chain in any way, shape or form.

Submitter	Submission
Joanna Koniuszewski	<p>I ask you to please consider my following concerns regarding these new techniques:</p> <p>These techniques pose unknown risks and need to be regulated. Austrian government agencies are among the few globally to consider the biosafety risks posed by new GM techniques. Their conclusion, over three separate, high level reviews of the biosafety risks, is that there is insufficient knowledge regarding the risks posed by these techniques. On this basis, they argue that products derived from new GM techniques should be regulated in the same way as those created using older GM techniques and require a comprehensive case by case risk assessment.</p> <p>The Norwegian Environment and Development Agencies also recently commissioned a review of these techniques. This concluded that further biosafety research needs to be performed before these techniques are commercialised.</p> <p>If the OGTR deregulates these new GM techniques there will be no monitoring or surveillance. Anyone from amateur biohackers – to industry – to terror groups would be free to use them to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made. And they could enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The risks could be catastrophic.</p> <p>Reviews commissioned by the Austrian and Norwegian governments concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques. They recommended that products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments.</p> <p>I urge you to stop letting industry write the rules for regulators and instead to put public health and our environment before private profit.</p> <p>I call for the following please:</p> <p>For these new GM techniques and the products derived from them to be subject to a comprehensive case by case risk assessment, including full molecular characterisation and independent safety testing to minimise any potential risks to human health and the environment;</p> <p>All products derived from new GM techniques to be labelled to protect choice for farmers, producers and consumers;</p> <p>The precautionary principle to be enshrined in both the Gene Technology Act and the Food Standards Australia New Zealand Act, given the experimental nature of these technologies and the risks associated with them;</p> <p>The Government to impose strict liability on all dealings with GMOs licensed by the OGTR, so that liability for GM contamination and the resultant losses and costs rests fully on the licensees and the owners of GM patents;</p> <p>A moratorium on the commercialisation of these new GM techniques until our regulatory system for GMOs is adapted to deal with the potential risks posed by them.</p>

Submitter	Submission
Phil Hecker, Victoria	<p>I am deeply concerned that any decision by OGTR could lead to an extremely risky uncontrolled use of GM techniques leading to catastrophic conclusions.</p> <p>We need to follow the example of those well informed governments such as the Austrian and Norwegian governments who concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques. They recommended that products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments.</p> <p>Please tread carefully. Be assured the OGTR will be held to account for any decision that leads to a dangerous outcome.</p>
Andrew Paterson, Queensland	I demand that Option 2 be adopted.
Yuri Orlow	<p>Should:</p> <p>All new GM techniques be regulated to protect human health and the environment? Products derived from all new GM techniques be labelled? The offspring of GMOs that have theoretically not inherited the GM trait be assessed for safety? Should their products be labelled? Amateur biohackers be allowed to use GM techniques on living organisms in unregistered laboratories with no regulation?</p>
Catherine Tchetchetkine, New South Wales	I wish to raise my objection to deregulation of the GM techniques, as I feel that it would be a danger to our health, we do not know enough about the dangers that could evolve. I also feel it endangers our Country to other threats with security as rogue individuals could possibly threaten us with new diseases. Every Australian should have a say and there should be many more years of discussion and openness.
Glenn H	Genetically modification has no place in the human body. The human body functions best on natural input. You only need to look at the problems highly processed and modified food has caused and you would support the ban of GM products. Labelling and safety testing of all products as a minimum safety level should be applied
Andrew Wright, Australian Capital Territory	<p>As the risks which may be present in GMO foods and products remain as yet unknown I do not believe we can afford to allow these products to enter the environment nor permit them to enter the food chain.</p> <p>I remain concerned like, Indian Myar birds, The Cane Toad, the European Red Fox with insufficient research a GMO product will be released and the full effects not understood.</p> <p>The consequence to the Australian primary production and the export markets could be extensive.</p> <p>As a citizen I should be under no illusions as to the products I purchase for my family any GMO food needs to be clearly indicated.</p> <p>If GMO food has no known issue in the retail environment then there will be no issue in declaring such items in any food containing such.</p>

Submitter	Submission
Anna Kesisoglou, Victoria	I understand changes are being considered to the safety testing and labelling around certain GM technologies. I strongly request Option 2 is considered – allowing full regulation of safety testing and labelling of foods containing GMO's.
Rodney Cook	I say no to GMO and will boycott any food or company using it.
Anthony Martin, New South Wales	The prospect of this area of commercial activity being unregulated scares the pants off me. it requires more scrutiny, not less.
Emma Jenson, Victoria	<p>I would like to express that I believe that the OGTR should be regulated.</p> <p>In order to ensure the safety and health of humans and the environment, all new gm technologies need to be regulated. It has already been shown that pollen can spread from GM plants and pollute agricultural crops, which could cause crops to be ruined. This would leave farmers with unsealable crops and in dire financial hardship.</p> <p>All products derived from all GM technologies should be labelled to ensure that people have the freedom to choose what they consume. It is also important so that any allergies or adverse reactions to these new products are known to the medical community and the public, so they know what products to avoid. This also includes the offspring of GMOs that have not inherited the GM trait, as they may still have inherited another feature/mutation that was not seen in the parents.</p> <p>Amateur biohackers should not be allowed to use GM techniques on living organisms in unregistered laboratories with no regulation. This could be extremely dangerous to both human health and the environment.</p> <p>Please follow the lead of the Norwegian and Austrian governments and make sure that we hold them accountable for their actions.</p>
Weiying Ho	<p>All gene modified material should be tested as per requirements for the therapeutic goods authority regulations. GMO are novel materials and should be treated as such – that is they should be tested for safety with LONG term clinical trials, that is for epigenetic affects, amongst others.</p> <p>Further more in the interests of informed choice and a level playing field, all GMO should be fully labelled. This should include labelling not only ingredients, but also if sub ingredients include any GMO. For example if labelling passata, the label should indicate if any ingredients such as tomato paste included genetically modified tomatoes.</p> <p>There if not enough information, public research into the affects of GMO. GMO should be banned from production in Australia. We have a world renown organics industry which is at risk from GMO. GMO is not in public interest, but private profit.</p>
Tracie Bleines	<p>All new GM techniques be regulated to protect human health and the environment? Products derived from all new GM techniques be labelled? The offspring of GMOs that have theoretically not inherited the GM trait be assessed for safety? Should their products be labelled? Amateur biohackers be allowed to use GM techniques on living organisms in unregistered laboratories with no regulation?</p>

Submitter	Submission
Liam Goldie	<p>Of the four options in the discussion paper ‘Review of the Gene Technology Regulations’ Option 2 is the only one that will require the labelling and safety testing of ALL products derived from new genetic modification (GM) techniques such as CRISPR.</p> <p>If the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator deregulates the new GM techniques there will be no assessment, licensing or monitoring of the organisms they are used to create. Anyone, from amateur biohackers – to industry – to terrorists, would be able to use them to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes without surveillance. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made and they could enter our food chain and environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The results could be catastrophic.</p> <p>Please choose Option 2 and stop the deregulation of a host of new genetic modification (GM) techniques.</p>
Elizabeth Hickey, Queensland	I appeal to you please, for the good of humanity, these new GM techniques should not be deregulated – every new process should be comprehensively tested on a case by case basis. The risks are just too great.
M Morton, Victoria	All Genetic Modification techniques should be routinely monitored and scrutinised by an appropriately qualified body with no vested interests. To contemplate deregulation is to expose the public to unacceptable and unnecessary levels of risk.
Jo-Ann Markowski	All genetic modification should be banned definitely not deregulated. These technologies have not been around long enough to show that they are not dangerous. Many independent scientists have shown that they are. You cannot go against mother nature and pretend you are God by manipulating what is not yours.
Angela Fyfe	<p>The Austrian and Norwegian Governments have in my view, adopted the only sensible approach to GM techniques and the products derived from them until the true impact of these organisms on humans and the world's eco-systems are properly understood and researched organism by organism.</p> <p>Once released into the environment these organisms are impossible to control as we have seen with the development of “super” weeds in the USA where 2 round-up resistant plants have combined in the wild.</p> <p>As we enter the post antibiotic world with antibiotic resistant bacteria developing by natural selection into infections against which humans have few weapons, the thought of unregulated GM organisms being released into the eco-systems with no monitoring or surveillance is horrifying and to allow this to occur the height of incompetence on the part of those charged by the Community to regulate these organisms.</p>
Joan Russo, South Australia	ALL GM information and testing results must be made freely available and printed copies should be available through newsagents and health stores at no cost. We are not helpless animals and do not want to be used for your experiments. EVERY GM ITEM included in ANY food, HUMAN or ANIMAL, or medication derived from the GM food chain must be revealed to give the purchasers full information on what they or thier animals are ingesting. Do not be fooled by the sweet talking chemical companies. We are well aware of thier greed and constant attempts to smother anyone,big or small who dares to stand against them. PLEASE AUSTRALIA, STAND TOGETHER AND WORK TOWARD A CLEAN, GREEN AND HEALTHY COUNTRY. IF OTHER COUNTRIES CAN DO THIS SO CAN WE.
William Fidler	Option 2 Please

<b>Submitter</b>	<b>Submission</b>
Deborah Grubic	Please let common sense prevail. We have the opportunity to take the time to consider the implications before it is too late. Any risk is not acceptable when it comes to the future for the generations to follow. We are constantly told to leave the planet in a pristine state for the future so what are we thinking when there is obvious risk.
David Allison, New South Wales	<p>Documents revealed under Freedom of Information laws show that the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator (OGTR) has been colluding with industry for years to deregulate a range of new genetic modification (GM) techniques. And now the rest of us have just 6 weeks to make the case why they should be regulated!</p> <p>If the OGTR deregulates these new GM techniques there will be no monitoring or surveillance. Anyone from amateur biohackers – to industry – to terror groups would be free to use them to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made. And they could enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The risks could be catastrophic.</p> <p>Reviews commissioned by the Austrian and Norwegian governments concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques. They recommended that products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments.</p> <p>GMO results have been covered up. Life time study results have been hidden and retested for shorter periods so that tumour growth was not visible.</p>
Ludmila Clark, Queensland	<p>Documents revealed under Freedom of Information laws show that the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator (OGTR) has been colluding with industry for years to deregulate a range of new genetic modification (GM) techniques. My family and I express protest against Office of the Gene Technology Regulator (OGTR) deregulation, because these new GM techniques there will be no monitoring or surveillance. Anyone from amateur biohackers – to industry – to terror groups would be free to use them to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made. And they could enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The risks could be catastrophic. Reviews commissioned by the Austrian and Norwegian governments concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques. They recommended that products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments.</p>
Vivienne Kahan, Victoria	The problem with GMO food is that we can't predict health effects into the future, due to its ingestion. Tests on mice, using GMO foods, have led to their demise. Let's stop playing Russian roulette with our health and ensure that legislation around GMO foods is highly regulated.

Submitter	Submission
Michael Alexander	<p>The safety of our food supply is the most important issue within this discussion and that all new technologies which alter the genetic code of any organism being used as a food source or food additive should be treated as harmful until proven safe. That is the manufacturer needs to demonstrate the safety of the technique being used and to also fully test the outcome of the GM alteration under long term chronic (min 2 years) toxicological analysis using animals as test subjects at the very least, using OECD guidelines. If we as Australians are to be consuming any of this new food type, then all testing of all processes and all end products should be conducted in Australia by independent Universities which are chosen by the Australian Government and operated at arms length from both corporate involvement and professional bias. All costs to be born by the corporate entity who created the new food or product. As has been proven, it is too easy to manipulate the regulatory system and introduce foods which are not proven safe for human consumption and cost our governments millions of dollars in the process. Therefore, for the OGTR to remain as an important link in GM regulation, I believe it is extremely important that all new technologies which are considered by the OGTR are treated as new technologies and that they are assessed as new GM technologies. The whole concept of this choosing an option is rather childish due to the fact that all new GM technologies should be assessed as dangerous until proven safe. To "regulate certain new technologies" is highly subjective according to the people managing the process and can be easily sorted and manipulated. A better option would be to "regulate all new technologies". However, as this process is really just a process, the best of the bad bunch is -</p> <p>Option 2: regulate certain new technologies Please accept this option as we really need to stop large multinationals from destroying our food system anymore than they have already done in Australia. We also need no deregulation of our food supply, but to increase the regulations so that any corporate CEO etc is jailed as soon as any collusion or corruption is found out. Lets make this food system safe for our families.</p>
Faye Thornhill	<p>Some reasons for not allowing GM foods:</p> <p>Firstly it is outrageous that the seeds are patented so that if the wind blows seed from a GM field onto a neighbour then the neighbour is in trouble. There has been a case in WA where an organic farmer was penalised in this situation. This is the reverse of the responsibility of farmers to remove declared regular weeds so that they cannot be spread to neighbours.</p> <p>Secondly:</p> <p>No one knows exactly what the effects of consuming pesticide-soaked genetically-engineered (GE) crops will be over time, all of humankind serves as "lab rat" as a few massive corporations profit handsomely from their experiment.</p> <p>The claim that GE foods are materially comparable to conventional foods, and therefore inherently safe, falls flat when you consider GE crops are designed to be different.</p> <p><i>[continued on next page]</i></p>

Submitter	Submission
<p>Faye Thornhill <i>[continued]</i></p>	<p><i>[continued from previous page]</i></p> <p>For example, “Roundup Ready” crops are engineered to withstand the herbicide Roundup, which would normally threaten the survival of the crop if sprayed too liberally. Moreover, in a 2014 study<sup>6</sup> titled “Compositional Differences in Soybeans on the Market: Glyphosate Accumulates in Roundup Ready GM Soybeans,” the authors specifically conclude that nutritional and elemental variables “without exception” demonstrate “substantial non-equivalence” between GM soy and non-GM varieties.</p> <p>With the advent of Roundup Ready crops, use of glyphosate (the active ingredient in Roundup) has significantly risen, with about 1 billion pounds sprayed on crops every year in the US. Glyphosate's toxicity is well established, with adverse health effects ranging from birth defects to endocrine dysfunction to cancer. Unbelievably, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) admits foods are not tested for glyphosate residues due to the high cost of doing so.</p> <p>However, GE crops are much more heavily contaminated with glyphosate than conventional crops by nature of their very design, and this fact alone blows a massive hole in the safety claim. Glyphosate was recently classified as a Class 2A “probable human carcinogen” by the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC), a division of the World Health Organization (WHO).</p>
<p>Don Lanham</p>	<p>I do NOT agree or support the Australian Gene Technology Regulator’s proposed changes that would allow ANY products derived from genetically modified (GM) plants, animals and microbes that are untested and unlabelled into our food.</p> <p>I do NOT agree that there should be no monitoring or surveillance of the (GM) industry. We already face biohackers, from amateur to industry and terror groups any or all of whom would be free to use their techniques to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made. And they could enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The results could be catastrophic.</p> <p>Reviews commissioned by the Austrian and Norwegian governments concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques. They recommended that products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments.</p> <p>Until we can also conduct such reviews and get public consent, all products should remain non-GM in Australia.</p>
<p>Kerry Anne Bakker, New South Wales</p>	<p>These techniques need to be properly regulated for the safety of all.</p>
<p>Don Martin</p>	<p>Of the four options the OGTR presents in its discussion paper, Option 2 is the only one that will require the labelling and safety testing of ALL products derived from new GM techniques such as CRISPR. Please advocate this option.</p>

Submitter	Submission
Bernadette O Grady	<p>In Regards to the Submission to the Technical Review of the Gene Technology Regulations 2001,</p> <p>It is my will and that of others petitioning through the friends of the earth website that all genetic modification techniques be regulated. It is my will that regulation includes labelling of all products derived from new GM techniques that safety assessments be carried out on offspring of GMOs that have theoretically not inherited the GM trait and that all laboratories using GM techniques be registered and regulated.</p>
Sue Cook	<p>I do NOT agree or support the Australian Gene Technology Regulator's proposed changes that would allow ANY products derived from genetically modified (GM) plants, animals and microbes that are untested and unlabelled into our food.</p> <p>I do NOT agree that there should be no monitoring or surveillance of the (GM) industry. We already face biohackers, from amateur to industry and terror groups any or all of whom would be free to use their techniques to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made. And they could enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The results could be catastrophic. Reviews commissioned by the Austrian and Norwegian governments concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques. They recommended that products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments. Until we can also conduct such reviews and get public consent, all products should remain non-GM in Australia.</p>
Peta Richards, Western Australia	<p>It is imperative for the health of our nation that as consumers we are made aware of the actual contents of foods that we purchase. GM technology must be monitored and the public informed of changes once plants are modified. Does the health sector need unnecessary overload of ill patients due to unforeseen reactions to GM technologies in our food. What is the reality of these changes? Who will be held responsible or will we- the greater public simply be guineapigs once more for someone elses gain?</p>
Susie Cox	<p>I am extremely concerned that new GM techniques may not be regulated. It is of utmost importance to protect human health and the environment</p> <p>Products derived from all new GM techniques should be labelled, and the offspring of GMOs that have theoretically not inherited the GM trait should be assessed for safety. These products need to be labelled.</p> <p>If we don't have regulations, amateur biohackers could use GM techniques on living organisms in unregistered laboratories. We cannot let this happen in Australia.</p> <p>Without regulators, anyone from amateur biohackers – to industry – to terror groups would be free to use them to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made. And they could enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The risks could be catastrophic.</p> <p>Reviews commissioned by the Austrian and Norwegian governments concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques. They recommended that products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments.</p>

<b>Submitter</b>	<b>Submission</b>
Gaye Hall, Queensland	The Norwegian and Austrian governments acknowledge these new GM techniques need more investigation. Please let Australia follow their lead. Do not allow deregulation of these new GM products. Think about our health and the health of our future generations. Think of our environment, please.
Gaelle McCawley	Food needs to be labeled so consumers can make choices.  Interfering with nature is dangerous it needs to be regulated and tested.  Please keep regulations.
Gaby Jung, Tasmania	I am writing to urge you to make it a requirement that all GM foods be labeled so the consumer will be able to make an informed choice, this should include also foods that contain small amounts of GM products
Andrea Strack	I want to know exactly what I am putting in my mouth, where it came from, and whether or not it is genetically modified. Because I want to choose I need items to be clearly labeled if they are GM or not. Before I buy GM products I would want the results from 50 years of careful testing to reassure me that they are safe.
Eva Novotny	Deregulation of biotechnology techniques, even the most recently developed techniques, pose a threat to health and the environment, as well as opening the door to hackers and terrorists to create new living forms that are capable of causing catastrophic consequences, such as new lethal diseases and GM species designed to wipe out native species. These are not scare stories — they are real threats. Unless there are regulations in place to prevent misuse of these new technologies, uncontrolled and harmful use is virtually certain to occur. Even use designed to be benign, such as the creation of desirable traits in fruits and vegetables, can have harmful consequences: the claimed precision applies to only one step in a long chain of processes, some of which are unpredictable and subject to unintended changes that can be damaging. The fact that this happens has already been verified.  I most strongly urge you not to deregulate any biotechnology techniques.
Zona Tan-Sheppard, New South Wales	I believe that people deserve to make informed choices about the food we consume. Hence it is important that the industry remains regulated to inform the residents of Australia about what type of food they are consuming – namely, whether the food is natural or artificially created.  It is too risky to allow GM technology to be unregulated. As it is, people are suffering from digestive and auto-immune diseases from the lack of good bacteria provided from natural sources of food. Unprocessed food.

Submitter	Submission
Carolyn Bourke	<p>I do NOT agree or support the Australian Gene Technology Regulator's proposed changes that would allow ANY products derived from genetically modified (GM) plants, animals and microbes that are untested and unlabelled into our food.</p> <p>I do NOT agree that there should be no monitoring or surveillance of the (GM) industry. We already face biohackers, from amateur to industry and terror groups any or all of whom would be free to use their techniques to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made. And they could enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The results could be catastrophic.</p> <p>Reviews commissioned by the Austrian and Norwegian governments concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques. They recommended that products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments.</p> <p>Until we can also conduct such reviews and get public consent, all products should remain non-GM in Australia.</p>
Jack and Rita Reynolds, Victoria	<p>We are totally opposed to any weakening or deregulation of laws governing GE foods and ingredients in foods. No more needs to be said as we are sure the government authorities are well aware of the immense problems GE crops and foods can cause.</p>
Joanne Williams, New South Wales	<p>I am deeply disturbed by the possible changes Gene Technology if passed by the review could have on food crops and animals. I am writing to request a total ban on Gene Technology. I feel funds would be better spent on fostering heritage seed banks to provide food crops. Heritage seeds pose no threat to health &amp; are already perfectly designed by mother nature.</p>
Sunnie Sciascia, Western Australia	<p>Please stop this from happening, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] has so many food intolerances. Foods are just not the same anymore and full ingredients on all products should be listed.</p>
Merryl Williams	<p>Please do not allow GM foods to enter our market place..I definitely do not wish to consume them and I especially do not want my grandchildren to consume them. I consider them to be an unnecessary risk to our health and to the livelihoods of our farmers especially those who are endeavouring to produce food the natural way.</p> <p>If you do intend to allow for it to happen, at the very least the products need to allow people to make an informed choice. It needs to be made clear on the packaging that the product contains GM ingredients and not be sly and sneaky about containing them unannounced.</p> <p>People, where ever they live on this earth should have the right to choose the pure and natural with their food over what has been tampered with, especially when it potentially has far reaching consequences not yet known about with regard to our health and environment.</p>

Submitter	Submission
Evan Wilson, Western Australia	<p>Reviews commissioned by the Austrian and Norwegian governments concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques. They recommended that products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments</p> <p>Should:</p> <p>All new GM techniques be regulated to protect human health and the environment? YES</p> <p>Products derived from all new GM techniques be labelled? YES</p> <p>The offspring of GMOs that have theoretically not inherited the GM trait be assessed for safety? YES</p> <p>Should their products be labelled? YES</p> <p>Amateur bio hackers be allowed to use GM techniques on living organisms in unregistered laboratories with no regulation? NO</p> <p>Please do the right thing for all of us.</p>
Janet Macdonald, New South Wales	<p>Please provide full disclosure any new genetic modification techniques and ensure they are updated in the Food Standards Code.</p> <p>GM has its benefits however modification needs to be understood and monitored</p>
Angela Davies, Victoria	<p>I think that the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator should go with Option 2, so that the labelling and safety testing of ALL products derived from new GM techniques such as CRISPR should be required.</p> <p>All new GM techniques should be regulated to protect human health and the environment.</p> <p>Products derived from all new GM techniques should be labelled.</p> <p>The offspring of GMOs that have theoretically not inherited the GM trait should be assessed for safety and their products should be labelled.</p> <p>Amateur biohackers should NOT be allowed to use GM techniques on living organisms in unregistered laboratories with no regulation.</p>
James Bigod, New South Wales	<p>It is not admissible. We must not let this pass for obvious reasons.</p>
Angela G	<p>All new Gm techniques should be regulated to protect human health and the environment. All products derived from all new Gm techniques should be labelled. It should be a basic human right to choose what goes into our bodies and not be misled and deceived from a group of people who are experimenting with Gmo's.</p>

Submitter	Submission
Geoff Douglas	I can not believe that you could make a decision regarding the future of all of our health as well as the environment without asking all of us. That is extremely rude because we aren't the ones who will be left with this mess it will be our kids trying to explain that we made decisions based on money and corporate interests instead of putting our health first. Please do what is right. The research says it is a terrible thing, take the rest of the worlds view on this and not American super corporations like ██████ word that this rubbish is safe.
Nathaniel Boulton	Technological advances that affect our environment and health should require strict oversight, especially considering the ethics on intra-species gene methods, and the implications that can arise from this under researched technology. A government should be responsible for its population, not corporate interests. Our unique fauna and flora biodiversity is under threat from GM experimentation, and the impact of GM foods on human health is controversial. A troubling issue is the development of pest resistance to chemicals such as 'roundup' and farmers reliance on increased volume of pesticide use. The Office of the Gene Technology Regulator is merely an orwellian double speak that seems to bend to ██████ lobbyists demands!
Hugh Lehman	To whom it may concern, GMOs should be labelled as such. They have not been rigorously tested for safety in the judgement of many scientists. To approve them for marketing is to make the residents of your country guinea pigs. Why would you want to do that?
Carolyn Sawaya	<p>All new GM techniques should be regulated to protect human health and then environment.</p> <p>All products derived from GM techniques should be labeled</p> <p>Offspring of GMOs that have theoretically not inherited the GM trait should be assessed for safety and their products should be labeled.</p> <p>Amateur bio trackers should should not be allowed to use GM techniques on living organisms in unregistered labs with no regulation. Stop this nonsense NOW</p>
Kerrin Sheard	People for whom making money is their raison d'être, are the most miserable souls on earth. Good luck to all who collude with them. GM technology is primarily about profits over people, but "money can't buy you love".
Wilma van Boxtel, Western Australia	<p>I would like to urge you to get proper regulation and testing. Please label GM products and any other products which aren't tested for a sufficient time to show the effects.</p> <p>I don't buy anything which doesn't include proper labelling and avoid anything which is manipulated with severely.</p>

Submitter	Submission
Rosie O'Donnell	<p>Submission to the Technical Review of the Gene Technology Regulations 2001 GM DESTROYS SEED DIVERSITY. SEEDS ARE THE BASIS ON WHICH OUR LIVES DEPEND. THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT MUST PROMOTE THEIR DIVERSITY AND FREE AVAILABILITY, NOT TAKE IT AWAY... GM CROPS REPLY ON HEAVY FERTILIZATION, EXTENSIVE CROP TILLAGE AND EXTENSIVE PESTICIDE SPRAYING. THIS INDUSTRIAL AGRICULTURAL MODEL DEPENDS ON THE USE OF NON RENEWABLE ENERGY LIKE OIL. IT DESTROYS SOIL CARBON AND CREATES HUGE CO2 POLLUTION. IT CAN NEVER ADAPT TO SUSTAINABLE PRINCIPLES. WE SHOULD BE LEARNING FROM THE TERRIFYING SITUATION IN AMERICA AND OTHER COUNTRIES WHERE MONSANTO DOMINATES THE FOOD SUPPLY. THE CONVENTIONAL FOOD SUPPLY IN AMERICA IS NOW ALMOST TOTALLY CONTAMINATED. "GM CORN AND SOY ARE INTERMINGLED AT THE SILO AND UNLABELLED AT POINT OF PURCHASE AFFECTING UP TO 70% OF ALL PROCESSED FOOD SOLD IN THE USA." (The Diggers Club, Autumn Garden 2010 p 9)</p>
Jo-Anne Seater	<p>I oppose the deregulation of certain GM techniques as I feel this takes away the publics right to be able to make informed decisions about the food/products they use.</p> <p>I understand that many genetically modified produce may be nutritionally identical to non genetically modified produce. However, given genes express tens of thousands of proteins and these proteins can result in hundreds of thousands of metabolites all with unique biological activity, I feel all genetic modification should be regulated to ensure adequate safety testing, especially long term intergenerational safety testing.</p> <p>I also would prefer labelling of all products that either are or contain components that have been genetically modified.</p> <p>I feel that public safety should be paramount when it comes to genetic modification and that is why I oppose the deregulation.</p>
Sarah McGregor, South Australia	<p>Please, please just employ some common sense and and keep corporate interests out of engineering our food supply for their own gain.</p> <p>Seriously. No one wins in the end.</p> <p>Should you decide to go ahead with this, the only responsible next step is to allow all diet related health complaints and the majority of cancers to be treated at no cost to the patient and entirely from your own pay budget...</p> <p>Oh, that doesn't sound so appealing nod does it?</p>

Submitter	Submission
Phillip Bradley	<p>I am appalled that it apparently took a Freedom of Information request to show that the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator has been consulting with industry for years without including the public or health and biosecurity experts, to deregulate a range of new genetic modification techniques.</p> <p>I oppose the Australian Gene Technology Regulator's proposed changes that would allow ANY products derived from genetically modified plants, animals and microbes that are untested and unlabelled into our food.</p> <p>I also am opposed to the proposal that no monitoring or surveillance of the GM industry is needed. This would expose the public to unscrupulous operators and an unacceptable high risk to our health and biosecurity. All new GM techniques should have their products subject to clearance by comprehensive long term case-by-case risk assessments before consideration of release to the public!</p>
Adrian McNamara	<p>No product should ever be allowed on or in a grocery store shelf or available for sale with any GMO product in it that has not been labeled. This should be stated on the label no matter what the amount.</p>
David Tomkins, Victoria	<p>I urge you to recommend Option 2 which is the only one that will require the labelling and safety testing of ALL products derived from new GM techniques such as CRISPR.</p>
Silvana Arbaci, Victoria	<p>For the sake of people with allergies labelling of GM products is a must ..</p>
Bob Rozett	<p>I oppose any deregulation of genetic modifications to any plant or animal that is in the food supply. Extensive research to determine the consequences of these actions are needed. No industry should harm the public, people have the right to know what is in their food. Label everything so we can make our own informed decisions.</p>
Robert Buchan-Hepburn	<p>Please do not allow the use of these new GM TECHNIQUES without a complete and thorough understanding of their effects on life.</p>

Submitter	Submission
Fern Wickson	<p data-bbox="315 193 2139 260">As a biosafety scientist and expert in the regulation of modern biotechnologies (and an Australian citizen currently working in Norway), I am writing to express my strong support for option 2 in the discussion paper.</p> <p data-bbox="315 280 2139 587">Genome editing techniques are far too new to have a history of safe use and claims about their precision is currently based on assumptions and remains to be scientifically demonstrated or proven. In fact, several early scientific studies exploring the impacts of these new techniques indicate the potential for both off-target effects and a lack of stability over generations. There is also an indication that the effectiveness varies across types of organisms being transformed and the precision varies depending on specificity of the target sequence used. To feel confident that the genetic changes made are limited to those intended and that locations within the genome affected are limited to those that have been targeted, full genome sequencing of transformed organisms and ideally also detailed omis analysis is needed. The only way to ensure that this information is generated is to have these technologies formally regulated under existing systems and to have such research a required submission for risk assessment.</p> <p data-bbox="315 608 2139 898">The current lack of a technical ability to detect some of the organisms transformed using these technologies (depending on the type of changes made) is not a sound reason to exempt them from regulation. Rather a requirement for some kind of watermarking could be put in place to ensure their detectability. Or indeed, a requirement that detection methods were developed alongside the advance of the applications. Furthermore, the technologies themselves allow for a wide range of transformations to be made – e.g. both cisgenic and transgenic, both the silencing or upregulation of internal genes and the insertation of completely foreign genetic material. Some of these applications may result in organisms similar to those found already, but others will not. If all uses of the technologies are exempt from regulation, this will open the door for them to be used to make large, radical and ultimately detectable changes to be made in a completely unregulated manner. This would be unacceptable.</p> <p data-bbox="315 919 2139 986">Furthermore, we know that it is not the scale of genetic change that determines its significance - even a very small modification can have large impacts, depending on the genes and pathways involved and its genomic (and indeed organismal and ecological) context.</p> <p data-bbox="315 1007 2139 1114">I therefore urge the Australian government to support option 2 of this technical review and regulate these new technologies as just another part of modern biotechnology that requires robust risk assessment to ensure its safety and broad-based public participation and ethical assessment to ensure its social robustness and acceptability.</p>
Sasha Kelly-Thatcher, Western Australia	<p data-bbox="315 1142 2139 1171">Please allow us the freedom to make choices by assessing and labelling products to indicate their origin, make up and production processes.</p> <p data-bbox="315 1192 1182 1220">Please put knowledge and health first and regulate these techniques.</p>
Marie Gregoire	<p data-bbox="315 1294 1391 1323">I support option 2 for safety reasons regarding new material deployed in the market.</p>
Shaun Hopkinson	<p data-bbox="315 1366 1845 1394">Please dont allow GM foods to be any easier to buy by the public, theyre unnatural, and cause severe long term problems</p>

Submitter	Submission
Jeremy Hocquard	<p>I whole hertedly believe GM techniques should be regulated and relevant labelling should be placed on products available to all consumers if such techniques are used in the production of food.</p> <p>Nature is abundant and alot of our scientific farming techniques add complications and unknowns into the ecosystem. Just as in the past, alot of chemical based techniques have proven fatal for fuana, flora, rivers and land.</p> <p>Please respect the earth, move gently and not put the future of our children and ourselves at risk.</p>
David Reinbold, Tasmania	<p>I am concerned about the technical review of the Gene technology regulations 2001. The existing law protect the health and wellbeing of humans and the environment. In particular I don't agree with exception of some new GM techniques from requiring scrutiny and labeling. Consumers are entitled to be informed and make choices by being informed about which ingredients have been genetically modified regardless of the degree of modification and the gm techniques used. Products of GM offspring should also be tested for their safety and be labeled to contain GM offspring material. I consider it vital to introduce mandatory regulation and monitoring of yet unregistered bio laboratories to deal with the threat of bio hacking and bio terrorism.</p>
Susan Jones	<p>Further research is required before we open a Pandora's Box of possible negatives by deregulating new genetic modification techniques.</p> <p>Thorough investigation is required on any products derived from such techniques on a case-by-case basis to determine what risks they pose to the environment and human health.</p>
Kylie Francesconi, New South Wales	<p>Please do not allow the de-regulation of the new GM techniques. Too much potential for harm – intentional or accidental. Not enough is known. And what is known indicates GM techniques and foods etc are indeed harmful to the human body. Check the wider body of research and arm yourselves with all the information before making any decisions.</p> <p>Please continue to uphold your duty of care to the Australian people.</p>
Anna Watts	<p>I support Option 2 in the discussion paper</p> <p>The scientific and ethical argument is the precautionary principle:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The precautionary principle should be enshrined in both the Gene Technology Act and the Food Standards Australia New Zealand Act, given the experimental nature of these technologies and the risks associated with them</li> </ul> <p>I do NOT agree or support the Australian Gene Technology Regulator’s proposed changes that would allow ANY products derived from genetically modified (GM) plants, animals and microbes that are untested and unlabelled into our food.</p> <p><i>[continued on next page]</i></p>

Submitter	Submission
<p>Anna Watts [continued]</p>	<p>[continued from previous page]</p> <p>I do NOT agree that there should be no monitoring or surveillance of the (GM) industry. We already face biohackers, from amateur to industry and terror groups any or all of whom would be free to use their techniques to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made. And they could enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The results could be catastrophic</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• These new GM techniques and the products derived from them to should be subject to a comprehensive case-by-case risk assessment, including full molecular characterisation and independent safety testing to minimise any potential risks to human health and the environment;</li> <li>• All products derived from new GM techniques should be labelled to protect choice for farmers, producers and consumers;</li> <li>• These new GM techniques and the products derived from them to should be subject to a comprehensive case-by-case risk assessment, including full molecular characterisation and independent safety testing to minimise any potential risks to human health and the environment;</li> <li>• All products derived from new GM techniques should be labelled to protect choice for farmers, producers and consumers;</li> <li>• The Government to impose strict liability on all dealings with GMOs licensed by the OGTR, so that liability for GM contamination and the resultant losses and costs rests fully on the licensees and the owners of GM patents;</li> <li>• A moratorium on the commercialisation of these new GM techniques until our regulatory system for GMOs is adapted to deal with the potential risks posed by them.</li> </ul>
<p>Angela Pritchard, Australian Capital Territory</p>	<p>Option 2 retains the precautionary principle that was intended with the establishment of the OGTR and is the preferred option.</p> <p>Because of possible unintentional effects, full regulatory oversight is needed to protect human health and safety and the environment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• These techniques might unintentionally interfere with the functioning of an organism's genome, for example through unforeseen interactions between altered genes and native genes, or through the altered genes having unexpected effects on biochemical pathways. Because such effects might pose risks, the techniques should be regulated as gene technology.</li> <li>• The precision of oligo-directed mutagenesis and site-directed nucleases is not established. The processes involved can give rise to unintended changes to the genome. Because such effects might pose risks, the techniques should be regulated as gene technology.</li> </ul>

Submitter	Submission
Malcolm Swift	<p>GMO and the results of GMO have yet to be fully studied over an extensive period. Reviews commissioned by the Austrian and Norwegian governments concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques. They recommended that products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments.</p> <p>So it is better for the general populations of the world and the world itself to have some body supervising the processes and outcomes of the use of this technology and that body ought not have a financial interest in the outcomes.</p> <p>The OTGR must be independant and must not allow the GMO operators to regulate their own industry / interests. Such a situation would be akin to a kid tending a candy store or a fox minding the hen-house. Not an ideal situation by any stretch of the imagination.</p>
Ana Mooks, Victoria	<p>Our world is changing sometimes not for the better. I feel that oir choices are being taken away day by day. GM food is not my food of choice and I feel that I should have a say about it. <u>Allowing people to carry out different practices will make it hard to monitor. Get back to basics.</u></p>
Derek Walter, Tasmania	<p>I am concerned that documents under Freedom of Information laws show that the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator (OGTR) has been colluding with industry for years to deregulate a range of new genetic modification (GM) techniques.</p> <p>If the OGTR deregulates these new GM techniques there will be no monitoring or surveillance. Anyone from amateur biohackers – to industry – to terror groups would be free to use them to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made. And they could enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The risks could be catastrophic.</p> <p>Reviews commissioned by the Austrian and Norwegian governments concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques. They recommended that products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments.</p> <p>Please do not proceed with the government's current proposal; comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments should instead be required by law.</p>
Liz de Been	<p>I am against this move, enough with genetic modifications. Leave our food alone so our children can enjoy it the way it is for years to come.</p>
Nyree Brown, Australian Capital Territory	<p>We should be allowed to make our own choices as to what we ingest into or put on our bodies, and when it comes to our children, the choices we make to protect them and keep them healthy need to be educated. I for one, will not willingly eat GM foods or feed them to anyone else, especially children. I believe that there is a moral obligation for honest labelling, we all have the right to know what is in our food, and to make our own choices.</p>

Submitter	Submission
Diane Bricknell	<p>Documents revealed under Freedom of Information laws show that the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator (OGTR) has been colluding with industry for years to deregulate a range of new genetic modification (GM) techniques. THIS IS WRONG.</p> <p>If the OGTR deregulates these new GM techniques there will be no monitoring or surveillance. Anyone from amateur biohackers – to industry – to terror groups would be free to use them to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made. And they could enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The risks could be catastrophic. REGULATE!</p> <p>Please regulate all Genetically Modified ingredients and/ or techniques.</p> <p>Please regulate and make it mandatory to label all food products that have any genetically modified ingredients, the Australian consumer should be able to choose whether he or she wants to consume GM products, we need to be able to make an informed purchase.</p> <p>Australian consumers need decide whether they feed their children genetically modified foods themselves, we do not want you to take that decision making process away from us.</p> <p>I SAY REGULATE GM.</p>
Salman Rizvi	<p>I do NOT agree or support the Australian Gene Technology Regulator’s proposed changes that would allow ANY products derived from genetically modified (GM) plants, animals and microbes that are untested and unlabelled into our food.</p> <p>I do NOT agree that there should be no monitoring or surveillance of the (GM) industry. We already face biohackers, from amateur to industry and terror groups any or all of whom would be free to use their techniques to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made. And they could enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The results could be catastrophic.</p>
Rod Farquhar, Tasmania	<p>Come on, surely we have the right to choose what we eat and I do not want to eat gm foods. There are too many unknowns and it could clearly end up being another cane toad, but far more out of control as it could well affect our health. Don't give me the argument that its a means of feeding the hungry, we can do that now, it doesn't happen now because there are too many greedy people along the line. Scientists are not God, leave our food stuffs purely natural !</p>
Irene Hickman, Queensland	<p>In your discussion paper, Option 2 is the only one that will require the labelling and safety testing of ALL products derived from new GM techniques such as CRISPR. I advocate for this option.</p> <p>I want the ability to tell (and avoid) what contains GM products and a totally new product needs to be safety tested before being made public. I believe ALL products derived from GM techniques, as well as their offspring be labelled.</p> <p>I believe all new GM techniques be regulated to protect human health and the environment and no unregistered laboratories be allowed to dabble in GMOs.</p>

Submitter	Submission
Angela Marshall, New South Wales	I submit that industry should not be allowed to self-regulate anything as potentially far-reaching and unpredictable as genetic modification of organisms that will be allowed out of the laboratory into the world where they can become part of the food chain or disrupt the environment. All new GM techniques should be fully and independently researched and regulated to protect the environment and human and animal health.
Karen Royans, South Australia	I don't want any genetically modified products in the food we eat.
Lyn Treloar, South Australia	<p>I sign this partition as I am outraged that this is something that citizens of this country have to ensure rather than the government who were out in the positions they hold to do.</p> <p>This is a basic human rights issues. If you the government allow GMO foods to go unfettered without regulation you will be putting into action an unreversable consequences that already has credible evidence of such monumental magnitude.</p> <p>Not only should their not be GMO in our food – however you the government have already done this shameful and criminal act against the citizens of this country – which you could reverse if you chose.</p> <p>In the very least you MUST ensure labeling on all foods and products developed in this country and imported into this country to ensure that a very basic human rights are upheld!</p>
Julie Gorman	It's very important to me that my family and I have good quality food that has not been tampered with. Besides the obvious scary implications, we as a family have allergies galore and need to know what we are eating. We already try very hard to avoid eating anything imported for health reasons and dont knowing eat anything halal on principle. I expect my government to protect our food chain, we are not a third world country to be experimented on!
Kate Eve, Victoria	I am most concerned that GM ingredients/products/techniques be identified effectively. The long term impact of GM items is still unknown so it is important that all consumers have the opportunity to make informed choices. The industry should not be permitted to make decisions for the population. Such processes need to be appropriately monitored. Please ensure our freedom of choice is protected in this most important matter.
FP	One simple request.. label all GM foods. Let the buyer beware principle prevail. Regardless of any debate on the rights or wrong of GM foods, the buyer should ALWAYS be aware.
Nicole Michael, Victoria	I feel very strongly that all new GM techniques be regulated to protect human health and the environment. I also believe that products derived from all new GM techniques be labeled as such.

Submitter	Submission
Elizabeth O'Dea, Victoria	<p>I feel very strongly about GMO organisms having to be labelled in food. I want to be able to avoid them regardless of opposing views – labelling allows people who wish to avoid such products so to take that step, and everyone else can just ignore such information at their discretion. I consider it a democratic right to be able to know what I am putting in my body.</p> <p>I advocate for Option 2 in the Technical Reivew as it is the only one that will require the labelling and safety testing of ALL products derived from new GM techniques such as CRISPR.</p>
Heather Crosby, New South Wales	<p>I have concerns about genetic modification and food security. Nature should not be meddled with. The risks are too great. I want to know what it is my food and object to the deregulation of new genetic modification techniques. I raise these concerns as a member of a family that lives with the very real consequences of food intolerances, food allergies and chemical sensitivity.</p>
Frank Zaff, Victoria	<p>Stop genetically modified foods and support local farmers an non gmo foods this is what australians want real food</p>
Geoff Peoples	<p>I do NOT agree or support the Australian Gene Technology Regulator’s proposed changes that would allow ANY products derived from genetically modified (GM) plants, animals and microbes that are untested and unlabelled into our food. I do NOT agree that there should be no monitoring or surveillance of the (GM) industry. We already face bio hackers, from amateur to industry and terror groups any or all of whom would be free to use their techniques to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made. And they could enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labeling. The results could be catastrophic.</p>
Aaron McClintock	<p>We live in a time where truth and information seem to becoming more and more obscured and lines are blurred.</p> <p>It seems ridiculous and deceptive to obfuscate the truth on food while looking after the interests of corporate hidden agendas.</p> <p>At the very least we, the people, have the right to know whats in our food, who's making it and and the information on where it comes from.</p> <p>Its a fundamental right of the people.</p> <p>I question your corporate interests and collusion with multi national interests.</p> <p>For whom do you really serve?</p> <p>The People or the Machine?</p>
Jacqueline Miller, New South Wales	<p>Please preserve my right to choose the inputs for my family's consumption. I respectfully request OGTR to adopt option 2. I am not supportive GM in our environment. Thank you for your consideration in this matter</p>

Submitter	Submission
Adriana Di Benedetto	I'm writing to express my concern and disgust about the OGTR's shocking attempts to deregulate all new GM techniques in the future. This is unethical and a massive risk to human health and the environment. GM technology is already wrong and dangerous. All products from new GM techniques should be clearly labelled and GM testing should be regulated, transparent and performed in registered laboratories to ensure safety of products – there must be a proper risk assessment. It is disturbing that the OTGR are attempting to deregulate GM testing. It is imperative that all GM techniques are rigorously tested and monitored, as our food chain and the environment could be potentially destroyed by new diseases and poisons if this wasn't enforced. The OTGR must be accountable and transparent about its practices and new GM techniques to protect human health and the precious environment. Once you destroy the environment, you can't just grow another one. You only get one chance, so protecting the Australian environment, industry and the people should be your first (and only) priority.
Mandy Murphy	I am very concerned to about the possibility of the deregulation of GM techniques from scrutiny. Option 2 from your discussion paper appears the only safe and therefore sensible option. I believe we need to be responsible and cautious in our actions for the wellbeing and good of future generations.
Sue Stenning, New South Wales	<p>I do NOT agree or support the Australian Gene Technology Regulator's proposed changes that would allow ANY products derived from genetically modified (GM) plants, animals and microbes that are untested and unlabelled into our food.</p> <p>I do NOT agree that there should be no monitoring or surveillance of the (GM) industry. We already face biohackers, from amateur to industry and terror groups any or all of whom would be free to use their techniques to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made. And they could enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The results could be catastrophic.</p> <p>Reviews commissioned by the Austrian and Norwegian governments concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques. They recommended that products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments.</p> <p>Until we can also conduct such reviews and get public consent, all products should remain non-GM in Australia.</p>
Traude Kolb, South Australia	Re the OGTR discussion paper, I advocate for Option 2 as the only viable option, requiring the testing and labelling of all products. Anything less than this is a violation of my rights as a consumer to be rightfully informed about the foods that I'm consuming.
Chris Williams, Australian Capital Territory	I feel that as GMO technology is still relatively new. Yes, there is no evidence that it is bad for your health HOWEVER there is also no evidence that it is NOT bad for your health. As a parent, I take consideration in what I feed to my children. Labeling of GMO helps me decide what is in or out. As a consumer this is my right. The little regulation covering the industry and labeling in place is a good thing for Australians. Please DO NOT water down Gene Technology Regulations 2001.
Cheryl Kemp	All new GM techniques be regulated to protect human health and environment Also all produce derived from all gmo techniques be labelled We have the right to choose what we let into our bodies

Submitter	Submission
William Armstrong, Queensland	Please, as fellow human beings on this planet refuse to unleash the nightmare of GM on everything that presently lives on Earth. History has and continues to clearly show that human greed rules when there is the potential of increased financial gain and political influence regardless of the consequences to everything we share life with on this planet.
Sheridan Adams, South Australia	<p>If the OGTR deregulates new GM techniques there will be no monitoring or surveillance. Anyone would be free to modify plants, animals and microbes, and entirely new diseases and poisons could be made and enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The risks could be catastrophic and irreversable, and it is definitely a risk Australia should not be taking.</p> <p>Of the four options the OGTR presents in its discussion paper, Option 2 is the only one that will require the labelling and safety testing of ALL products derived from new GM techniques.</p> <p>Reviews commissioned by the Austrian and Norwegian governments concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques. They recommended that products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments.</p> <p>Australians have a basic right to know what is in the food they are buying. I advocate for OPTION 2.</p>
John Maddocks	I am writing to support Option 2 of the OGTR Discussion Paper. I feel it should be mandatory that all products derived from new GM techniques should be very thoroughly tested and then labelled. Consumer safety should be a paramount concern over the profitability that may be derived from rapid deregulation. Independent scientific evaluation is required to ensure ongoing safety. Environmental safety in relation to the proliferation of GM products and their derivatives is also a vital issue requiring ongoing research and regulation. All GM products should be labelled even if they have been assessed as safe.
Shorus McKenzie, New South Wales	<p>I do NOT agree or support the Australian Gene Technology Regulator's proposed changes that would allow ANY products derived from genetically modified (GM) plants, animals and microbes that are untested and unlabelled into our food.</p> <p>I do NOT agree that there should be no monitoring or surveillance of the (GM) industry. We already face bio-hackers, from amateur to industry and terror groups any or all of whom would be free to use their techniques to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made. And they could enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The results could be catastrophic.</p> <p>Reviews commissioned by the Austrian and Norwegian governments concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques. They recommended that products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments.</p> <p>Until we can also conduct such reviews and get public consent, all products should remain non-GM in Australia.</p>

Submitter	Submission
Imogen Goode, New South Wales	<p>Knowing where and how my food has been grown is my right!</p> <p>All new GM techniques should be regulated to protect human health and the environment.</p> <p>Products derived from all new GM techniques should be labelled.</p> <p>The offspring of GMOs that have theoretically not inherited the GM trait should be assessed for safety.</p> <p>All products must be clearly &amp; transparently labelled.</p> <p>Amateur biohackers should not be allowed to use GM techniques on living organisms in unregistered laboratories with no regulation.</p>
Peter Morris, New South Wales	<p>I think that genetic modification not a legitimate farming practice. It is not even directly comparable to selective breeding and shows that we have reached a point where we need to be selective and conscionable about accepting what science offers. If genetic modification was to be adopted it must be controlled by those without a vested interest.</p>
Louisa Laing, Queensland	<p>I strongly urge you to select Option 2 in your discussion paper. This is the only one that will require the labelling and safety testing of all products derived from new GM techniques such as CRISPR. As a consumer, this labeling is a must as I want to know what is going on with my food, &amp; be reassured that assessment, monitoring &amp; licensing are in place around modified organisms.</p>
Ron Glover, Queensland	<p>Please no GMO foods for Australia it is still untested does not produce any more per crop it is an evil food and should NOT be aloud in our country</p>
Geoff Wolhuter, Northern Territory	<p>Please provide as many safeguards as possible for effective oversight of any “tinkering” with genes. To mess with the basic building blocks of all living things can lead to the eventual collaps of ALL living creatures. Once this “Gennie” is let out of the box, by any biohacker for a quick buck, THERE will be no way to put it back in the box! It is most vital to constrain any gene manipulation, using the most stringent ethecal standards.</p>
Bernie Kneis	<p>Reviews commissioned by the Austrian and Norwegian governments concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques. They recommended that products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments.</p> <p>Mother nature has provided for mankind for thousands of years. Interfering means we give some subjects as mentioned enough opportunity and actually the means to manipulate as mentioned. Who would benefit from this? Certainly not the well-meaning law-obiding citizen.</p>
Fraser Maywood, Western Australia	<p>The world does not need GMO</p> <p>I do not want GMO in Australia</p> <p>All foods containing GMO should be clearly labelled</p>
Heather Georgallis	<p>Let's put a stop to GM foods across the globe. Come on, it's ridiculous that profit is still coming before people! GMs are simply put, poisoning our ecosystem. Stop finding excuses. Start employing alternatives. There are plenty.</p>
Kenneth Palmer	<p>I am of the opinion that these new GM techniques should be properly regulated. Otherwise we will not know that our food is safe to eat.</p>

<b>Submitter</b>	<b>Submission</b>
Chris Koh	<p>Please do NOT deregulates those new GM techniques as it has not been proven it does not harm our health in the long run,,</p> <p>Please reviews report commissioned by the Austrian and Norwegian governments concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques.</p> <p>GMO should be regulated!</p>
Veronika Squires, Queensland	I should have the right to know what i'm consuming wherether I choose to eat GM or not! The new techniques must be properly regulated and monitored and GM effects on living things including humans.
Kathryn Silk, New South Wales	Please do not deregulate new genetic modification techniques. The production and experimentation of this food must be regulated. this would ensure protection to consumers and the environment. Labelling of genetically modified food must be mandatory. People have the right to know the contents and techniques used to produce the food they are eating. Producers who do not use genetically modified ingredients need to be protected.
Phyllis Menos	<p>It's come to my attention OGTR is planning to deregulate a range of new genetic modification (GM) techniques.</p> <p>The main concern for myself, family and community is If the OGTR deregulates these new GM techniques there will be no monitoring or surveillance. Anyone from amateur biohackers – to industry – to terror groups would be free to use them to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made. And they could enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The risks could be catastrophic.</p> <p>Reviews commissioned by the Austrian and Norwegian governments concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques. They recommended that products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments.</p> <p>Please note I do not consent to deregulation of these new GM techniques, independent, case by case risk assessment should be mandatory.</p>
Amber Wilson, New South Wales	All GM food needs to be labelled so we (I) have choice as to what I eat.
Mary Roseline Victor-Simpson, Queensland	My family & I wish to advise you that we do nor want GM techniques deregulated.As a matter of fact we need more regulations and we need to know which products are affected.

Submitter	Submission
Elizabeth Owen, Victoria	<p>Cross species &amp; poison resistant GM of food will not not improve food security in Australia but rather increase trace levels of poison in our soil, killing microbe activity which is so important for healthy food producing land. It will also further endanger species if pollinators including bees consequently ruining our chances of feeding Australian people during an already fragile time due to encroaching ravages of climate change.</p> <p>GM is therefore counter intuitive and will endanger every Australian. Please follow in the sensible footsteps of so many wise counties and ban GM from food production.</p>
Simone Cordell, Northern Territory	<p>I do not support the deregulation of GM techniques. I am sick and tired of industry buying their way into government policy that affects the health and wellbeing of Australian citizens.</p> <p>These are the kind of decisions that turn ordinary Australians off their elected governments; as they prove time and time again that they are merely the moth pieces to big business.</p> <p>As the elected government I expect and demand that you support and protect the people of this country.</p>
Jarrod Gribben, Victoria	<p>GMO produce is devastating to the human body and the environment. They (GMOs) should be banned to grow and consume in Australia.</p>
David Laughton, South Australia	<p>Genetic techniques are being developed faster than we can assess them. It is wise to drive no faster than we see. This should apply to GM. Foods have been deemed to be safe over thousands of years by trial and error. We now have the ability to test by trial only. Let us stop making errors. Profit is no excuse.</p>
Jules Hawkswell	<p>Please consider this...at some point you will find yourself, along with your children, eating these toxic poisons you so wish to shove down our throats as well.</p> <p>There will be nothing left to eat....if you continue to work against the laws of nature.</p>

Submitter	Submission
Deirdre Kempson	<p>I wish to support Option 2:</p> <p>Regulate certain new technologies</p> <p>A broad generalisation of the original scope of the scheme is that moving and rearranging genes between species is gene technology and results in GMOs, whereas techniques which mimic natural processes and work through natural mechanisms do not result in GMOs. While in 2000 this was a clear distinction, technology has since developed so that a continuum of techniques now exists.</p> <p>My main concerns are: If the OGTR deregulates these new GM techniques there will be no monitoring or surveillance. Anyone from amateur biohackers – to industry – to terror groups would be free to use them to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made. And they could enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The risks could be catastrophic. Should all new GM techniques be regulated to protect human health and the environment? YES Should products derived from all new GM techniques be labelled? YES Should the offspring of GMOs that have theoretically not inherited the GM trait be assessed for safety? YES Should their products be labelled? YES Should amateur biohackers be allowed to use GM techniques on living organisms in unregistered laboratories with no regulation? NO</p> <p>Option 2 proposes to amend the GT Regulations so that dealings with all organisms developed using oligo-directed mutagenesis and all site-directed nuclease techniques are regulated under the GT Act.</p> <p>This option would give legal clarity as to which technologies are subject to regulation, and so provide certainty for researchers and industry. Some of the general arguments that could be made to support option 2 are:</p> <p>These techniques were developed very recently and, because there is not enough scientific understanding of how they work or possible unintentional effects, full regulatory oversight is needed to protect human health and safety and the environment.</p> <p>These techniques might unintentionally interfere with the functioning of an organism's genome, for example through unforeseen interactions between altered genes and native genes, or through the altered genes having unexpected effects on biochemical pathways. Because such effects pose risks, the techniques must be regulated as gene technology.</p> <p>The precision of oligo-directed mutagenesis and site-directed nucleases is not established. The processes involved can give rise to unintended changes to the genome. Because such effects pose risks, the techniques should be regulated as gene technology. Reports arguing for regulation of the application of new technologies in plant breeding have been published by Friends of the Earth Australia, GenØk – Centre for Biosafety in Norway, Test Biotech in Germany, Econexus in the United Kingdom, and the Environment Agency Austria (commissioned by the Swiss Federal Ethics Committee on Non-Human Biotechnology). Reviews commissioned by the Austrian and Norwegian governments concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques. They recommended that products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments.</p>

Submitter	Submission
Sean Long	<p>I ask you?</p> <p>Why are the big food producing companies, commercial farmers and seed companies so against the labelling of products that have been produced using GMO raw materials?</p> <p>When you have the answer let me know.</p> <p>STOP the destruction of this beautiful food producing country with GMO organisms !!!</p>
Gail Nikitin	<p>have we gone insane and learnt nothing from the cane toads. The plastics that are flooding society are making us sick what will this do.. Please reconsider.</p>
Marguerite Hackett	<p>I am deeply concerned that these regulations can possibly be passed without enough research and protection for the general public. It is so sad that these laws can possibly be pushed forward because of legal power and money motivated reasons rather than human health and environment. I believe that all new GM techniques be regulated to protect human health and the environment? Products derived from all new GM techniques be labelled? The offspring of GMOs that have theoretically not inherited the GM trait be assessed for safety? Should their products be labelled? Amateur biohackers be allowed to use GM techniques on living organisms in unregistered laboratories with no regulation? Hopefully the legal system can see the right path of protection of human health.</p>
Nina & Brian Earl	<p>We consider laboratory genetic modification of organisms a dangerous experiment that interferes with natural processes when the biological outcomes are largely unknown.</p> <p>Advances in plants, animals and fibre production has historically been achieved without GM; the introduction of GM organisms is profit driven rather than for the common good.</p> <p>As best we can, we consume GM free foods and avoid GM products. We do not want GM organisms entering the food chain and the environment, humans have interfered enough with nature without this.</p>
Denise Butcher, New South Wales	<p>Not enough is known about the risks posed by GM technology. Therefore for the rights of all individuals for their health and for the environment there must be regulation. And there must be labelling.</p> <p>I have read your discussion paper and Option 2 that requires the labelling and safety testing of all products derived from all GM technology is the only choice.</p> <p>Make the right choice!</p>
Simon Hirst	<p>Please select option 2. People need to know what they are ingesting into their bodies. It's unethical to keep this information from people just to satisfy the whims of big corporations.</p>
Stephen Lehocz, Victoria	<p>Common sense tells me I have a basic human right right to know when something new is being tested on me. Especially if there is potential of harm to me. So I am demanding to be told what is being fed to me, I HAVE A BASIC HUMAN RIGHT TO KNOW!!!</p> <p>Ensure that all food products are labelled as to their GM modified content!!!!!!!</p>

Submitter	Submission
Barbara Lockwood	There are many reasons why some people do not want to eat GMO products and to stop labelling and allowing anyone to add whatever they want is against human rights! I believe we should know what we are eating or drinking and need clear labeling !
Wendy Flannery, Queensland	<p>The constant news of new GM techniques being used by industry to enhance profits is truly frightening. The number of children with food and other allergies compared to my childhood is surely a sign of our naïve manipulation of our food production systems.</p> <p>Apart from this immediate concern, it's becoming more and more evident how people with sinister or criminal intent can access new industry directed developments for their own purposes.</p> <p>We need a stringent case-by-case assessment of all GM techniques.</p>
Michel Servais, Victoria	GM is not safe , keep it out of our environment and food supply.
John Postle, New South Wales	As a scientist I request that Option 2 be adopted in the interests of everyone.
Marjorie Allen	<p>I don't believe that amateur biohackers should be allowed to use GM techniques on living organisms in unregistered laboratories with no regulation!</p> <p>I believe that the offspring of GMOs that have theoretically not inherited the GM trait should be assessed for safety. And that their products should be labelled.</p> <p>Products derived from all new GM techniques should be labelled.</p> <p>I believe that all new GM techniques be regulated to protect human health and the environment</p>
Tanja Ke, New South Wales	<p>Please keep the regulation of GM food.</p> <p>I am extremely concerned about my health and sneaking in GM and other poisons into our food without labelling is NOT right.</p> <p>We have a choice what we put into our bodies. No hidden surprises please. We need proper monitoring and surveillance of those “Frankenstein foods” I certainly do NOT want to consume them and it should be my choice. However, without clear labelling there is no chance to stay away.</p> <p>Not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques.</p> <p>Safe our health please!</p>

Submitter	Submission
L Durante, New South Wales	<p>I am writing to strongly urge the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator to exercise the Precautionary Principle and fulfill your role as protector of the Australian Public from the placing of commercial interests before safety.</p> <p>The OTGR defines gene technology as “any technique for the modification of genes or other genetic material”, which would clearly include new GM techniques. I urge you to stick to this definition and treat these proposals in the same way as this definition would require them to be treated. The entire environmental management field has arisen as a result of the need to address immense damage resulting from human action without due care or sufficient knowledge. Invasive species is one of the most pernicious of these and one from which Australia has suffered more than any other country. Genetic modification is essentially the same process and will be infinitely harder to contain and act on once released, as it will result in entirely new and unknown entities.</p> <p>These techniques pose unknown risks and need to be regulated. Australian government agencies that have considered the biosafety risks posed by new GM techniques concluded over three separate reviews of the biosafety risks that there is insufficient knowledge regarding the risks posed by these techniques.</p> <p>I am joining with the call from various opposition groups to require that: • These new GM techniques and the products derived from them to be subject to a comprehensive case-by-case risk assessment, including full molecular characterisation and independent safety testing to minimise any potential risks to human health and the environment; • All products derived from new GM techniques to be labelled to protect choice for farmers, producers and consumers; •The precautionary principle to be enshrined in both the Gene Technology Act and the Food Standards Australia New Zealand Act, given the experimental nature of these technologies and the risks associated with them; •The Government to impose strict liability on all dealings with GMOs licensed by the OGTR, so that liability for GM contamination and the resultant losses and costs rests fully on the licensees and the owners of GM patents; • A moratorium on the commercialisation of these new GM techniques until our regulatory system for GMOs is adapted to deal with the potential risks posed by them. Again, I would urge you to protect the Australian Public from the placing of commercial interests before safety.</p>
Rebecca Lloyd, Victoria	<p>I think it very unfair if one cannot know what is in their food and how it is produced.</p> <p>Diversity is critical for survival and by allowing choice we foster diversity. If the regulators are wrong we need those who have chosen another path so that we have that option to develop that food in the future. We must protect our ecology form uncertainty.</p> <p>Let us know and choose our food, if you value that right to choose you must support thorough labeling of our foods.</p>
Danielle Forrest, New South Wales	<p>I am shocked to hear that there is even a consideration to deregulate the new GM techniques. I feel this is a crucial requirement for our community—that we have control over what we eat, and therefore constant monitoring is essential.</p> <p>We have no idea of what could be done—and I'm sure like all other technologies it could easily spiral out of our control</p> <p>Please be sensible and insist on some control.</p>

Submitter	Submission
Sandy Lucas, South Australia	We all have the right to food safety. Industry is only interested in profits. GMOs have been shown to cause health problems. They have neither been thoroughly tested nor shown to be safe for human consumption. The least I want for my family and myself is to be able to make a choice by having clear and honest food labelling I'm horrified that you should take this stance and put all of us and our farmers at such risk. Other countries are banning GMOs. Where will our farmers be able to sell their poisonous grain?
Helen Wilson, Victoria	Firstly, I consider I have a right to choose whether I and my family choose GMO foods so clear labelling is of paramount importance to me! Secondly, in 30 years time (when todays decision makers have passed away) they are likely to discover that GMO foods are in fact harmful and the testing conducted by vested interests or on their behalf was flawed. Here are a couple of powerful thoughts for you to consider: Do you remember the Thalidomide tragedy? If not I suggest you Google it and ask yourself if you want to be responsible for anything of that magnitude because you took the line – safe until proven harmful? Did you know that our little girls are BORN with all the eggs they will ever release in a lifetime. You wouldn't want to jeopardise those either would you? Just food for thought (with no bullshit unlabelled additives either!)
Sue Myall, Western Australia	Please do not introduce unlabelled GMO foods into our food chain, we have no idea of the long term consequences plus people with allergies may be seriously impacted by contact with an allergen in a food item unknowingly, and suffer a tragic result.
Jenny Kent, New South Wales	I do not support the deregulation of new GM techniques as the risks to the environment and human health are not fully known and are potentially catastrophic. Any new GM techniques require comprehensive risk assessments base don a case-by-case basis
Lee Anne Gunn, Queensland	I would like to register my disapproval of the deregulation of new genetic modification techniques. The GM industry needs to be scrupulously regulated and any new techniques to be rigorously tested over extended periods of time to ensure they pose no threat to the health and wellbeing of humans and animals.
Lorraine Heywood, New South Wales	<p>As a consumer and Australian tax payer I support Option 2, which proposes to amend the GT Regulations so that dealings with all organisms developed using oligo-directed mutagenesis and all site-directed nuclease techniques are regulated under the GT Act.</p> <p>I provide this support based on the following advantages of option 2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This option would give legal clarity as to which technologies are subject to regulation, and so provide certainty for researchers and industry.</li> <li>• These techniques were developed very recently and, because there is not enough scientific understanding of how they work or possible unintentional effects, full regulatory oversight is needed to protect human health and safety and the environment.</li> <li>• These techniques might unintentionally interfere with the functioning of an organism’s genome, for example through unforeseen interactions between altered genes and native genes, or through the altered genes having unexpected effects on biochemical pathways. Because such effects might pose risks, the techniques should be regulated as gene technology.</li> <li>• The precision of oligo-directed mutagenesis and site-directed nucleases is not established. The processes involved can give rise to unintended changes to the genome. Because such effects might pose risks, the techniques should be regulated as gene technology.</li> </ul>

Submitter	Submission
Beverley Garlick, New South Wales	The regulation of GM techniques is of utmost importance to preserve the health and safety of the population
Tessa Connell, New South Wales	<p>I am writing to strongly urge the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator to exercise the Precautionary Principle and fulfill your role as protector of the Australian Public from the placing of commercial interests before safety.</p> <p>The OTGR defines gene technology as “any technique for the modification of genes or other genetic material”, which would clearly include new GM techniques. I urge you to stick to this definition and treat these proposals in the same way as this definition would require them to be treated.</p> <p>The entire environmental management field has arisen as a result of the need to address immense damage resulting from human action without due care or sufficient knowledge. Invasive species is one of the most pernicious of these and one from which Australia has suffered more than any other country. Genetic modification is essentially the same process and will be infinitely harder to contain and act on once released, as it will result in entirely new and unknown entities.</p> <p>These techniques pose unknown risks and need to be regulated. Australian government agencies that have considered the biosafety risks posed by new GM techniques concluded over three separate reviews of the biosafety risks that there is insufficient knowledge regarding the risks posed by these techniques.</p> <p>I am joining with the call from various opposition groups to require that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• These new GM techniques and the products derived from them to be subject to a comprehensive case-by-case risk assessment, including full molecular characterisation and independent safety testing to minimise any potential risks to human health and the environment;</li> <li>• All products derived from new GM techniques to be labelled to protect choice for farmers, producers and consumers;</li> <li>• The precautionary principle to be enshrined in both the Gene Technology Act and the Food Standards Australia New Zealand Act, given the experimental nature of these technologies and the risks associated with them;</li> <li>• The Government to impose strict liability on all dealings with GMOs licensed by the OGTR, so that liability for GM contamination and the resultant losses and costs rests fully on the licensees and the owners of GM patents;</li> <li>• A moratorium on the commercialisation of these new GM techniques until our regulatory system for GMOs is adapted to deal with the potential risks posed by them.</li> </ul> <p>Again, I would urge you to protect the Australian Public from the placing of commercial interests before safety.</p>

Submitter	Submission
Desi Lucchese, New South Wales	<p>As a scientist and environmental professional, I care about the long term well-being of Australia, its ecosystems, the security and health implications of the produce used locally and/or exported.</p> <p>I am strongly opposed to the proven risks of GMOs and I would encourage to rely to established agronomical practices worldwide and take a leadership stance against vested interests.</p>
Kylie Craigie	<p>Some questions regarding OTGR's discussion paper</p> <p>Should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•All new GM techniques be regulated to protect human health and the environment?</li> <li>•Products derived from all new GM techniques be labelled?</li> <li>•The offspring of GMOs that have theoretically not inherited the GM trait be assessed for safety? Should their products be labelled?</li> <li>•Amateur biohackers be allowed to use GM techniques on living organisms in unregistered laboratories with no regulation?</li> </ul>
Nanette Lamrock	<p>If the OGTR deregulates the new GM techniques there will be no monitoring or surveillance. Anyone from amateur bio-hackers – to industry – to terror groups would be free to use them to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made. And they could enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labeling. The risks are catastrophic.</p> <p>It is still plain to see that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques, nor GM food altogether. I recommend that products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments for hundreds of years before they are released for general use..</p> <p>You do not have the right to put the health and wellbeing of the Australian population at risk because some corporate interests suggest you should – even if they pay you a lot of money alongside those suggestions. You are responsible for doing the right thing – do not allow these techniques, nor any Genetically modified foods available for sale without proper checks &amp; balances. The GM industry should have been a 100 year case study prior to ANY GM food being produced. You are playing with life – you are not qualified to do that on behalf of myself or anyone else in the Australia population.</p>
Kevin Plastow, Queensland	<p>All new GM techniques should be heavily regulated to protect human health and the environment.</p>

Submitter	Submission
Dianne Fraser, Australian Capital Territory	I have to write and say this is absolutly unacceptable to allow no monitoring or surveillance for genetic modifications (of any kind). When you interfere with what God created there are huge risks and consequences. Illness and diseases are increasing, peoples immune systems are overloaded with fake stuff that our bodies were not meant to have to deal with. Look at just one example, the modifications to wheat to get softer grains, higher crop yeilds but look at how many people are sick because of reactions to grains, many think it's normal to feel as they do until they come off it. So please don't ell me GM foods are better for us. Scrutiny for GM techniques should be doubled to what we have in place now not relaxed.
Helen Grant- Johnston, South Australia	We, the public who are interested in health and wellbeing, do not want GM Techniques allowed in Australia.
Ingrid Cook, New South Wales	I will not feed my children glyphosate-based herbicides GMO food to them and will make sure everyone i know will boycott any food or company using it.
Shaila Bernard, New South Wales	I would like to know exactly what is in the products I buy. I would like to have the choice of what I feed my family, what I use in my home and what I purchase with my money. Not enough is known, tested and trialled in regards to GM items and techniques. I do not want myself nor my family or friends to be the guinea pigs for a money making venture.
Christel Brunner, Western Australia	I strongly suggest to you to recommend full labelling and testing of genetically modified food so there can be no manipulation etc.
David Bell	please do not compromise the monitoring of what goes into our food, and protect us from the possibility of as yet unknown outcomes compacting on our lives and on the environment we live in because of genetic modifications. Lets not play dicy games with nature. As consumers, we have the right to ensure that the products we buy are not genetically modified. All GM food must be labelled, and heavily regulated.

Submitter	Submission
<p>Tanya McLaine, Victoria</p>	<p>I am desperately concerned about GMO technology being introduced into our environment with inadequate testing for safety and regulation. It seems that the biochemical industry have been allowed to use GMO's in our food with no public awareness via labelling on such products.</p> <p>As a concerned citizen, I ask the following of the OTGR: That all new GM techniques be regulated to protect human health and the environment. Products derived from all new GM techniques to be labelled.</p> <p>I would ask you how the offspring of GMOs that have theoretically not inherited the GM trait be assessed for safety? Should their products be labelled?</p> <p>And what of the amateur biohackers – are they allowed to use GM techniques on living organisms in unregistered laboratories with no regulation?</p> <p>I am profoundly opposed to the use of GMO in our environment and food and I urge the OTGR to place a moratorium on GMO's in Australia.</p>
<p>Robert Hentschel, New South Wales</p>	<p>I am responding to your Discussion paper: Options for regulating new technologies.</p> <p>In that discussion paper you, quite rightly, ask for scientific evidence and science-based arguments for or against any of the four options listed, for proposals for amendments to any other technical or scientific aspects of the GT regulations and so on.</p> <p>The fact is that, despite what some scientists (and non-scientists) may claim, there has never been adequate scientific proof that gene technologies are safe for humans or the environment. The reason for this is simple. The number of biological, chemical and environmental processes that would need to be monitored to prove that beyond doubt is so vast that it is an impossible task.</p> <p>Those who claim that adequate scientific proof for the safety of gene technologies has been obtained are either ignorant, have an unwarranted scientific hubris, or have a vested interest in the promotion of such technologies. History is littered with examples of scientists (and others) claiming that processes, technologies or products are safe, only for that to be proven not to be the case once these things have been in use for some period of time. One such example is thalidomide, and there are many others.</p> <p>Since insufficient proof of the harmlessness of gene technologies exists, they should never have been employed in the first place. Particularly since genetically modified organisms that are either deliberately or inadvertently released into the environment may contaminate naturally occurring varieties – as happened when some of Mexico's corn varieties were contaminated by Monsanto's genetically modified corn – a process which leads to a loss of genetic diversity, and which is unable to be undone.</p> <p>Therefore, the current level of regulation of gene technology is clearly woefully inadequate when weighed against the substantial dangers. Similarly, concerns about inhibited commercialisation of products, and trade implications, are irrelevant in the face of such risks.</p> <p>In light of the above, and in terms of the limited scope of your discussion paper, of the options presented Option 2 is the only sane choice.</p>

Submitter	Submission
Jessica Harrison, Victoria	<p>The de-regulation of new GM techniques would be extremely risky, especially with gung-ho “biohackers” encouraging amateur genetic engineering, potentially lacking expertise and without basic safety precautions.</p> <p>The OGTR must do what was set up to do – REGULATE.</p> <p>Please act immediately to stop the spread of new GMOs into our environment and our food. It will be too late if the OGTR doesn't act now. I would take no pleasure in saying “I told you so !” if new GMOs cause catastrophic new diseases and poisons.</p>
Cate Norton	<p>I request that at the very least GM products be clearly labelled.</p>
Michael Johnson, Victoria	<p>It is reasonable to demand to know what is in our food and how it was made.</p> <p>I want to know if any food have GM parts to it, so I can avoid it.</p> <p>How dare you allow producers to feed us GM crops without our knowledge and now to help make corporations richer you are helping them.</p> <p>I say no to GM foods and YES to them being labelled if they do make it to the shelves for sale.</p>
Maureen McCrae, Western Australia	<p>I believe there are far too many risks posed by these new GM techniques for them to be unregulated. Technology is moving very fast, but it needs to be regulated and this takes time. Monitoring and surveillance will be essential and without regulation will not happen.</p> <p>I understand Option 2 of the proposal is essential for labelling and safety testing of all products in the GM field, this information is the right of every consumer.</p>
Alison Leahy, Victoria	<p>Thank you for the opportunity to provide a submission to the review of the gene technology regulations. I ask you to implement Option 2 so that dealings with all organisms developed using oligo-directed mutagenesis and all site -directed nuclease techniques are regulated under the GT Act.</p> <p>Reviews commissioned by the Austrian and Norwegian governments concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques. They recommended that products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments. For science based arguments please see this link:  <a href="http://www.ogtr.gov.au/internet/ogtr/publishing.nsf/Content/63B690FDF719B070CA257CD00009FD84/\$File/Discussion%20Paper%20-%20Review%20of%20the%20Gene%20Technology%20Regulations.pdf">http://www.ogtr.gov.au/internet/ogtr/publishing.nsf/Content/63B690FDF719B070CA257CD00009FD84/\$File/Discussion%20Paper%20-%20Review%20of%20the%20Gene%20Technology%20Regulations.pdf</a></p>
Amanda Braithwaite, Queensland	<p>There are so many reasons why monitoring of all GM techniques is important including, but not limited to, the potential new diseases &amp; poisons, not to mention modified plants, animals and microbes. All organisations using any GM techniques (corporations, Governments &amp; amateurs alike) must be regulated and open to monitoring and/or surveillance. There is not enough known about the risks in any of these areas, to allow for no regulation – these things could be entering our food chain and environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The risks are just too high.</p> <p>Please ensure strict regulations, checkpoints and labelling laws are introduced and enforced for all GM techniques.</p>

Submitter	Submission
Jill Rollason	<p>Please remember all the farmers of India that committed suicide because of the failure of GM seed. Please make decisions that are protecting nature and people from risky interference. . You have a big responsibility and a duty to protect the natural balance or what is left of it</p> <p>If the OGTR deregulates the new GM techniques there will be no assessment, licensing or monitoring of the organisms they are used to create. Anyone, from amateur biohackers – to industry – to terrorists, would be able to use them to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes without surveillance. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made and they could enter our food chain and environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The results could be catastrophic.</p> <p>I know that a time of accounting will come do not sell out on our health and it could even be our survival</p>
Pam Smith, New South Wales	<p>Our family is highly sensitive and allergic to many, many items and other of our children &amp; grandchildren have coeliac disease. It is absolutely critical that we be able to identify every ingredient in any item that is introduced to our homes and gardens and used or consumed by our families.</p> <p>It is already a nightmare and takes an enormous amount of time to read every label on anything we purchase in order to determine if it ‘safe’ for us. We need to constantly monitor the environment in which the children are able play.</p> <p>PLEASE, PLEASE DO NOT PUT OUR FAMILIES AT RISK.</p> <p>As the regulator you are responsible for allowing people to make informed choices about products they purchase or the environment in which they live. We can not make informed choices if we do not know what is in products.</p> <p>The changes proposed by the Australian Gene Technology Regulator to allow products derived from genetically modified (GM) plants, animals and microbes that are untested and unlabelled into our food would put our family members at risk.</p> <p>Over many years I've become more and more alarmed at the outcomes of GM technology, to the extent that what appeared to be sound research now appears to be flawed.</p> <p>The GM Industry requires stronger monitoring, surveillance and safety testing, not less and results should be publicly available. The risks for many new GM techniques are as yet unknown and so just too high.</p> <p>I've discovered that Reviews commissioned by the Austrian and Norwegian governments concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques. They recommended that products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments.</p> <p>Australia must be in a position to conduct and be able to economically afford to conduct independent, public reviews that the general public understand and trust. Only then will Australians be in a position to agree to the introduction of GM products. Until such reviews are undertaken and public consent is given, all products should remain non-GM in Australia.</p>
Andy Gee, Victoria	<p>I do not consent to the GM foods or and/or chemicals of any kind. DO NOT CONTINUE to hide, lie, cheat and steal from us. We are the people and you must obey our demands.</p>

Submitter	Submission
Mary-Anne Keating, Victoria	<p>I feel very strongly that food safety and the health of OUR environment is of the utmost importance to all, and we the citizens have a right to know what is happening to the food we consume, and I therefore make the following points:</p> <p>all new GM techniques need to be regulated to protect human health and the environment.</p> <p>products derived from all new GM techniques need to be labelled.</p> <p>the off-spring of GMO's that have theoretically not inherited the GM trait need to be assessed for safety, and their products labelled.</p> <p>amateur bio- hackers must not be allowed to use GM techniques on living organisms in unregistered laboratories with no regulations.</p>
Lyndell Williamson	<p>This manipulation of life has to stop. You do not know the long term consequences. And, the scariest things is that you cannot control these GM plants from contaminating non GM plants etc. It's already happening.</p>
Karen Hamblen, New South Wales	<p>I am a resident of Australia. I am informing you, I am opposed to any form of GM techniques in our country. I am opposed to any form of deregulation in this area.</p>
Robert Iacopetta, New South Wales	<p>Please follow the precautionary principle and hence keep any use of Gene Technology tightly regulated. In particular, please follow Option 2 of the OGTR discussion paper that will require the labelling and safety testing of ALL products derived from new GM techniques such as CRISPR.</p>
Liesa Clague, New South Wales	<p>I do NOT agree that there should be no monitoring or surveillance of the (GM) industry. We already face biohackers, from amateur to industry and terror groups any or all of whom would be free to use their techniques to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made. And they could enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The results could be catastrophic.</p> <p>Reviews commissioned by the Austrian and Norwegian governments concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques. They recommended that products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments.</p> <p>Until we can also conduct such reviews and get public consent, all products should remain non-GM in Australia.</p>
Mary Digby, New South Wales	<p>I advocate for Option 2 AT LEAST.</p> <p>please consider the health of your children now and in the future, the whole picture whereby interference in nature is such an ignorant and greedy industry. Regulation and labelling are essential yes but we seek also ethical veto in such a dangerous scenario, the risks being unknown.</p>
Sophia Weigang	<p>I am totally opposed to GMO.</p>

Submitter	Submission
Mary & Geoffrey Mannion	GMO is not proven safe and once introduced into Australian farming it will be spread by the wind and contaminate all crops. We deserve better than this. Have more consideration of our future health and stop the introduction of G.M.O
Hermina Bouchier, Western Australia	<p>I am deeply concerned about the further deregulation of GM techniques, I am extremely unhappy that I am unable to buy food from my local supermarket and not know if there are GM ingredients in the product.</p> <p>I am angry that our foods are not labelled accordingly.</p> <p>I would like that the Office of the Gene Technology does not deregulate the research on GM techniques.</p> <p>As a nation we should err on the side of cautious about GM technology.</p> <p>I can remember when Smoking was advertised as SAFE and advertised everywhere, now our Society and families are dealing with the consequences of this issue. Asbestos was the same. I have had family members die of both of these issues.</p> <p>We do not know enough or have had enough long term medical studies in the human population to know the future outcome.</p>
Rowan Braithwaite	Genetic modification carries risks not just for human health but also for plants, animals and the wider ecosystem on which we depend for the wellbeing of all life forms. It is dangerous and irresponsible to allow genetic modifications without the thorough testing necessary to PROVE BEYOND ALL REASONABLE DOUBT that there are no risks and dangers to doing so. It is imperative that the precautionary principle be observed until such time.
Linda Giddy, Victoria	This will be a very short submission, but a very impassioned one. The impact of GMOs on our community, our own bodies, our farmers, and most importantly the environment are largely unknown, yet the predictions of their impacts are very worrying! Until they can be proven to be safe I firmly believe that they should be banned. To do otherwise would be tantamount to playing Russian Roulette with our lives and the lives of future generations. I believe that we should adopt the same principles as those that drive the EPBCA's (Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act) Precautionary Principles. which state that 'A lack of full scientific certainty should not be used as a reason for postponing action.' In this case, lack of certainty should not be used as a reason for driving us faster towards embracing GMO technologies when they could potentially present a globally devastating unintended consequence.
C Guerin	<p>There are huge ramifications if the industry get majority say on how GM rules are written.</p> <p>Human life is worth so much more than corporate income.</p> <p>Please for the sake of your children's children... open your eyes to see what's really happening.</p>

Submitter	Submission
Elaine Oxenham	<p>I am a member of the general public. I would like to express my deep concerns that as a result of your GT Regulations Review the food environment that I have to contend with will become even more unsafe.</p> <p>I was sent an email by ‘Friends of the Earth Australia’ which states in part:</p> <p>“If the OGTR deregulates the new GM techniques there will be no assessment, licensing or monitoring of the organisms they are used to create. Anyone, from amateur biohackers - to industry - to terrorists, would be able to use them to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes without surveillance. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made and they could enter our food chain and environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The results could be catastrophic.”</p> <p>This planet is my heritage and yours. The plants and animals that exist today have evolved over hundreds of thousands of years on a delicate knife-edge between survival and extinction. I am personally outraged that any one of our generation under the cover of industry or government should have the audacity to modify what our planet provides for us. To be truly healthy we need to eat unmodified food. It is your responsibility to make sure that the Australian food environment is safe for everyone.</p>
Jenny Liang	<p>Of the four options the OGTR presents in its discussion paper, Option 2 is the only one that will require the labelling and safety testing of ALL products derived from new GM techniques such as CRISPR. Please advocate this option.</p>
Linda Batrick	<p>Anyone from amateur biohackers – to industry – to terror groups would be free to use the new range of GM techniques to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made. And they could enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The risks could be catastrophic. this is something that should be stopped.</p>
Nathan Combes	<p>I really do not understand what goes through you peoples head. Why is money and control more important to you then a clean environment to live . Makes me so angry that you have to mess this natural law and indanger everthing</p>
Angela Mitchell, New South Wales	<p>I do NOT agree or support the Australian Gene Technology Regulator’s proposed changes that would allow ANY products derived from genetically modified (GM) plants, animals and microbes that are untested and unlabelled into our food.</p> <p>I do NOT agree that there should be no monitoring or surveillance of the (GM) industry. We already face biohackers, from amateur to industry and terror groups any or all of whom would be free to use their techniques to genetically modify plants, animals and microbes. Entirely new diseases and poisons could be made. And they could enter our food chain and our environment with no safety testing and no labelling. The results could be catastrophic.</p> <p>Reviews commissioned by the Austrian and Norwegian governments concluded that not enough is known about the risks posed by these new GM techniques. They recommended that products derived from them require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments.</p> <p>Until we can also conduct such reviews and get public consent, all products should remain non-GM in Australia.</p>

Submitter	Submission
Sue McLaren, Queensland	<p>We as a nation need to know exactly what is in our food so we can make wise choices for ourselves and families. GMOs affect our food chain in a negative way, minimising the nutrient availability combined with disrupting our digestive system.</p> <p>Safety and transparency are essential to protect our foods from new diseases and poisons.</p> <p>Other advanced countries have concluded that not enough is known about the risks imposed by GM techniques. Please make intelligent decisions that protect and support all of our country.</p>
Elaine Attwood	<p>I write to oppose any deregulation of the present safeguards in legislation applying to genetic manipulation. This applies to all previous methods and to any future ones. There must be overarching monitoring and surveillance of all GMOS regardless of the methods used in the technology. To not do so is abrogating your responsibility as a Regulator and has the potential to expose Australians to unknown and unanticipated consequences.</p> <p>I understand that the Austrian and Norwegian governments have commissioned research and concluded that there is still not sufficient knowledge on the risks available about the newer techniques such as CRISPr and others. The OGTR would be aware that those governments have recommended any products derived from those techniques require comprehensive case-by-case risk assessments. The Australian public deserve no less protection.</p>
Pam Richards	Please support option 2 so that we can identify what is GMO modified, or not
SH	no gmo's
Glenda Tasker, New South Wales	<p>OGTR I am greatly concerned by the actions taken thus far indicating government is unconcerned about potential health and other negative outcomes associated with deregulating GM techniques.</p> <p>I avoid all foods that I know contain GM ingredients because significant research undertaken by non-industry (no vested interest) scientists has concluded that GM food has caused cancerous tumours in rodents. Many other health. Issues have also been identified. Indeed, some European countries and Russia have banned GM cropping because of compelling scientific arguments against GMOs. I believe the Australian government should also ban GM. The very least it must do at this time is strongly regulate all GM techniques and demand accountability: all products so derived should be comprehensively risk assessed over significant time periods. Profit/greed has been and always will be a great motivator for unregulated companies and organisations to lie, cheat, misrepresent, falsify 'scientific' findings and protect their own self-interest. Government has a responsibility to act cautiously in the public interest and anyone voting to deregulate GM will never receive my vote.</p>

<b>Submitter</b>	<b>Submission</b>
John Rose, South Australia	To all the Bureaucrats who are involved in this commercial deception of Joe Public, [REDACTED] came within a whisker of wiping out most of our crops once already (that we know about) and I will be urging you to be VERY careful what you will wish upon all of us. I personally do my utmost to not consume GM produce, but even doing this now is verging on being very/extremely difficult. I have friends who have had to resort to growing their own food due to health issues being caused by modern breeds of commercial foods and their production processes causing the health issues (insecticides, herbicides, preservatives, enhancers, etc. causing asthma and allergies being just the tip of the iceberg). I don't think it will be an asteroid that will wipe out the human race, it will be the backroom bureaucrats that allow a cancer causing gene or product to enter our foods and send us down the path of the Tassie Devil.
George Unwin, Western Australia	Try and do something right for once and don't allow any gm into the country. You will be damned in years to come. Remember rabbits, cane toads, carp and many other good ideas.