

Email Submission: Charles Robin

Dear Dr. Bhula and colleagues,

I write in response to your call for public comment on the 2016-17 Technical Review of the Gene Technology Regulations 2001.

Specifically I write concerning OGTR plans with respect to Gene Drives. My understanding is that OGTR is adopting an interim measure of monitoring developments of this technology. A DNIR license will be required and case-by-case evaluation of risks will be performed by the regulator.

I write to advocate that OGTR does more than this. They should insist that before gene drive experiments are conducted that the plans and designs be made available to the public, as well as the regulators, so that they get as thorough scrutiny as possible. This would be consistent with international calls to pre-register all gene drive experiments (eg. see recent talk by Dr. Kevin Esvelt here- at about the 55 minute mark:<https://youtu.be/Ut02aQH263M>)



[The Science and Ethics of Genome Editing - Full video](https://youtu.be/Ut02aQH263M)

youtu.be

Presentation to Convergence Science Network by Professor Jennifer Doudna and Assistant Professor Kevin Esvelt, 13 February 2018.

Sincerely,

Charles Robin,