

## NOTIFICATION OF APPLICATION

## Receipt of licence application from Bayer CropScience Pty Ltd for commercial release of genetically modified cotton

The Office of the Gene Technology Regulator (OGTR) has received a licence application (DIR 216) from Bayer CropScience Pty Ltd (Bayer) for commercial cultivation of genetically modified (GM) cotton. The GM cotton is modified for insect resistance and herbicide tolerance. It also contains marker genes that were used for the selection of plants during the early stages of research. A summary of the application is posted on our website (search for DIR 216).

Bayer is seeking approval to commercially grow the GM cotton Australia-wide, subject to restrictions in some Australian States and Territories for marketing reasons. The GM cotton and its products would enter general commerce, including use in human food and animal feed.

The OGTR is preparing a Risk Assessment and Risk Management Plan (RARMP) for the application. The RARMP will be prepared taking into account advice received from a broad range of experts, agencies and authorities, and relevant local councils, as specified in the *Gene Technology Act 2000*. This is expected to be released for public comment and advice from experts, agencies and authorities in **July 2025**. There will be at least 30 days for submission of comments.

If you have any questions or would like to receive a copy of the application or the summary, please contact the OGTR and quote the reference number DIR 216.

Office of the Gene Technology Regulator MDP 54 GPO Box 9848 CANBERRA ACT 2601

Telephone: 1800 181 030 E-mail: ogtr@health.gov.au

**OGTR** website

Neil Ellis A/g Gene Technology Regulator 26 February 2025