

Environment and Public Affairs Committee

From: Ian Burns
Sent: Tuesday, 2 October 2018 9:49 AM
To: Environment and Public Affairs Committee
Subject: Re: Hearing with the Environment and Public Affairs Committee 12 September 2018

Hi Ms Evans

Thanks for the follow-up:

- 1) There are nil corrections to the draft;
- 2) List of WA Bio-dynamic operators:

Operation type	No of Operators
Fruit & Vegetables	15
Livestock	4
Grain	3
Grains & Livestock	7
Fruit/Vegetable & Livestock	5
Chickens	1

Manufacturers	11
Retailers	2
Wholesalers	2

3) There has been one over-spray reported issue to the BDRI. Details are still being sourced because it occurred some years ago.

Please find attached a scanned email form the Friends of the Earth Group outlining GM developments and concerns.

It also affirms my evidence that our key export markets have zero GM tolerance.

Kind Regards

Ian Burns

Environment and Public Affairs Committee

From: Ian Burns
Sent: Tuesday, 2 October 2018 9:52 AM
To: Environment and Public Affairs Committee
Subject: Re: Hearing with the Environment and Public Affairs Committee 12 September 2018

Hi again

I forgot to mention that the Danish compensation mechanism is the one preferred by the BDRI.

Kind Regards again,

Ian Burns

Environment and Public Affairs Committee

From: Peter Cocks
Sent: Wednesday, 29 August 2018 1:22 AM
To: Environment and Public Affairs Committee
Subject: Fwd: European Court of Justice ruling

Ref for 1.11

FYI

From: Louise Sales
Sent: Monday, 30 July 2018 5:17 PM
To: BDRI Demeter
Subject: IMP: European Court of Justice ruling

Dear Lynton,

I hope you are well. I just wanted to make sure that you are aware that the European Union's top court ruled last week that new genetic modification (GM) techniques such as CRISPR pose similar risks to older GM techniques and need to be assessed for safety in the same way. The ruling directly contradicts the recommendations of the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator (OGTR) and Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ) that a number of these techniques should be deregulated.

The trade implications if these techniques are deregulated here are significant. The Government's proposed changes could make Australia the first country in the world to deregulate genetically modified animals. And key export markets such as Europe and China have a zero tolerance for unapproved GMOs. I've attached a factsheet that describes the potential market impacts of these techniques for your information.

More and more evidence is also coming to light about the potential environmental and human health risks posed by these techniques, belying the biotechnology industry's claim that they are precise and predictable.

According to the European Court of Justice ruling, "excluding organisms obtained by new mutagenesis techniques from the scope of the GMO Directive would compromise the objective pursued by that directive, which is to avoid adverse effects on human health and the environment, and would fail to respect the precautionary principle which that directive seeks to implement."

The Australian Government is currently conducting reviews of the Gene Technology Scheme, its Gene Technology Regulations and how the Food Standards Code applies to these techniques. The Legislative and Governance Forum on Gene Technology is expected to make a decision in the coming weeks as to whether these techniques will be regulated in Australia.

I would strongly urge you and your members to contact the members of the Forum and point out the potential environmental, health and market impacts if Australia is to deregulate these techniques:

<http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/g...>

I'd also urge you to contact the Federal Agriculture Minister to relay your concerns:

<http://minister.agriculture.gov.au/littleproud/Pages/Contact.aspx>

If you need any further information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best wishes,

Louise Sales

--

Louise Sales, MSc.
Emerging Tech Project Coordinator
Friends of the Earth
c/o 130 Davey Street
Hobart, TAS 7000
Australia