



Lillian Lear

Ms Lauren Mesiti
Committee Clerk
Standing Committee on Environment and Public Affairs
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To Ms Lauren Mesiti

Committee Clerk Standing Committee on Environment and Public Affairs

Re: 'Inquiry into mechanisms for compensation for economic loss to farmers in Western Australia caused by contamination by genetically modified material'

Congratulations to the WA State Government for holding this ground-breaking inquiry into Farmer Protection Legislation.

GM crops are inherently risky to grow and control, segregation is impossible and contamination is inevitable. The burden for preventing contamination by genetically modified organisms falls solely upon GM-Free farmers to keep GMOs out of their paddocks.

Disputes among farmers creates ill-will, potentially disrupting community and friendship ties. Barriers may then exist financially and emotionally that limit those who wish to start or continue growing GM-free crops.

This Inquiry has the potential to take the first steps in addressing some of the current issues regarding crop contamination by GM material, and providing an alternative for dispute resolution. It may assist in formally recognising inherent difficulties and dangers in growing GM crops, and recompensing or assisting GM-Free farmers inadvertently affected by these issues.

Yours sincerely