



Australian Government

Department of Health and Aged Care
Office of the Gene Technology Regulator

Ms Sophie Dunstone
Committee Secretary
Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee

By email: LeqCon.Sen@aph.gov.au

Dear Ms Dunstone

Inquiry into a COVID-19 Royal Commission

Thank you for your letter of 8 April 2024 providing an opportunity for me to respond to comments made by Mr Julian Gillespie on 1 February 2024 at the Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee hearing into a COVID-19 Royal Commission.

Misinformation has been circulating about the regulation of the Pfizer and Moderna mRNA COVID-19 vaccines. I have published a statement that addresses this misinformation on the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator website at:

<https://www.ogtr.gov.au/resources/publications/addressing-misinformation-regulation-mrna-vaccines>

This statement is consistent with information I provided to the Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee, Supplementary Estimates hearing on 26 October 2023. My view is that the Pfizer and Moderna mRNA vaccines do not require a GMO licence, as articulated in the statement.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Raj Bhula
Gene Technology Regulator
17 April 2024