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13 April 2007

Mr Elton Humphery
Secretary, Community Affairs Committee
PARLIAMENT HOUSE
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Mr Humphery

RE: Gene Technology Amendment Bill 2007

I refer to your letter to Dr Geoff Garrett of 2 April 2007 requesting written submissions to the Committee regarding the Gene Technology Amendment Bill 2007. Dr Garrett has asked me to reply on his behalf. CSIRO welcomes and supports the proposed changes to the Gene Technology Act as outlined in the Amendment Bill 2007.

CSIRO is the single largest client of the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator (OGTR) with approximately 200 certified laboratories and greater than 200 licensed and low-risk dealings regulated under the Gene Technology Act 2000.

CSIRO was consulted during the Statutory Review of the Gene Technology Act 2000 and we agree with the Review Committee's recommendations. We also support the State, Territory and Australian Governments' response to the Statutory Review of the Gene Technology and look forward to the implementation of the Review's recommendations noting that the Amendment Bill is consistent with that response.

Thank you for consulting CSIRO on the proposed changes to the Gene Technology Act and the implementation of the recommendations from the Statutory Review of the Gene Technology Act.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joanne C Daly". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Joanne C Daly
Group Executive
Agribusiness Group