



INVITATION TO COMMENT ON PROPOSAL TO INCLUDE DEALINGS WITH CUT FLOWERS OF GENETICALLY MODIFIED CARNATIONS ON THE GMO REGISTER

The Gene Technology Regulator (the Regulator) has received an application from International Flower Developments Pty Ltd (IFD) to include dealings with genetically modified (GM) blue carnations on the GMO Register. If approved, it will not be necessary for people undertaking dealings with the GM blue carnations to hold or be covered by a GMO licence.

In 2015, the Regulator issued licence DIR 134 to IFD for the commercial release of GM blue carnations, which authorised the import, transport and disposal of cut flowers Australia-wide. In the current application, IFD is seeking to have the same dealings included on the GMO Register. Inclusion on the GMO Register occurs by way of legislative instrument made by the Regulator under section 78 of the *Gene Technology Act 2000*.

For these dealings to be included on the GMO Register, the Regulator must be satisfied that any risks posed by the dealings are minimal and that the dealings are sufficiently safe to be undertaken by anyone without the need for a licence. There have been no reports of adverse effects on human health and safety or the environment resulting from the dealings licenced under DIR 134.

A consultation version of the risk assessment and risk management plan (RARMP) has been prepared for this application. The consultation RARMP provides a science-based evaluation and concludes that the dealings with the GM carnations pose negligible risk to people or the environment. The consultation RARMP is available on the [OGTR website](#) under 'What's New' or by contacting the OGTR (see below). The RARMP and licence for [DIR 134](#) and '*The biology of Dianthus caryophyllus L. (carnation)*' are also available on the website.

The Regulator is seeking additional information and invites written submissions on matters relevant to risks to human health and safety and the environment that may be posed by the dealings with GM blue carnations proposed for inclusion on the GMO Register. Please quote the reference number Reg-002 in any correspondence. Submissions should be received by close of business on **25 March 2020**.

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