

Submission Cover Sheet

Review of the Moratorium on GM Canola

Submission Number: 130

Name of Individual/Organisation: Yolande Vaz

Date Received: 13 August 2007

Number of Pages: 1

Attachments Submitted with this Submission:

To obtain copies of these attachments please call the Review Panel Secretariat on
(03) 9658 4874 or (03) 9658 4871

13 August 2007

GM Canola Review Panel Secretariat
Department of Primary Industries
Level 19
1 Spring Street
GPO Box 4440
Melbourne Vic 3001
via hard copy as well as
email: GMcanola.Review@dpi.vic.gov.au

Submission 130

B.14

RECEIVED
Dh

Dear Sirs,

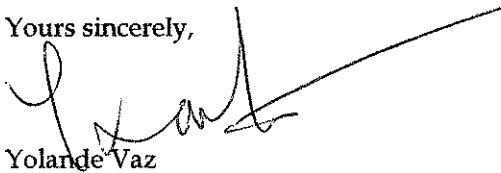
SUBMISSION TO RETAIN THE MORATORIUM ON GE CANOLA

I ask that the Regulations on the growing of GM crops due to expire 29 February 2008 be extended without amendment so that the moratorium continues, for the following reasons

1. I have a right to pure, organic, non-toxic, GM/GE free food.
2. We should also consider the State's economics is the health costs to the community of food allergies especially in the growing prevalence and medical attention needed to care for childhood allergies. The GM industry has yet to show that the genetic manipulation of our food is not a contributing factor to these allergies. There is no monitoring of human health impacts.
3. There is growing scientific evidence linking GM animal feed and food to deaths and disease in laboratory animals, livestock and the human population
4. The suggestion of co-existence of GM and non-GM crops is impossible.
5. Gene Technology is inherently dangerous - Transgenic processes use viruses, antibiotics, nuclear transfer and the like which break down natural barriers and can facilitate virus infections as well as unintended gene sequence changes.
6. Human Health at risk - The long-term health effects of transgenic foods approved without public independent testing is open to abuse. This also applies to foods stuffs using GM ingredients in their production such as protein meal stock feeds and processed oil which end up on the supermarket shelves as eggs, meat, packaged foods etc.
7. Slack labelling laws hide health risks and deny consumer choice - Consumers are denied choice if GM foods are not labelled and ultimately could lose all choice as biotech companies come to monopolise the food industry.
8. Environment - The native parent plants of canola, wheat etc can be genetically contaminated yet they now preserve bio-diversity and act as food security insurance. Transgenic plants both contaminate their native relatives and become herbicide resistant volunteer weeds.

Thank you for this opportunity to share my personal concerns as well as those of my family, friends and colleagues. I again ask that the Regulations/Moratorium on the growing of GM crops due to expire 29 February 2008 be extended without amendment so that the moratorium continues.

Yours sincerely,



Yolande Vaz

Cc: Premier John Brumby, 1 Treasury Place, Melbourne Vic 3000.

Department of
Primary Industries
15 AUG 2007