

Submission Cover Sheet

Review of the Moratorium on GM Canola

Submission Number: 205

Name of Individual/Organisation: Geoff Rethus

Date Received: 12 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

To the Review Panel

I strongly believe that the current GM moratoria should be allowed to lapse.

I am a farmer and grower of canola for seed. It is imperative that I have access to this new technology so that canola production is still a viable option for me. The new technology will improve gross margins for canola through potentially reduced input costs, significant improvement in yield and the possible production of speciality canola seed for industrial purposes. I do not believe that there is any issue with marketing the seed.

Canola is an important crop in my rotation agronomically with many side benefits for following crops, however if the crop does not stackup financially my area sown to canola will continue to decrease.

I am also aware that allowing the moratoria to lapse will have a significant impact on the available private sector funding for canola research. Crop research centres are often in rural communities (eg Grains Innovation Park in Horsham) and the viability of these institutions would be greatly enhanced by this extra funding. Rural communities would also benefit from the additional staff and associated salaries.

Geoff Rethus