Australian Government
Department of Health, Disability and Ageing
Office of the Gene Technology Regulator

Invitation to comment on trial of fermentation and ethanol production using genetically modified yeast (DIR 231)

The Gene Technology Regulator is assessing an application from Ethanol Technologies Pty Ltd to conduct experiments on fermentation of plant material-derived sugars using genetically modified yeasts for ethanol production. The fermentation process is proposed to take place at a facility in Muswellbrook, New South Wales over five years. The GM yeasts grown in this process and any derived products would not be used for human food or animal feed.

The Regulator has prepared a Risk Assessment and Risk Management Plan (RARMP) for this application and welcomes written submissions relating to the protection of human health and safety and the environment prior to making a decision on whether to issue the licence. The consultation RARMP and related information can be obtained via the consultation hub at https://consultations.health.gov.au/ogtr/dir-231-consultation, or from the contacts below. Submissions should reference DIR 231 and be received by **11 December 2026**.

Office of the Gene Technology Regulator
MDP 54 GPO Box 9848 CANBERRA ACT 2601
Telephone: 1800 181 030 Website: www.ogtr.gov.au
E-mail: ogtr@health.gov.au