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To whom it concerns,

I'm writing to express my concern about proposed changes to the Food Code. These changes would allow a wide range of GM foods to be sold without safety assessment or labelling.

Alongside most Australians, I want to know what I eat and I totally oppose giving agrochemical corporations the right to self-assess the safety of their factory-produced food products.

Proposed changes would undermine FSANZ's key responsibilities to ensure food safety and our right to know what is in our food.

I am deeply concerned that FSANZ has relied on advice from scientists with serious conflicts of interest, to conclude these new GM foods pose no greater risks than existing foods. Those seeking to commercialise GM plants, animals and microbes should play no role in deciding how - or even whether - foods derived from them should be regulated.

Please note that the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, an international agreement signed by 166 governments worldwide, and the UN's food standards body Codex Alimentarius agree that all GM techniques differ from conventional breeding. They also agree that pre-market safety assessments are essential before GM organisms are used in food.

I support expanding the definition for 'gene technology' so FSANZ continues to assess and regulate all techniques and methods of genetic modification, other than conventional breeding. The proposal to deregulate new and emerging GM techniques and their food products, which pose new and unassessed risks, is completely unacceptable.

Thank you for taking my informed concerns into consideration.

Yours sincerely,

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<https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc3834>