

Office of the Chief Executive Officer

Mr Bob Phelps  
Executive Director  
Gene Ethics  
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Dear Mr Phelps

Thank you for your letter of 20 August 2024 to myself and Ms Beauchamp, Chair of the FSANZ Board, regarding P1055 – Definitions for gene technology and new breeding techniques.

I acknowledge the concerns you have raised about the direction of the proposal. I would like to assure you the process is not finalised and any issues raised as part of this call for submission (CFS) will be considered in FSANZ finalising its approach. In putting forward this CFS, FSANZ fully explored the available regulatory options, considered all available scientific evidence and consulted with stakeholders. I note FSANZ has considered the issues you raised as part of our assessment of the current proposal, and also through a review undertaken in 2017-2019 plus earlier technical reviews.

We are holding a public webinar which you may have received a notification for. If you have not already done so, I would encourage you to [register](#) for the webinar scheduled for 2 September. This provides an opportunity for you to raise your questions along with other interested stakeholders.

I have also considered your request to extend the current public consultation period by one month and have decided not to grant the request. A period of 6 weeks is standard for all our public consultations, with extensions only granted in exceptional circumstances. I do not consider such circumstances exist in this case.

Yours sincerely



**Sandra Cuthbert**  
Chief Executive Officer

29 August 2024