Legislative Council

Gene Technology (GM Crop Moratorium) Bill 2003

Schedule of amendments agreed to in Committee of the Whole on Thursday 29 May 2003

ORP No. 1 Page 2, clause 4. Insert after line 20:

Advisory Council means the New South Wales Agricultural Advisory Council on Gene Technology established under this Act.

Govt *No. 2 Page 4, clause 8. Insert after line 17:

- (2) Before making an exemption order the Minister is to consult with the Advisory Council and seek in writing its recommendation as to whether the exemption order should be made.
- (3) The Minister may make an exemption order without a recommendation if the Minister has given the Advisory Council at least 28 days to provide its recommendation.
- (4) If the Minister makes an exemption order and the Advisory Council recommended that the exemption order should not be made, the Minister must provide written reasons to the Advisory Council for not following its recommendation.
- (5) The Minister is to make public any written reasons that the Minister provides to the Advisory Council under subsection (4) and also the recommendation to which those written reasons relate.
- ORP No. 3 Page 4, clause 9, lines 29 and 30. Omit all words on those lines. Insert instead: order to be published:
 - (a) in a newspaper circulating throughout the State, and
 - (b) on the Department's web page on the Internet, and
 - (c) in the case of an exemption order that does not apply to the whole State, in a newspaper circulating throughout the area in which the exemption order is to apply.

13 Advisory Council

- (1) There is established by this Act a New South Wales Agricultural Advisory Council on Gene Technology, consisting of 10 members appointed by the Minister.
- (2) The members of the Advisory Council are:
 - (a) a person appointed on the nomination of the Director-General of the Department of Agriculture, and
 - (b) a person appointed on the nomination of the NSW Farmers' Association, and
 - (c) a person appointed on the nomination of the Network of Concerned Farmers, and
 - (d) a person appointed on the nomination of the Nature Conservation Council of NSW Incorporated, and
 - (e) a person appointed on the nomination of Graincorp Limited, and
 - (f) a person appointed on the nomination of Australian Wheat Bo ard Pty Ltd, and
 - (g) a person appointed on the nomination of the Chief Executive of the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation, and
 - (h) a person appointed on the nomination of the Chair of Avcare Limited, and
 - (i) a person appointed on the nomination of the Chair of the Grains Research and Development Corporation, and
 - (j) a person appointed to be the independent chairperson of the Advisory Council.
- (3) If an organisation referred to in subsection (2) ceases to exist or fails to nominate a member then the Minister is to appoint a member on the nomination of an organisation that the Minister determines is an organisation that has similar aims and objectives to the first organisation.
- (4) The functions of the Advisory Council are as follows:
 - (a) to investigate any matter referred to the Advisory Council by the Minister,
 - (b) to provide advice in relation to proposed research trials for GM food plants referred by the Minister,
 - (c) to provide advice on current developments and issues in relation to GM technology and its application to agriculture,

- (d) to provide policy advice in relation to licences issued under the *Gene Technology Act 2000* of the Commonwealth that relate to GM food plants.
- (5) The procedure of the Advisory Council is to be determined by the Minister or (subject to any determination of the Minister) by the Advisory Council.
- (6) A member of the Advisory Council is entitled to such allowances in connection with the work of the Council as the Minister approves in respect of the member.