

## Template 2 text

I value New Zealand's status as a GE Free Food Producer and am very concerned about moves to weaken that status. If anything, the Government should legislate to strengthen regulation prohibiting the release of live genetically engineered organisms into our environment.

I submit that all wording referring to genetically modified trees and rootstock be removed from the proposed National Environmental Standard on forestry (NES-PF 6.4, p 43, 64 & 82), and demand that section 6.4 be removed in order for our local councils to be able to retain their existing sensible policies that take a precautionary stance to GE in the outdoors.

I am also concerned about a separate move to weaken the Resource Management Act by removing the right of local councils to restrict and regulate the growing of GE crops.

These changes amount to an insidious weakening of the public's democratic rights and take away council's right to have a say over risks that they will bear the costs of - such as regional GE crop release.

Sincerely

*[Submitter name]*

## **Template 2 – number of submissions and overview of changes to the template**

15,662 submissions used this template

- 15,149 submitters did not modify the template
- 473 submitters modified the template

Modified template submissions related to the following themes:

- Health
- Democracy
- Economic impacts
- Reputational and national brand
- Biosecurity
- Food security
- Corporate greed
- Uncertainty/lack of evidence
- Support for genetic modification
- Other concerns