

Objection to GE Bananas and Experimentation in Aotearoa, New Zealand
KEEP NORTHLAND AND NZ GMO FREE

November 6th, 2023

Dear FSANZ Committee,

We are writing to you regarding the importation and/or propagation of genetically modified bananas, application A1274.

We share the view of GE Free New Zealand and request that FSANZ **impose a “Stop Clock”** on application A1274 until robust scientific safety testing is conducted and provided to FSANZ for assessment *and for public scrutiny*.

On this basis we request that A1274 be declined.

Genetically Engineered food is not welcome in our communities or in our country. We want 100% natural, unadulterated, healthy food for ourselves and families. We want the whakaapa of the food we eat to be solely derived from nature and to be respected as integral to the health of our communities and environment.

Researchers from two New Zealand universities, paid for by the MBIE, recently came to run a workshop in our region to research what people thought about “gene technologies”.

This was the peoples message to the researchers:

“...total rejection of any attempts to modify our native fauna and flora AND of bringing into Whangaroa any flora or fauna that have been genetically modified in any way.”

“Whangaroa say NO to any form of GE in our environment.”

“Whangaroa say NO to any GE modified flora and fauna being introduced into our environment.”

“Our expectation is that the Researchers involved will take this message back to their institution, and ensure it is passed on clearly!!”

We do not believe GE is necessary in any shape or form. Its introduction will violate the Northland region's GE Free status and create immense risk to our environment. We reject any attempt to introduce GE or GMOs into our region.

Sincerely,

[Redacted Signature]

[Redacted Address]