

How to apply for consent for the contained use of a GMO, i.e. GM animals or GM plants.

This document deals with

- The information requirements when submitting a notification for the contained use of a GMO to the EPA
- The timeframe for a notification
- The appropriate fee to be paid.

Information requirements when submitting a notification to the EPA

A Genetically Modified Organism (GMO) relates to a GM plant or a GM animal.

1. Any person or organisation proposing to use a GMO in contained use, for the first time, must submit a notification to the EPA in accordance with the requirements of the GMO (Contained Use) Regulations 2001 to 2010. Such a notification must contain:
 - A Risk Assessment;
 - GMO Contained use notification cover sheet, (this 'cover sheet' addresses the information required under Part I of the 7th Schedule of the GMO (Contained Use) Regulations 2001 to 2010;

Fees

No fee is payable

Timeframe

A notification for the contained use of a GMO must be reviewed by the EPA within 45 days. This review period does not take account of any period during which the EPA is awaiting receipt of additional information requested from the notifier. Therefore, if the EPA requests the notifier to provide additional information, the clock will stop and will not restart until such time as the requested information has been received by the EPA.

Consent

The EPA will issue the user with:

- A Letter of Agreement permitting the user to proceed with the contained use activity; and,
 - Guidelines on containment measures for GM animals or guidelines on containment and control measures for the use of GM plants in plant growth facilities - greenhouses / growth rooms and growth cabinets, whichever is appropriate.
2. Where a premises has been the subject of a previous notification to carry out a GMO contained use activity, has been granted consent for that activity and the user now proposes to commence:

a new GMO activity;

In this instance the user may proceed directly with their proposed new GMO contained use activity. There is no requirement to submit a notification to the EPA

or to pay further fees. However, the user must submit a risk assessment in respect of the new GMO activity, with their [annual report](#), when it is next due.

See also:

- Guidelines for the inactivation and disposal of GM waste
- [Annual Reporting](#)