



Public Engagement Webinars on APHIS Biotechnology Regulation

**Wednesday, May 6, 2015
6-9 pm EDT**



**Biotechnology Regulatory Services
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service**

Introduction

- Purpose - To receive your comments on several subject areas regarding the regulation of biotechnology by APHIS.
- Background information and associated documents are available on our website at www.aphis.usda.gov/aphisvirtualmeetings
- In addition to tonight's webinar, two more are scheduled for May 12 and May 20

Virtual Meeting Specifics

- Written comments can be made at www.regulations.gov through June 22, 2015
- Enter “APHIS-2015-0036” in search box



Stakeholder Input

1. Should APHIS regulate based on the characteristics of biotechnology products and the potential risks they may pose, or by the process by which they were created? In either case, what criteria should be used to determine what APHIS regulates? Are there products and processes APHIS should not regulate?



Stakeholder Input



2. The Plant Protection Act gives APHIS the authority to protect plant health through regulatory programs. APHIS has implemented the plant pest authority as part of their biotechnology regulations. Should APHIS add noxious weed provisions to their to biotechnology regulations and if so, how? What protection goals should APHIS consider?



Stakeholder Input

3. Are there legal authorities given to USDA outside the Plant Protection Act that APHIS should examine to regulate or oversee the products of biotechnology? What are they, and how would they be used?
4. What non-regulatory solutions or policy alternatives could or should be considered to complement APHIS's regulatory program?



Virtual Meeting Specifics



- Pre-registered commenters will go first.
- We will initially provide commenters up to 7 minutes. After all pre-registered commenters have spoken, we will give others on the call the same 7 minute opportunity.
- If there is still time, we will invite those who have already commented to come back to make additional comments if they care to.



Virtual Meeting Specifics

- If you would like to make a public comment today, on your telephone keypad please press 1 and then 0 (zero)
- The operator will respond and let you know when it's your turn to speak.



Meeting in Progress



- This is the public engagement webinar on APHIS biotechnology regulation
- If you hear music, no one is commenting at the moment.
- If you would like to make a public comment, on your telephone keypad please press 1 and then 0 (zero).
- The operator will respond and let you know when it's your turn to speak.



After the Meeting

- Transcription available within three weeks at www.aphis.usda.gov/aphisvirtualmeetings
- Please complete survey posted there
- Comment period open until June 22, 2015
- Go to www.regulations.gov to leave written comment
- Enter “APHIS-2015-0036” in search box



Next webinars

- Tuesday, May 12, 5-8 pm EDT
- Wednesday, May 20, 4-7 pm EDT
- Please register at:

www.aphis.usda.gov/aphisvirtualmeetings