From:

To: Swinbourn.Emetro

Subject: Submission to : The Hon. Matthew Dean Swinbourn M.L.C.

**Date:** Tuesday, 13 February 2018 5:13:05 PM

## PLEASE IGNORE THE FIRST E-MAIL - I HAVE MADE A MISTAKE IN MY TYPING AND IT IS NOT CORRECT;

IT IS NOTED IN RED; thank

## you so much This is the corrected e-mail.

Mrs. Lauran Mesiti Committee Clerk Standing Committee on Environment and Public Affairs Parliament House, 4 Harvest Terrace West Perth WA 6005

## SUBMISSION to THE HON. MATTHEW DEAN SWINBOURN MLC

I, Ronald James McLean of farming Business R.J. MCLEAN AND CO. hereby make the following submission to your
committee on Farmers Protection Legislation.

It is my opinion that the risk of neighbours crops being contaminated by the growing of G.M. Crops adjacent to the adjoining property of a neighbour, should not be allowed as if G.M. Crops contaminate a next door neighbours crop and down value that crop the grower of G.M. Crops should be responsible for that loss.

In our business, a few years ago, roundup being sprayed along our boundary fence with the next door land holders, some drift blew onto the neighbour's crop and he was successful in making a claim against us.

Luckily, we had insurance against such an event such as this and our cost was covered.

This was only a small incident, but if G.M. blows onto our non G.M. crops, the damage to our crop could be of great significance such as happened with the Marsh case at Boyup Brook.

It must be noted that the greater risk from G.M. contamination could be immense and that in my opinion is why insurance companies will not participate in insurance against huge losses which could and already have occurred in W.A.

It is most important that steps be taken to have a mandatory distance established between G.M. crops and non G.M. crops.

The only way to overcome this situation, as the Gene is now out of the bottle, is that all growers of G.M. should be registered and steps be taken to enforce that all G.M. crops should be at least 1 klm away from boundary fences.

I ask you, that you and your committee take urgent action through Parliament to

introduce Farmer Protection Legislation to ensure that G.M. Free Growers can continue to be protected from contamination from adjoining crops.

Yours sincerely,

Ronald J. McLean