



**THE HON PETER DUTTON MP
MINISTER FOR HEALTH
MINISTER FOR SPORT**

Ref No: MC14-012880

Dr Dennis Jensen MP
Chair
Standing Committee on Petitions
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear ~~Dr~~Jensen

Thank you for your correspondence of 1 October 2014 requesting a response to the Standing Committee on Petitions regarding a petition on the use of pesticides and genetically modified (GM) crops and their effect on public health (833/1300).

I apologise for not directly responding to the Committee but your letter was referred to the Minister with portfolio responsibility for this matter, the Minister for Agriculture, the Hon Barnaby Joyce MP. I understand that Minister Joyce responded to you on 26 March 2014.

I support the response from Minister Joyce to the petition which was coordinated by the Australian Government Department of Agriculture. The Australian Government Department of Health provided input into this response from a public health perspective.

Thank you for raising this matter and I trust that the coordinated response from Minister Joyce assists the House in responding.

Yours sincerely

27/10/14
PETER DUTTON

Encl