

21st January 2014

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Submission No. 03 (CSIRO ACT)

Date: 21/01/2014

Cotton Seed Distributors Ltd.

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The Secretary
Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works
House or Representatives
PO Box 6021
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Via Email: pwc@aph.gov.au

Submission: CSIRO Consolidation Project – Canberra. Australian Capital Territory

Dear Sir,

Please accept this submission in support of the proposed CSIRO Consolidation Project for Canberra in the A.C.T.

By way of background, Cotton Seed Distributors Limited (CSD) is a member based and grower focused organisation based in Wee Waa, NSW. CSD services the needs Australian cotton industry with respect to the supply of cotton planting seed; seed based technologies and production focused extension services. We service all cotton production regions in Australia and employ a full time workforce of 60.

The Australian cotton industry makes a significant contribution to the Australian economy and to the social fabric of regional communities. The industry is well known for applying innovation based on world-class science to tackle the challenges of farming in Australia head on. In pure financial terms, the Australian cotton industry typically delivers \$2 billion of gross value annually to the Australian economy.

CSD has a long and proud partnership with CSIRO that spans over 30 years. The Cotton Research & Breeding program conducted by CSIRO is simply world-class with 102 commercial varieties released from that program. The value of this program cannot be understated. CSIRO cotton varieties have become the varieties of choice for Australian cotton growers, synonymous for delivering high yield potential, consistent fibre quality with tolerance to endemic diseases the CSIRO varieties have become a critical factor for the success of the industry.

We understand the CSIRO Consolidation Project will further enhance CSIRO's ability to deliver science-based outcomes to the Cotton industry faster and more efficiently. CSD fully support this project and look forward to working with CSIRO to deliver the outcomes of its cotton research and breeding program well into the future.

Should you have any enquiries regarding this submission, please contact me at our Wee Waa offices.

Yours Sincerely,
Cotton Seed Distributors Limited.

Peter Graham
Managing Director.