

15 July 2025

Animal Health & Welfare Directorate
Ministry for Primary Industries

For: Bridget Brox & Kitty Gash

Email: bridget.brox@mpi.govt.nz & kitty.gash@mpi.govt.nz

Transfer of Code of Ethical Conduct

I write to please request transfer of the Code of Ethical Conduct held by AgResearch Limited under the Animal Welfare Act 1999 to the newly formed New Zealand Institute for Bioeconomy Science Limited (“Bioeconomy Science Institute”).

On 1 July 2025, four Crown Research Institutes, being AgResearch Limited (“AgResearch”), Landcare Research New Zealand Limited (“Manaaki Whenua – Landcare Research”), The New Zealand Institute for Plant and Food Research Limited (“Plant & Food Research”) and New Zealand Forest Research Institute Limited (“Scion”), amalgamated to form the Bioeconomy Science Institute. Both AgResearch and Manaaki Whenua – Landcare Research were Code holders under the Act at the date of the amalgamation.

We acknowledge that section 93 of the Act requires consent of the Director-General to the transfer of a Code, hence our request.

The present intention of the Bioeconomy Science Institute is to continue to operate both the AgResearch and Manaaki Whenua – Landcare Research Codes for the short-to-medium term while plans are made for the long-term Animal Ethics Committee structure that will work for the Bioeconomy Science Institute. The existing Animal Ethics Committee structure and personnel will continue for the time being. This will enable us to continue research in accordance with the Act as those plans are developed, including continuing the important role of parenting for other organisations which are not Code holders. We will be in contact with you to discuss our preferred long-term approach when we have formulated this.

We have updated the AgResearch Code to reflect that it will be in the name of “New Zealand Institute for Bioeconomy Science Limited – AgResearch Group”, with a short-form name of “BSI – AgResearch” as needed. A copy of the updated Code is included with this letter. A similar naming convention will be used in the Manaaki Whenua – Landcare Research Code too, and you will contemporaneously receive a request for transfer of that Code to the Bioeconomy Science Institute as well. This naming convention reflects our current operational structure in the Bioeconomy Science Institute, which has commenced with the four former CRI’s operating as functional “Groups” within the Bioeconomy

AgResearch Group – Bioeconomy Science Institute
NZBN: 9429 038 975 189

Corporate Office, Tuhiraki
19 Ellesmere Junction Road, Lincoln 7608
Private Bag 4749, Christchurch 8140

T +64 3 321 8800
www.agresearch.co.nz
www.bioeconomyscience.co.nz

Science Institute company. As we progress to amalgamate functions in the company over coming months, we expect the distinction will likely be ended.

Please feel free to contact Jenny Juengel, Chair of the AgResearch Animal Ethics Committee, if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sara Edwards." The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sara Edwards

Director Research Operations – AgResearch Group