



Industry Notice

Title: Cessation of the regulatory mark		Number: 2016/03
Date issued: October 2016	Date of Expiry: Until Further Notice	
Distributed to: Approved Certifying Organisations Organic Federation of Australia	Last Notice in the category: 2012/01	
Relevant legislation: <i>Export Control (Organic Produce Certification) Orders</i>		Contact details: NPGExports@agriculture.gov.au

PURPOSE

1. To advise that the government regulatory mark will be terminated shortly and removed from all exports.

BACKGROUND

2. A regulatory mark was developed by the department and published in 2004. A 'Conditions for Use' guideline was published shortly after.
3. The mark is reproduced below:



CONSIDERATION

4. The original industry advice was issued to industry dated 12 April 2010 revoking the use of the Regulatory mark on organic products labelled on or before 30 October 2010. The department issued an extension of time to allow certified operators in the export chain using this mark to deplete labelling stocks (Notices 2011/3 and 2012/01).
5. The decision to remove the regulatory mark from all exports is based on:
 - less than 10 certified operators saw value in using this mark for export;
 - logos of the certifying organisations are recognised and accepted by customers;
 - *Australian Government Certified* implies the Australian Government had directly certified the products concerned.
6. A national organic logo is now available and managed by the Organic Industry Standards and Certification Council (OISCC). Further information can be obtained from OISCC.

ACTION

Approved certifying organisations:

7. **Advise** certified operators they are to immediately cease using the regulatory mark and remove this depiction from all packing and any correspondence.

8. **Update** the QM manual by removing all requirements surrounding the approval and use of this mark.
9. **Ensure** staff and contractors are aware of, and understand this Notice.
10. **Deadline for completion** - 1 January 2017