

Comments from the Victorian Department of Health and Human Services and the Victorian Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources

Due date of submission – 10 August 2015

The Victorian Departments of Health and Human Services and Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources (the departments) welcome the opportunity to provide comments on Application A1108 - Rebaudioside M as a steviol glycoside intense Sweetener.

The departments understand that under the Food Standards Code there are permissions to add steviol glycosides to specific foods or food categories at specific maximum levels. The departments recognise that Rebaudioside M is a new steviol glycoside that could be used in a range of food products. This application will allow the addition of Rebaudioside M to some foods or food categories at the same maximum permitted levels as is currently allowed for other steviol glycosides.

The departments also recognise that the risk assessment, and the additional information provided, indicates that the incorporation of this intense sweetener into food products does not present a risk to public health or safety at the maximum levels permitted. Therefore, the departments support Option 1: that is, to prepare draft variations to permit the addition of Rebaudioside M as an intense sweetener.