

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

Due date of submission – 31 August 2018

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 A1158 – Rosemary extract as a food additive.

Application A1158 proposes to amend Schedules 8 and 15 of the *Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code* (the Code) to add rosemary extract as a food additive with a maximum permitted level specified for each requested food category.

From the FSANZ assessment report it is understood that:

- The applicant seeks to add rosemary extract to Schedules 8 and 15 of the Code to permit it to be used as a food additive in certain foods with the technological purpose of antioxidant.
- The Code does not currently permit the use of rosemary extract as a food additive.
- Rosemary leaves have a long history of use as a seasoning herb and safe consumption in the human diet. Rosemary extract has also been used as a flavour in food preparations.
- The European Union additives regulation lists rosemary extract as an approved additive. It is also permitted to be used as an additive in China, Japan and Singapore. It is allowed in the United States as a flavouring agent. Rosemary extract is not yet permitted as a food additive in the Codex Alimentarius General Standards for Food Additives.
- FSANZ's risk assessment has concluded that there are no safety risks from the use of rosemary extract as a food additive.

On the basis of this understanding, the departments support the progression of the Application A1158.