

UNCLASSIFIED

New Zealand Food Safety

Haumaru Kai Aotearoa

31 August 2018

Project Officer Application A1158
Food Standards Australia New Zealand
PO Box 10559
The Terrace
WELLINGTON 6036

Dear Sir/Madam

Application A1158 – Rosemary extract as a food additive Rosemary extract as a food additive – Call for Submissions

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this application. The Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) has the following comments to make.

FSANZ concluded that there is no evidence of public health and safety risks with adding rosemary extract as an antioxidant to the food requested. However, FSANZ has noted that information on reproductive and developmental safety of rosemary extract is limited and that reproductive and developmental safety data is expected to be submitted to JECFA by the end of 2018. MPI suggests that FSANZ completes its assessment after this information is available. It is unclear if FSANZ will be able to review the studies prior to the outcome of the JECFA meeting which will not be known until mid-2019. At that stage the status of JECFA specification and ADI will be confirmed.

MPI questions why fish products were not included by the applicant, noting for example that fish products are permitted to contain rosemary extracts in China and the European Union. This may raise questions about the consistency of the Food Standard Code with other standards internationally.

Yours sincerely

UNCLASSIFIED



