
From:
Sent: Thursday, 13 February 2020 11:26 PM
To: submissions
Subject: Submission on Application A1186 Soy leghemoglobin in meat analogue products

Submission to: Food Standards Australia NZ (FSANZ)

Submission on Application A1186 Soy leghemoglobin in meat analogue products (application by US company Impossible Foods)

My name is _____ I can be contacted at _____, or via email at _____ On behalf of my family, my neighbours, and most of my friends, I urgently request that FSANZ decline the subject application.

The history of FSANZ's inappropriate approvals of various GE/GMO foods causes great public concern. This is primarily because so many many FSANZ decisions have been based on inadequate safety data and assumptions that are not scientifically sound. Public confidence in FSANZ and food safety requires a higher standard than that reflected by FSANZ's acceptance of limited data and promotional claims by industry players and those with a pecuniary interest.

Now is a good time for FSANZ to make such a change. Fake-meat products containing LegH Prep that includes soy leghemoglobin are significantly different in nutritional and toxicological profile from naturally produced meat. Such products cannot be "generally regarded as safe" (GRAS) and are not to be considered a dietary meat substitute.

The lack of long term dietary studies requires that FSANZ not approve the application. Instead FSANZ must require comprehensive data needed for a genuine safety assessment. FSANZ must recognise the risk of misleading the public under current labelling rules. Food at restaurants, takeaway premises, etc are not required to inform consumers. The subject application exemplifies why GM labelling and consumer warning should be mandatory in all situations.

The production process of LegH Prep creates novel untested proteins with potential to impact on food safety and potentially even cause anaphylaxis. Such risks demand independent testing before any further consideration by FSANZ.

It is critical that people are not misled to interpret that this soy-based ultra-processed product is equivalent to naturally produced meat protein. Long-term dietary studies, equivalent to the human lifetime, must test the formulated products including evaluating the estrogenic potential of soy at different ages and the combined effects of chemicals (such as Glyphosate based herbicides) used in crop production.

The right of New Zealanders and Australians to avoid such projects and other GE/GMO content must be protected, in the interest of public health and safety, consumer "right to know", and traceability.

Please keep me informed. In the meantime, I remain

Cordially yours,