

[REDACTED]

From: Haase, Lorraine
Sent: Wednesday, 7 June 2017 3:33 PM
To: FOI
Subject: FW: ABC Inquiry [SEC=UNOFFICIAL]
Attachments: MAY2017 Response to nanoparticles in infant formula QUESTIONS from ABC.docx

Peter agrees this is in scope.

From: Haase, Lorraine
Sent: Wednesday, June 7, 2017 3:24 PM
To: May, Peter; FOI
Subject: FW: ABC Inquiry [SEC=UNOFFICIAL]

I think this may come in scope so forwarding for consideration.

From: Media
Sent: Monday, May 15, 2017 10:37 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: ABC Inquiry [SEC=UNOFFICIAL]

Hi everyone

Please see FSANZ's response to the journalist attached. If the piece goes to air we will publish this on our website at

<http://www.foodstandards.gov.au/consumer/foodtech/nanotech/Pages/Sydney-Morning-Herald-nanotechnology-response.aspx>

We will also update this page.

<http://www.foodstandards.gov.au/consumer/foodtech/Pages/Nanoparticles-and-infant-formula.aspx>

Our understanding is that the journalist has also spoken with Andrew Bartholomeus who has responded as we have.

Lorraine Haase
Manager
Communication and Stakeholder Engagement

[REDACTED]

www.foodstandards.gov.au
55 Blackall Street, Barton, ACT 2600
PO Box 5423, Kingston ACT 2604





From: Media
Sent: Monday, May 15, 2017 9:56 AM
To: [REDACTED] Media
Subject: RE: ABC Inquiry [SEC=UNOFFICIAL]

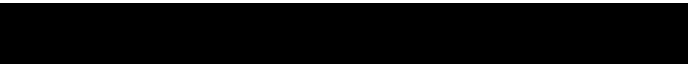
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- No. The FoE findings do not contain any new information to suggest that these products might pose a public health and safety risk. The detection of very small amounts of these substances in infant formula is unlikely to pose a health concern.
 - Hydroxyapatite is a natural component of bone and teeth. It is a source of calcium and phosphate, and small amounts in food are likely to readily dissolve in the stomach to release these minerals which are beneficial when absorbed.
 - Calcite has low solubility in the gastrointestinal tract regardless of whether it is in nanoscale form or larger particles, but the small fraction that is absorbed is likely to be in the form of calcium.
 - Silicon dioxide has been used safely as a food additive in other foods in Australia, and internationally, for many years.

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[REDACTED] tially toxic and

- There is no evidence that the trace amounts of nano-hydroxyapatite reported in the FoE report pose a health and safety risk when ingested. Hydroxyapatite is soluble in acidic environments such as the stomach, so small amounts in food are likely to dissolve to release calcium and phosphate. These are both essential minerals and required in infant formula products.
 - The EC Scientific Committee on Consumer Safety (SCCS) opinion on hydroxyapatite considered that the information provided by applicants was insufficient to draw a conclusion on safety when used in oral cosmetic products (e.g. toothpaste, whiteners, mouth washes) at levels of up to 10%. In reaching this conclusion, the SCCS noted that the hydroxyapatite materials under consideration could not clearly be related to the data submitted.
 - The report is considered of limited relevance to the detection of trace amounts of hydroxyapatite in the FoE-commissioned study of infant formula.
- [REDACTED]

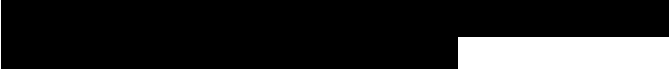
- 
- FSANZ takes concerns about food safety extremely seriously. FSANZ does not believe that there is a risk to infant health and safety.
 - Infant formula sold in Australia and New Zealand must meet stringent requirements set out in an infant formula standard in the Food Standards Code. This is one of the most comprehensive standards in the Code.
 - Calcium and phosphate that could be released and absorbed from hydroxyapatite or calcite are essential minerals and are required to be present in infant formula products.
 - Nanoparticles can occur naturally and can be found in foods.
 - Silicon dioxide has been used safely as a food additive in other foods in Australia, and internationally, for many years.

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- FSANZ does not enforce the Code.
 - In Australia, state or territory government agencies and in many cases local councils are responsible for enforcing and interpreting the Code. The Department of Agriculture and Water resources enforces the Code at the border.
 - In New Zealand this is the responsibility of the NZ Ministry for Primary Industries public health units or local governments.
 - A food recall is undertaken to remove unsafe food from distribution, sale and consumption. There is no safety concern with these products.

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- No. The FoE findings do not contain any new information to suggest that these materials might pose a public health and safety concern.

Regards

Lorraine Haase
Manager
Communication and Stakeholder Engagement



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