



3/ July 2015

Project Officer Application A1107
Food Standards Australia New Zealand
PO Box 10559
The Terrace
WELLINGTON 6036

Dear Sir/Madam

Application A1107 – Asparaginase from *Bacillus subtilis* as a Processing Aid (Enzyme) - 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.

MPI supports Option 1 to amend Schedule 18 – Processing Aids, to approve the use of asparaginase sourced from a genetically modified strain of *Bacillus subtilis* containing a gene for asparaginase from *Pyrococcus furiosus*, as a processing aid (enzyme). We are satisfied that the proposed use of asparaginase is technologically justified to reduce the formation of acrylamide in some foods and that no public health or safety concerns were identified.

We note that the mandatory declaration of soy or wheat would be required if these are present in the final food as a result of being present in the enzyme preparation under the requirements of Table to Clause 4, Standard 1.2.3 of the Food Standards Code.

We note that genetically modified food labelling is not required as there is no novel protein or DNA present in the enzyme preparation.

Yours sincere

Manager Food Science and Risk Assessment

Biosecurity Science, Food Science and Risk Assessment Directorate
Regulation and Assurance
Pastoral House, 25 The Terrace, PO Box 2526
Wellington 6140, New Zealand
Telephone: 0800 00 83 33, Facsimile: +64-4-894 0300
www.mpi.govt.nz