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To: "'sluong@oehha.ca.gov'" <sluong@oehha.ca.gov>
Date: 5/31/2005 5:25:35 PM
Subject: FDA comment for the May 24, 2005 OEHHA hearing on proposed acrylamide actions

Dr. Joan Denton
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Dear Dr. Denton:

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is submitting the following comment for the May 24, 2005, OEHHA public hearing on proposed actions to update the dose response assessment for acrylamide and propose a revised No Significant Risk Level (NSRL), propose Alternative Risk Levels for acrylamide in breads and cereals, and propose warning language for acrylamide in food.

FDA believes that warning language for acrylamide in foods could confuse consumers, by creating unnecessary public alarm about the safety of the food supply and by diluting overall messages about healthy eating. We have separately recommended that California resolve the issue of a potential exemption for chemicals that form from natural constituents in food before the warning language proposals are finalized. Although FDA remains concerned about Proposition 65 warning language requirements, the Agency is encouraged that California has attempted to mitigate some potential negative consequences of these requirements by identifying alternative risk levels for breads and cereals to support consumption of foods that are an important part of a healthful diet and by developing alternative warning language to standard Proposition 65 terminology. FDA encourages California to maintain a flexible approach to Proposition 65 and acrylamide in future versions of the proposed regulations.

Thank you for consideration of our comments.

Sincerely,

Terry Troxell

Director, Office of Plant and Dairy Foods
CFSAN/FDA

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