

**APPLICATION TO AMEND THE AUSTRALIA AND
NEW ZEALAND FOOD STANDARD CODE TO PERMIT
THE USE OF AMMONIUM HYDROGEN SULPHITE
(AMMONIUM BISULPHITE), SILVER CHLORIDE,
PVI/PVP AND CHITIN GLUCAN AS PROCESSING AIDS
FOR WINE**

Prepared for: Food Standards Australia New Zealand
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Prepared by: Winemakers Federation of Australia

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3.1 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

3.1.2 Applicant details

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3.1.3 PURPOSE OF THE APPLICATION

The purpose in this application is to apply for an amendment to the Australia and New Zealand Food Standards Code to permit the use of silver chloride, ammonium bisulphite, chitin-glucan and PVI/PVP as processing aids for wine.

3.1.4 JUSTIFICATION FOR THE APPLICATION

a) Need for the Proposed Change.

Under the AGREEMENT BETWEEN AUSTRALIA AND THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY ON TRADE IN WINE (Wine Agreement), if one Contracting Party proposes to authorise a new, or modify an existing, oenological practice, process or a compositional requirement for commercial use in its territory which is not authorised by the other Contracting Party they notify the other Contracting Party. The European Union have formally requested Australia authorize the use of silver chloride, ammonium bisulphite, chitin-glucan and PVI/PVP as processing aids for use in wine. In response WFA have prepared the following application/s to FSANZ to amend the Australia and New Zealand Food Standards Code to permit the use of these processing aids for the manufacture of wine and to satisfy Australia's obligations the Wine Agreement.

b) Advantages of the Proposed Change Over the Status Quo

The change will enable Australia to meet its international obligations under the EU-Australia wine Agreement.

c) Status of Similar Application made in other Countries

No applications are being made by the applicant to other national jurisdictions.

A. REGULATORY IMPACT INFORMATION

1. *Costs and benefits*

There are no costs to Australian industry or consumers and the sector will benefit from improved relations with the European Commission and more broadly the European wine sector.

a) Costs and benefits to the consumers

There are no costs to Australian industry or consumers and the sector will benefit from improved relations with the European Commission and more broadly the European wine sector.

b) Costs and Benefits to Industry and Business in General.

There are no costs to Australian industry or consumers and the sector will benefit from improved relations with the European Commission and more broadly the European wine sector.

c) Costs and Benefits to Government.

There will be no increased regulatory or enforcement costs for the government.

2. Impact on International Trade

This application to Food Standards Australia New Zealand will enable Australia to fulfil its treaty obligations under the Wine Agreement and also to satisfy World Trade Organisation obligations to ensure equal treatment with our trading partners. This application is submitted on behalf of Winemakers Federation of Australia – the peak industry body for Australia’s winemakers.

3.1.5 INFORMATION TO SUPPORT THE APPLICATION

1. General

There are no negative public health implications.

(a) Consumer Choice Issues

There are no consumer issues.

(b) Evidence of General Food Industry or Specific Company Support

The Winemaker’s Federation of Australia (WFA) has submitted this application on behalf of the Australian wine sector. WFA is strongly committed to ensuring the integrity of Australia’s Food Standards and the international trading system through compliance with World Trade Organisation obligations and international treaty obligations. We have also consulted with the Australian Department of Agriculture and Water Resources and New Zealand Winegrowers - New Zealand Winegrowers is the national organisation for New Zealand’s grape and wine sector with around 850 grower members and 700 winery members.

A. Technical Information on the Processing Aid

Parts A, B, C and D of this application provide the technical detail in accordance with the handbook for ammonium bisulphite, chitin-glucan, PVI/PVP and silver chloride respectively, as processing aids for use in wine.