
Food Standards Australia New Zealand
PO Box 5423

KINGSTON ACT 2604

19 March 2018

Attention: Standards Management Officer

RE: Submission – Application A1144 – Re-categorising coconut milk for food additive permissions [37-18]

The Australian Food and Grocery Council (AFGC) support the review and update of the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code (the Code) in order to provide regulatory certainty for industry in the application of food additive permissions and to ensure alignment with international food standards.

The AFGC appreciate the opportunity to make a submission on this consultation.

Overall position

The AFGC **supports** the following proposed changes to the Code:

1. Amendment of the table to section S15—5 to relocate food additive permissions for coconut milk products from within the food category for beverages to the food category for fruits and vegetables.
2. Transfer of current food additive permissions (being sorbates, benzoates with the maximum permitted level at 1000 mg/kg, and sulphites) to this new food category.

With respect to the proposed reduction in the sulphite level, the AFGC support alignment with Codex in principle however the change is significant and the AFGC is not aware whether or not this change will impact products currently on shelf. If it does so FSANZ will need to allow sufficient lead time for products to come into compliance bearing in mind that these products are imported.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this input to FSANZ. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely

Advisor, Policy and Regulation