

Comments from the Victorian Departments of Health and Human Services and Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources

Submission due: 6 November 2018

The Victorian Departments of Health and Human Services and Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources (the departments) welcome the opportunity to provide comments on Application A1149 – Addition of steviol glycosides to fruit drinks (the Application).

The Application seeks to amend Schedule 15 of the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code (the Code) to permit the addition of steviol glycosides to fruit drinks at a maximum permitted level of 200mg/kg steviol equivalents.

From the FSANZ assessment report it is understood that:

- The Code currently permits the use of steviol glycosides as an intense sweetener in a range of foods at various maximum permitted levels.
- A hazard assessment based on assessments previously completed by FSANZ in applications A540, A1037, A1108, A1132 and A1157 and additional literature provided by the applicant concluded that the existing Acceptable Daily Intake (ADI) of 0-4mg/kg bw, expressed as steviol, continues to be appropriate.
- Dietary exposure assessment concluded that the ADI was unlikely to be exceeded under the extended permission for the addition of steviol glycosides to fruit drinks.

On the basis of this understanding, the departments support the progression of the Application A1149.
