

submissions

From: standards.management@foodstandards.gov.au
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To: standards management
Subject: FSANZ: Applications and Submissions - Submission [SEC=INCONFIDENCE]
Attachments: Toxicity Studies of Genetically Modified Plants A Review of the Published Literature - Critical Reviews in Food Science and Nutrition - Volume 47, Issue 8.htm



FSANZ: Applications and Submissions - Submission

Saturday, 13 February, 2016

1. **Assessment Report Number:** Proposal P 1041
2. **Assessment Report Title:** Removal of Country of Origin Labelling Requirements
3. **Organisation Name:** Ian Robinson
4. **Organisation Type:** Individual
5. **Representing:** Himself
6. **Street Address:** [REDACTED]
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8. **Contact Person:** Ian Robinson
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11. **Email Address:** [REDACTED]

12. **Submission Text:** Many, or more probably, most New Zealanders have an interest in country of origin, when buying almost anything. For myself and most people I know the prime concern is food safety. Genetically engineered foods are a concern, ((See Meta-Study attached) and also the excessive use of herbicides that have been banned in many countries because of their carcinogenic properties. These same herbicides are widely used in many other countries.(see Wolff, Mary S., aolo G. Toniolo et al. "Blood Levels of Organochlorine Residues and Risk of Breast Cancer." Journal of the National Cancer Institute 85: 648-652 (1993).) Lax food safety laws and practices of some countries have been the cause of several disease outbreaks, (i.e.Hepatitis A from Chinese berries grown with raw sewerage, see Health Warning from the Ministry of Primary Industries appended),and health problems in New Zealand. Although the standards for food labeling in New Zealand are not adequate for enabling its populace to protect themselves, removal of country of origin labeling will exacerbate this problem. There are also safety concerns with non-food items. I purchased a high end Chinese electronic product which subsequently developed a fault, which caused large volumes of possibly toxic smoke. The repairer noted that flame retardant components, which are used as a matter of course in NZ and most other Countries' manufacturing processes were not used in this case. I was informed that I was fortunate that this hadn't resulted in fire. I cannot now use this product without risk to myself or others. The increasing manufacture of NZ products in overseas

factories is a concern to most New Zealanders, for both product safety, and durability. Most people here are aware of the economics of buying locally made products, and they should maintain the right to exercise choice in this matter. There is no reason, other than bowing to pressure from other trading nations, to remove our ability to choose a product according to where it is produced. What we lose, from my perspective, is greater than the potential gains. <http://www.stuff.co.nz/national/health/74587288/What-you-need-to-know-about-frozen-berries-and-Hepatitis-A>

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