

Project Officer Application A1271
Food Standards Australia New Zealand
PO Box 10559
The Terrace
Wellington 6036

5 October 2023

Tēnā koe,

A1271 - Cellulase from GM *Aspergillus niger* as a processing aid

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this application. New Zealand Food Safety (NZFS) has the following comments to make:

NZFS supports amending Schedule 18–9(3) of the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code to permit a protein engineered variant of the enzyme cellulase (EC 3.2.1.4) sourced from a genetically modified strain of *Aspergillus niger* containing the cellulase gene from *Trichoderma reesei*, to be used as a processing aid in brewing and the production of potable alcohol.

We note from the FSANZ assessment, based on the available evidence, there are no safety concerns from the proposed uses of the enzyme as a food processing aid at GMP levels, and its use is technologically justified.

