

Seamons, Colleen

From: Geoff Harrington <geoffharrington@geoffharrington.com.au>
Sent: Thursday, 14 April 2011 3:30 PM
To: submissions
Subject: support of Hemp seeds as food in Australia
Attachments: 110414 hemp seed submission.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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I have attached my support as a potential consumer

Kind regards

Geoff

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Submission

APPLICATION A1039 -LOW THC HEMP AS A FOOD

SUBMITTER DETAILS

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Questions

- 1) Are you aware of any evidence that consumers believe that low THC hemp foods have psychoactive effects?

No – definitely not!

- 2) Are you aware of any evidence that representations on low THC food (including labelling and advertising) mislead consumers by leading them to believe that low THC hemp foods have psychoactive effects when consumed?

Absolutely not

- 3) Can you provide any evidence in addition to that presented in this consultation paper whether or not the consumption of low THC foods can return a positive test for a THC drug test?

No

- 4) Can you provide information on THC testing in Australia and NZ, particularly with regard to regulatory limits of THC that may be set?

. No

- 5) Can you provide information to indicate whether there will be an impact on the cost of testing for THC in humans that could arise from an approval of hemp foods?

No

- 6) Do you agree that there are adequate controls currently in place, or that would be achieved by imposing maximum limits for THC, to mitigate any risk of high THC Cannabis varieties entering the food supply?

Absolutely

- 7) Do you consider that trade practices legislation in Australia and New Zealand is sufficient to mitigate the potential risk that representations (including labelling and advertising) of hemp foods could suggest psychoactive properties relating to consumption of those foods? If not, what labelling and representations of hemp foods should be considered?

Definitely

- 8) What is the potential opportunity costs for current producers of hemp crops if hemp foods continue to be prohibited?

Don't know

- 9) What are the potential benefits to food manufacturers if hemp foods were approved for use?

As a consumer of Chia seed (recently a successful project of the Ord River scheme) I would imagine that the production of hemp seeds for food would be at least as successful. Chia seeds are now highly regarded from a health point of view but hemp seeds appear to have even better health characteristics

10) Are there likely to be any additional costs for food manufacturers wishing to supply hemp foods?

Unlikely

11) Would the approval of low THC hemp foods increase the cost of food enforcement beyond what would be expected of the approval of any other substance added to food, or other food regulatory change?

No

12) What other legislation would affect or be affected by approval of hemp foods?

I'm not aware of any

13) Would the approval of hemp food have an impact on hemp regulations in Australia and New Zealand? Would industrial hemp destined for use in food require additional controls to those already specified in industrial hemp regulations?

No

14) Would food manufacturers be required to be licensed under existing hemp regulations?

Don't know

15) Would additional costs be incurred by government agencies responsible for granting licenses for the cultivation of hemp as a result of approval of hemp foods?

Minimal if any

- 16) Can you identify risk management options that have not been considered in the impact analysis, Comments on possible costs and benefits?

There is a clear risk which is current – people will purchase hemp seeds 'for use with their pets' and consume them (illegally at present) themselves; the other risk is that Australia continues to miss out on the benefits of hemp seed/oil consumption and production

- 17) Can you identify any other costs and benefits for any of the risk management options considered in this paper?

No

- 18) Do you have a view about the appropriate preferred regulatory options regarding the approval of hemp foods, based on benefits and costs?

No

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Signature: 