



Submission – Proposal P1031

Allergen Labelling exemptions

Overview

Lion welcomes the opportunity to make submissions on Proposal P1031 – Allergen Labelling Exemptions

Lion is one of Australasia's leading alcoholic beverage companies and is involved in the production, marketing, sales and distribution of beer, cider, wines and spirits in Australia and New Zealand.

Lion supports the proposed change to allow exemption from declaration of presence of allergens, in particular for alcohol distillates made from wheat or whey.

Lion's position with respect to P1031

Lion supports the proposed change to exempt certain foods and ingredients derived from allergenic foods from mandatory declaration of allergens, in particular distilled alcohol from wheat or whey.

Discussion

We support the need for clear labelling to provide appropriate information for consumers however in some situations this can be misleading. This proposal to exempt labelling of allergens where it has been proven there is no carryover will simplify requirements for manufacturers with no adverse effects for consumers.

Lion bottles spirits derived from wheat and whey as well as producing spirit-based ready –to-drink products. We are aware of scientific papers which confirm that in a properly controlled distillation, non-volatile materials are not carried across into the distillate. Two scientific opinions were published in the EFSA Journal in 2007 with the conclusion that, in the case of ethanol produced from cereals or from whey, there is no carryover of significant amounts of protein and no allergic reactions after consumption of distillates from either source. The position is supported by analytical data and detailed risk assessments.

This proposal aligns with and is also consistent with other international food legislation.

For further information:

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Technical Risk Manager

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