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27 March 2016

To: Food Standards Australia New Zealand

Dear FSANZ

Submission on Recommendation 34: Review required labelling of irradiated foods

Thank you for the opportunity to make this submission in relation to the current review of labelling of irradiated food.

The removal of food labelling of irradiated foods will reduce consumer ability to make informed choices about the food that they and their families purchase and consume.

I am unconvinced that the process of food irradiation is overall a beneficial means of processing food.

I understand that scientific studies have suggested that there may be harmful effects associated with food irradiation. Of concern are suggestions that irradiation may cause vitamin and amino acid depletion in food, and particularly concerning are suggestions that it may produce toxic chemicals linked to cancer, organ damage, genetic mutations, immune system disorders, tumours, nutritional deficiencies and so on.

For this reason I believe that the mandatory labelling requirement for all irradiated food should continue. The right to choose between irradiated and non-irradiated foods should be one that continues to remain available to Australian consumers.

This right requires the continuation of mandatory labelling of all irradiated food.

Yours faithfully

Mr Greg Brown LLB, Grad Dip LP
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