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May 22, 2002

Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF COMMENT PERIOD

[Docket No. 01N-0548] Food Labeling; Guidelines for Voluntary Nutrition Labeling of Raw Fruits, Vegetables, and Fish; Identification of the 20 Most Frequently Consumed Raw Fruits, Vegetables, and Fish. 67 FR 12918, March 20, 2002.

Dear Sir or Madam:

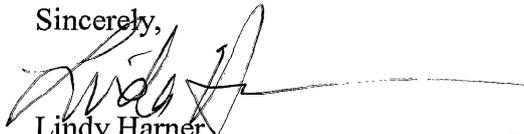
The California Kiwifruit Commission (CKC) requests an extension of 60 days, to August 2, 2002, for the comment period on the referenced proposed rule.

The California Kiwifruit Commission, established in 1979, is a state agency operating under the authority of the California Department of Food and Agriculture. The Commission represents all of the 320 growers of kiwifruit in California. The CKC is also a member of the International Kiwifruit Organization, a group that meets annually and represents all of the major kiwifruit producing countries throughout the world.

In order to respond fully to the proposal, the California Kiwifruit Commission and the International Kiwifruit Organization will need adequate time to carefully consider the proposed rule, including the revised nutrition labeling values and related documentation. We will need to exchange information within the kiwifruit industry in California and internationally and with the scientific community for analysis, results and responses. A comment period extension of 60 days would provide the time necessary to complete a thorough evaluation of the proposed rule, exchange information and comments and prepare final comments for submission to FDA.

Therefore, the California Kiwifruit Commission, on behalf of the California kiwifruit industry and as the Secretary of the International Kiwifruit Organization, respectfully requests a 60-day extension of the comment period, to August 2, 2002.

Sincerely,


Lindy Harner
President

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