DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health Service

Memorandum

Date • October 23, 2000

From Charles J. Ganley, M.D
Director, Division of Over-the-Counter Drug Products

Subject FDA Docket 00P-1210/CP1: Response to requests for status report

To All interested public citizens

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has received requests from several parties in the matter of Perry Gottesfeld v. Alva-Amco Pharmacal Cos., Inc., et al., and its companion case filed on behalf of the State of California by the State's Attorney General, for information regarding the status of the agency's review of the citizen petition filed by Perry Gottesfeld. This petition requests the agency to restrict the sale of products containing coal tar, now available over the counter, to prescription only.

The procedures governing the review of citizen petitions are set out in regulations found at 21 CFR §10.30. A copy of these regulations is attached. The regulations provide, among other things, that the Commissioner will furnish a response to a petition within 180 days of receipt of the petition, agency resources and priorities permitting. See 21 CFR §10.30(e).

FDA received this petition on March 14, 2000, and after determining that it complied with the requirements of the regulations, assigned it docket number 00P-1210/CP 1, and filed it on March 22, 2000. Based on this filing date, the projected response date would have been September 22, 2000. However, the petitioner subsequently submitted two amendments to the petition, in each case supplying a substantial amount of additional data to supplement the evidence supporting the petition. The first of these amendments was received on June 6, 2000, and the second on July 26, 2000. With the receipt of these voluminous amendments, the agency amended the date on which the response is due to January 22, 2001 (180 days from the date of the last amendment) to allow sufficient time to review all the evidence on which the petitioner wished to rely.

At this time, the agency is actively reviewing the petition and its supporting evidence as well as material provided by other commenters. The agency expects to address the substantive scientific questions raised in the petition in its response.

under this paragraph does not constitute prior disclosure to the public as defined in § 20.81, and no information subject to a particular order is to be submitted to or received or considered by FDA in support of a petition or other request from any other person.

[44 FR 22323, Apr. 13, 1979, as amended at 46 FR 8455, Jan. 27, 1981; 49 FR 7363, Feb. 29, 1984; 54 FR 9034, Mar. 3, 1989; 59 FR 14363, Mar. 28, 1994; 64 FR 69190, Dec. 10, 1999]

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 64 FR 69190, Dec. 10, 1999, § 10.20 *Submission of documents to Dockets Management Branch; computation of time; availability for public disclosure* was amended by adding in paragraph (c)(1)(iii) the word "or" after the word "available;", by removing in paragraph (c)(1)(iv) the words "agency; or" and adding in its place the word "agency.", and by removing paragraph (c)(1)(v), effective Apr. 24, 2000.

§ 10.25 Initiation of administrative proceedings.

An administrative proceeding may be initiated in the following three ways:

(a) An interested person may petition the Commissioner to issue, amend, or revoke a regulation or order, or to take or refrain from taking any other form of administrative action. A petition must be either: (1) In the form specified in other applicable FDA regulations, e.g., the form for a color additive petition in § 71.1, for a food additive petition in § 171.1, for a new drug application in § 314.50, for a new animal drug application in § 514.1, or (2) in the form for a citizen petition in § 10.30.

(b) The Commissioner may initiate a proceeding to issue, amend, or revoke a regulation or order or take or refrain from taking any other form of administrative action. FDA has primary jurisdiction to make the initial determination on issues within its statutory mandate, and will request a court to dismiss, or to hold in abeyance its determination of or refer to the agency for administrative determination, any issue which has not previously been determined by the agency or which, if it has previously been determined, the agency concluded should be reconsidered and subject to a new administrative determination. The Commissioner may utilize any of the procedures established in this part in reviewing and making a determination on any matter initiated under this paragraph.

(c) The Commissioner will institute a proceeding to determine whether to issue, amend, or revoke a regulation or order, or take or refrain from taking any other form of administrative action whenever any court, on its own initiative, holds in abeyance or refers any matter to the agency for an administrative determination and the Commissioner concludes that an administrative determination is feasible within agency priorities and resources.

[44 FR 22323, Apr. 13, 1979, as amended at 54 FR 9034, Mar. 3, 1989]

§ 10.30 Citizen petition.

(a) This section applies to any petition submitted by a person (including a person who is not a citizen of the United States) except to the extent that other sections of this chapter apply different requirements to a particular matter.

(b) A petition (including any attachments) must be submitted in accordance with § 10.20 and in the following form:

(Date) _____

Dockets Management Branch, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, rm. 1-23, 12420 Parklawn Dr., Rockville, MD 20857.

CITIZEN PETITION

The undersigned submits this petition under ——— (relevant statutory sections, if known) of the ——— (Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act or the Public Health Service Act or any other statutory provision for which authority has been delegated to the Commissioner of Food and Drugs under 21 CFR 5.10) to request the Commissioner of Food and Drugs to ——— (issue, amend, or revoke a regulation or order or take or refrain from taking any other form of administrative action).

A. Action requested

((1) If the petition requests the Commissioner to issue, amend, or revoke a regulation, the exact wording of the existing regulation (if any) and the proposed regulation or amendment requested.)

((2) If the petition requests the Commissioner to issue, amend, or revoke an order, a copy of the exact wording of the citation to the existing order (if any) and the exact wording requested for the proposed order.)

((3) If the petition requests the Commissioner to take or refrain from taking any

other form of administrative action, the specific action or relief requested.)

B. Statement of grounds

(A full statement, in a well organized format, of the factual and legal grounds on which the petitioner relies, including all relevant information and views on which the petitioner relies, as well as representative information known to the petitioner which is unfavorable to the petitioner's position.)

C. Environmental impact

(A) Claim for categorical exclusion under §§25.30, 25.31, 25.32, 25.33, or §25.34 of this chapter or an environmental assessment under §25.40 of this chapter.)

D. Economic impact

(The following information is to be submitted only when requested by the Commissioner following review of the petition: A statement of the effect of requested action on: (1) Cost (and price) increases to industry, government, and consumers; (2) productivity of wage earners, businesses, or government; (3) competition; (4) supplies of important materials, products, or services; (5) employment; and (6) energy supply or demand.)

E. Certification

The undersigned certifies, that, to the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, this petition includes all information and views on which the petition relies, and that it includes representative data and information known to the petitioner which are unfavorable to the petition.

(Signature) _____

(Name of petitioner) _____

(Mailing address) _____

(Telephone number) _____

(c) A petition which appears to meet the requirements of paragraph (b) of this section and §10.20 will be filed by the Dockets Management Branch, stamped with the date of filing, and assigned a docket number. The docket number identifies the file established by the Dockets Management Branch for all submissions relating to the petition, as provided in this part. Subsequent submissions relating to the matter must refer to the docket number and will be filed in the docket file. Related petitions may be filed together and given the same docket number. The Dockets Management Branch will promptly notify the petitioner in writing of the filing and docket number of a petition.

(d) An interested person may submit written comments to the Dockets Management Branch on a filed petition, which comments become part of the docket file. The comments are to specify the docket number of the petition and may support or oppose the petition in whole or in part. A request for alternative or different administrative action must be submitted as a separate petition.

(e)(1) The Commissioner shall, in accordance with paragraph (e)(2), rule upon each petition filed under paragraph (c) of this section, taking into consideration (i) available agency resources for the category of subject matter, (ii) the priority assigned to the petition considering both the category of subject matter involved and the overall work of the agency, and (iii) time requirements established by statute.

(2) Except as provided in paragraph (e)(4) of this section, the Commissioner shall furnish a response to each petitioner within 180 days of receipt of the petition. The response will either:

(i) Approve the petition, in which case the Commissioner shall concurrently take appropriate action (e.g., publication of a FEDERAL REGISTER notice) implementing the approval;

(ii) Deny the petition; or

(iii) Provide a tentative response, indicating why the agency has been unable to reach a decision on the petition, e.g., because of the existence of other agency priorities, or a need for additional information. The tentative response may also indicate the likely ultimate agency response, and may specify when a final response may be furnished.

(3) The Commissioner may grant or deny such a petition, in whole or in part, and may grant such other relief or take other action as the petition warrants. The petitioner is to be notified in writing of the Commissioner's decision. The decision will be placed in the public docket file in the office of the Dockets Management Branch and may also be in the form of a notice published in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

(4) The Commissioner shall furnish a response to each petitioner within 90 days of receipt of a petition filed under section 505(j)(2)(C) of the act. The response will either approve or disapprove the petition. Agency action on

a petition shall be governed by § 314.93 of this chapter.

(f) If a petition filed under paragraph (c) of this section requests the Commissioner to issue, amend, or revoke a regulation, § 10.40 or § 10.50 also apply.

(g) A petitioner may supplement, amend, or withdraw a petition in writing without agency approval and without prejudice to resubmission at anytime until the Commissioner rules on the petition, unless the petition has been referred for a hearing under parts 12, 13, 14, or 15. After a ruling or referral, a petition may be supplemented, amended, or withdrawn only with the approval of the Commissioner. The Commissioner may approve withdrawal, with or without prejudice against resubmission of the petition.

(h) In reviewing a petition the Commissioner may use the following procedures:

(1) Conferences, meetings, discussions, and correspondence under § 10.65.

(2) A hearing under parts 12, 13, 14, 15, or 16.

(3) A FEDERAL REGISTER notice requesting information and views.

(4) A proposal to issue, amend, or revoke a regulation, in accordance with § 10.40 or § 12.20.

(5) Any other specific public procedure established in this chapter and expressly applicable to the matter.

(i) The record of the administrative proceeding consists of the following:

(1) The petition, including all information on which it relies, filed by the Dockets Management Branch.

(2) All comments received on the petition, including all information submitted as a part of the comments.

(3) If the petition resulted in a proposal to issue, amend, or revoke a regulation, all of the documents specified in § 10.40(g).

(4) The record, consisting of any transcripts, minutes of meetings, reports, FEDERAL REGISTER notices, and other documents resulting from the optional procedures specified in paragraph (h) of this section, except a transcript of a closed portion of a public advisory committee meeting.

(5) The Commissioner's decision on the petition, including all information identified or filed by the Commissioner with the Dockets Management Branch as part of the record supporting the decision.

(6) All documents filed with the Dockets Management Branch under § 10.65(h).

(7) If a petition for reconsideration or for a stay of action is filed under paragraph (j) of this section, the administrative record specified in § 10.33(k) or § 10.35(h).

(j) The administrative record specified in paragraph (i) of this section is the exclusive record for the Commissioner's decision. The record of the administrative proceeding closes on the date of the Commissioner's decision unless some other date is specified. Thereafter any interested person may submit a petition for reconsideration under § 10.33 or a petition for stay of action under § 10.35. A person who wishes to rely upon information or views not included in the administrative record shall submit them to the Commissioner with a new petition to modify the decision in accordance with this section.

(k) This section does not apply to the referral of a matter to a United States attorney for the initiation of court enforcement action and related correspondence, or to requests, suggestions, and recommendations made informally in routine correspondence received by FDA. Routine correspondence does not constitute a petition within the meaning of this section unless it purports to meet the requirements of this section. Action on routine correspondence does not constitute final administrative action subject to judicial review under § 10.45.

(l) The Dockets Management Branch will maintain a chronological list of each petition filed under this section and § 10.85, but not of petitions submitted elsewhere in the agency under § 10.25(a)(1), showing:

(1) The docket number;

(2) The date the petition was filed by the Dockets Management Branch;

(3) The name of the petitioner;

(4) The subject matter involved; and

(5) The disposition of the petition.

[44 FR 22323, Apr. 13, 1979, as amended at 46 FR 8455, Jan. 27, 1981; 50 16656, Apr. 26, 1985; 54 FR 9034, Mar. 3, 1989; 57 FR 17980, Apr. 28, 1992; 59 FR 14364, Mar. 28, 1994; 62 FR 40592, July 29, 1997]