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January 12, 2004

BY HAND DELIVERY

Christine L. Taylor, Ph.D.
Office of Nutritional Products, Labeling, and Dietary Supplements (HFS-800)
Food and Drug Administration
Harvey W. Wiley Federal Building
5100 Paint Branch Parkway
College Park, Maryland 20740-3835

**Re: Nestlé Prepared Foods Company Petition to Expand the
"Lean" Nutrient Content Claim**

Dear Dr. Taylor:

On behalf of Nestlé Prepared Foods Company, I hereby submit the attached petition under Section 403(r)(4) of the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act. The petition seeks to broaden the "lean" nutrient content claim regulation set forth at 21 C.F.R. § 101.62(e)(1) to include foods that fall within the Reference Amount Customarily Consumed for Mixed Dishes Not Measurable by a Cup. The petition contains all of the information required by 21 C.F.R. § 101.69. Attached please find two print copies of the petition and its two-volume appendix. For your convenience, I also enclose a compact disc with adobe (.pdf) files of this cover letter, the petition, and the referenced materials.

Please direct correspondence or inquiries with regard to the enclosed petition to my attention. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Steven B. Steinborn
Counsel to Nestle Prepared Foods Company

cc: Kathleen Ellwood, Ph.D., Associate Director for Nutrition
Science and Review

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