

# PRE-EXISTING TOBACCO PRODUCT DETERMINATION PROGRAM WEBINAR SERIES

PART 3 OF 3:

## PROCESS FOR AGENCY REVIEW

*Disclaimer: This is not a formal dissemination of information by FDA and does not represent Agency position or policy.*

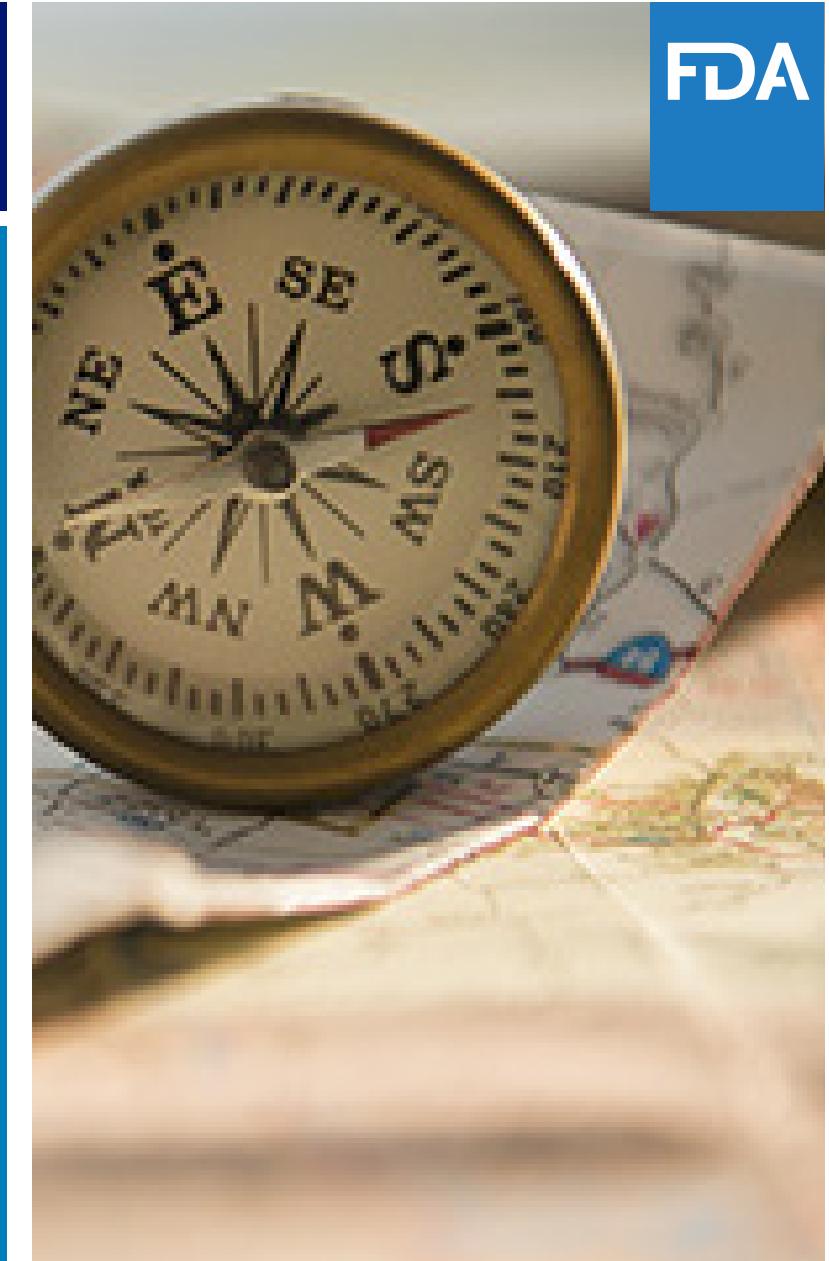


# AGENDA

## Webinar Overview

1. FDA's Process for Agency Review
2. Requests for Information (RFI)
3. Amending Pre-Existing Submissions
4. Withdrawing Pre-Existing Submissions
5. Types of Agency Determinations
6. Frequently Asked Questions

FDA



# PROCESS FOR AGENCY REVIEW

## **Receipt:**

- Once a submission is received, FDA conducts an initial review of the submission to determine whether to accept the submission for review.

## **Accepted:**

- Once a submission is received and accepted, an acknowledgement letter is issued with the official date of receipt and the assigned Submission Tracking Number (STN) beginning with "PX".

## **Not Accepted:**

- If not accepted, an Unable to Accept (UTA) letter is issued.

# UNABLE TO ACCEPT LETTER: UTA

FDA

- Unable to Accept (UTA) letters are sent when a firm intends to request a Pre-Existing status determination for more than one tobacco product.
- Multiple submissions may be submitted into a single package or envelope, but each Pre-Existing request should be clearly identified in separate documents.
- If issued a UTA letter, the submission may be corrected and re-submitted.

# UNABLE TO REVIEW LETTER: UTR

FDA

Unable to Review (UTR) letters are issued if the submission fails to include sufficient information for FDA to begin review. UTR Letters may be issued if a submission:

- Is missing commercial marketing evidence
- Is missing unique products identifiers
- Contains information or evidence that needs to be translated into English
- Identifies specific products that are not tobacco products
- Is missing submitter/manufacturer name and contact information

# REVIEWING PRE-EXISTING SUBMISSION COMPONENTS

FDA

After accepting a Pre-Existing submission, assigning a Pre-Existing Submission Tracking Number (PX STN) and sending an acknowledgement letter, the Pre-Existing submission components are reviewed, including:

- Tobacco product name
- Tobacco product description – Unique Identifiers
- Test marketing statement
- Evidence of commercial marketing as of February 15, 2007
- Linking

FDA will review the submission for the tobacco product name.

- The name of the tobacco product listed in the submission should be the exact name of the tobacco product as it was commercially marketed as of February 15, 2007.
- The tobacco product name should be consistent throughout the submission.
- If the product name changed after February 15, 2007, the submission should consistently reference the product name as commercially marketed as of February 15, 2007.

# TOBACCO PRODUCT DESCRIPTION - UNIQUE IDENTIFIERS

FDA

FDA will review the applicant's description of the tobacco product and corresponding unique identifiers.

- Characteristics that uniquely identify a tobacco product include but are not limited to package type, quantity, length, diameter, tobacco cut size, portion mass, and flavor.
- Each tobacco product, such as cigarettes, cigars, smokeless tobacco products, and roll-your-own tobacco products, have their own identifiers.

More information on unique identifiers can be found in the 2021 SE Rule and Table 1 of 21 CFR section 1107.18(c)(7)(iii).

When submitting a standalone Pre-Existing submission, you may submit a test marketing statement.

- A test marketing statement is a statement that the product, including those products in test markets, was commercially marketed in the United States as of February 15, 2007.
- If the pre-existing product is intended to be a predicate product in the Substantial Equivalence (SE) Pathway, the submission must include a statement that the product was commercially marketed (other than for test marketing) in the United States as of February 15, 2007.
- Confirmation should be submitted in the form of a statement from a responsible official who has the proper knowledge of the test marketing status and the authority to make such a statement.

# EVIDENCE OF COMMERCIAL MARKETING & LINKING

FDA

FDA will review commercial marketing evidence to establish the product was commercially marketed as of February 15, 2007.

- Commercial marketing means selling or offering for sale a tobacco product in the United States to consumers or to any person for the eventual purchase by consumers in the United States.
- FDA recommends providing dated evidence showing that the product was commercially marketed in the United States as of February 15, 2007.
- Submission content and evidence should be in English.
- Product name, unique identifiers, abbreviations, symbols or reference used in evidence should be consistent throughout the submission, properly “Linking” the product to the evidence.

# REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION (RFI)

# REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION (RFI) LETTERS

FDA

- The FDA may send a request for information (RFI) letter to the submitter to request additional information to clarify any issues or parts of a submission.
- The submitter will have thirty (30) calendar days from the date the letter was received to respond before FDA continues their review.

# COMMON REASONS FOR REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

FDA

- **Name:** The name of the product is inconsistent throughout the submission and remains unclear. The submission should clearly identify the name of the tobacco product as it was commercially marketed in the United States as of February 15, 2007.
- **Unique Identifiers:** The information submitted does not uniquely identify the tobacco product such as package type, quantity, length, diameter, tobacco cut size, portion mass etc.
- **Evidence:** The information submitted does not appear to include adequate evidence demonstrating (individually or collectively) that the tobacco product was commercially marketed in the United States as of February 15, 2007. If you cannot provide documentation specifically dated on February 15, 2007, please provide documentation of commercial marketing for a reasonable period of time before and after February 15, 2007.

# COMMON REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION CONTINUED

**Test Marketing Statement:** If the submission does not include a test marketing statement, an RFI may be issued.

If the submitter intends to demonstrate that the pre-existing product qualifies as a predicate, the Pre-existing submission should include a test marketing statement which states the product was commercially marketed (other than exclusively for test marketing) in the United States as of February 15, 2007.

Example: For a product determined to be pre-existing to also qualify as a predicate, a statement similar to the following should be included in the Pre-existing submission:

*"I, (insert name and position title of responsible official), confirm that the tobacco product associated with this Pre-Existing Submission, (insert name of tobacco product as it was on February 15, 2007), was commercially marketed other than exclusively for test marketing in the United States as of February 15, 2007."*

# COMMON REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION CONTINUED

FDA

**Linking:** Any evidence provided in a submission should include a brief statement or chart that clearly identifies the “link” between any abbreviation, symbol, or reference used in the evidence that corresponds to the tobacco product under review. Insufficient or inconsistent linking information may result in an RFI.

**Example:** FDA may issue an RFI if the information submitted does not provide sufficient detail to link a specific line item on a bill of lading, invoice, or other evidence of commercial marketing to the tobacco product under review.

# RESPONSES TO RFI LETTERS

FDA

- You should provide all requested information.
- FDA will request the information be provided by a due date specified in the letter, generally within thirty (30) calendar days of receipt of the RFI letter.
- For questions regarding RFI Letters you may email [CTP-Preexisting@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:CTP-Preexisting@fda.hhs.gov) or schedule a teleconference to discuss the requested information prior to the due date.
- After the due date has passed, the FDA will continue its review based on the information received.

# AMENDMENTS

- Amendments should clearly identify the information in the original submission that is being amended. Other information, such as test marketing statements and linking information, should be updated as needed to align with the amended information for consistency throughout the submission.
- Firms may amend their submissions prior to receiving a Request for Information.
- Amendments should be submitted either electronically via CTP Portal using FDA's eSubmitter or by mail to CTP's Document Control Center (DCC).
- Amendments should include the assigned STN and "Amendment" in the subject line.
- FDA does not issue acknowledgement letters for amendment submissions.

# REQUESTS FOR WITHDRAWAL

- A submitter can withdraw a pre-existing status determination submission at any time during the review process.
- Withdrawals should be submitted either electronically via CTP Portal using FDA's eSubmitter or by mail to CTP's Document Control Center(DCC). A withdrawal should include the assigned STN and "Withdrawal" in the subject line.
- If a submission is withdrawn, and later resubmitted, a new PX STN will be issued.

# PRE-EXISTING DETERMINATIONS

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FDA

There are three possible determinations for pre-existing tobacco products:

1. The product is determined to be pre-existing but is not predicate eligible
2. The product is determined to be both pre-existing and eligible to serve as a predicate
3. Unable to determine pre-existing status

# SEARCHABLE TOBACCO PRODUCTS DATABASE

FDA

Located at: [www.fda.gov/searchtobacco](http://www.fda.gov/searchtobacco)

**Searchable Tobacco Products Database**

This database provides entries for tobacco products that may be legally marketed because they are 1) new tobacco products authorized through one of [three pathways to market](#), 2) established through a voluntary determination program as [pre-existing tobacco products](#) (commercially marketed as of Feb. 15, 2007), or 3) [provisional tobacco products that were removed from review](#). For more information on database terminology and Q&A, visit [Searchable Tobacco Products Database - Additional Information](#).

FDA also maintains a [printable flyer of authorized e-cigarettes](#).

No tobacco product is safe, and it is illegal to sell tobacco products to anyone under 21. Products in this database may be the subject of agency action for other reasons.

[Download All Records](#) 

**Search the Database**

Search Company, Product Name, STN, MRTP, Additional Information

<b>Category</b> Select options	<b>Sub-Category</b> Select options	<b>Submission Type - Marketing Authority</b> Select options										
<b>Date of Action From</b> mm/dd/yyyy 	<b>Date of Action To</b> mm/dd/yyyy 											
<b>Search</b>  <b>Reset</b> 												
<b>Company</b>	<b>Product Name</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Sub-Category</b>	<b>Submission Type - Marketing Authority</b>	<b>Date of Action</b>	<b>Order Letter</b>	<b>Decision Summary</b>	<b>Environmental Assessment</b>	<b>FONSI</b>	<b>STN</b>	<b>Associated MRTP</b>	<b>Additional Information</b>

Please perform a search to see results.



NAME OF CONTACT POST-NOMINAL TITLES  
 TITLE/MANUFACTURER NAME  
 SUBMITTER NAME / C/O SUBMITTER NAME  
 STREET ADDRESS  
 CITY, STATE ZIP CODE

Re: Submission Tracking Number (STN): STN  
 Tobacco Product Name: TOBACCO PRODUCT NAME  
 Date of Submission: Month DD, YYYY  
 FDA Receipt Date: Month DD, YYYY

Dear NAME OF CONTACT:

We have reviewed your submission, in which you ask the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to determine whether the tobacco product referenced above was commercially marketed in the United States as of February 15, 2007 and, therefore, is a "Pre-Existing" tobacco product. Based on the information you provided, we have determined that the tobacco product qualifies for Pre-Existing status and is not subject to the premarket review requirements set forth in Section 910(a)(2) of the Federal, Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FD&C Act), as amended by the Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act.

Further, based on the information you submitted indicating the tobacco (other than for test marketing) in the United States as of February eligible to serve as a predicate tobacco product for a 905(j) report.<sup>1</sup>

Our Pre-Existing status determination for this product is based on this submission. We did not review information concerning the this product in order to make our determination.<sup>1</sup> Please note this product was marketed as of February 15, 2007, and the product would be eligible to serve as a predicate tobacco product for a 905(j) report after February 15, 2007, would render the product a "new" product.

Please be advised that this letter reflects FDA's determination that is a pre-existing tobacco product, does not need premarket authorization to be eligible to serve as a predicate tobacco product for a 905(j) report, and is not subject to the premarket review requirements set forth in Section 910(a)(2) of the Federal, Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FD&C Act), as amended by the Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act.

For more information on your responsibilities under the FD&C Act, we encourage you to visit our website at <http://www.fda.gov/TobaccoProducts>. You may also obtain information by contacting FDA's Center for Tobacco Products at 1-877-CTP-1373, [AskCTP@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:AskCTP@fda.hhs.gov), or [SmallBiz.Tobacco@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:SmallBiz.Tobacco@fda.hhs.gov).

<sup>1</sup>For example, a submission may have included a statement that the tobacco product does not contain a characterizing flavor, but FDA did not evaluate this statement in making its PX tobacco product status determination.

# Pre-Existing Tobacco Product Status Determination Letter (EXAMPLE)



Name of Contact, Post-Nominal Titles  
 Title / Manufacturer's name  
 Submitter's Name / C/O Submitter's Name  
 Street Address  
 City, State Zip Code

Re: Submission Tracking Number (STN): STN  
 Tobacco Product Name: Tobacco Product Name  
 Date of Submission: Month DD, YYYY  
 FDA Receipt Date: Month DD, YYYY

Dear Name of Contact:

The Center for Tobacco Products' (CTP) Office of Compliance and Enforcement (OCE) received the above referenced submission, in which you voluntarily requested that the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) determine, based on the information submitted, whether the subject tobacco product was commercially marketed in the United States as of February 15, ~~2002~~ and, therefore, "Pre-Existing." In our letter dated DATE, we requested that you provide us with additional information within 30 calendar days of receipt in order for FDA to complete its review of the submission.

FDA received your correspondence on DATE in response to our letter dated DATE requesting additional information. However, your correspondence does not adequately address all of the information requested in our letter dated DATE, and based on the information submitted, FDA is unable to make a Pre-Existing status determination for the STN listed above.

Since the FDA is unable to make a Pre-Existing status determination at this time, the submission referenced above has been closed. Neither the FDA's letter dated [DATE], nor this letter, is a final agency action and you are not precluded from submitting a new request for a determination, along with the requested information. However, the STN referenced above remains closed, and any additional submission regarding a Pre-Existing status determination will be assigned a separate STN number and undergo a new review. We encourage you to visit our website at <https://www.fda.gov/tobacco-products/market-and-distribute-tobacco-product/pre-existing-tobacco-products> for more information on Pre-Existing tobacco products.

As a reminder, to legally market a new tobacco product in the United States, you must request an order from FDA that permits the marketing of your new tobacco product under one of the premarket tobacco product application (PMTA), a substantial equivalence (SE) report, or from SE request.

For more information on your responsibilities under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, please visit our website at <http://www.fda.gov/TobaccoProducts>, or contact CTP at or [AskCTP@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:AskCTP@fda.hhs.gov).

Sincerely,

Steven Singhaus, Branch Chief  
 Division of Product Compliance  
 Office of Compliance and Enforcement  
 Center for Tobacco Products

U.S. Food and Drug Administration

Center for Tobacco Products  
 30903 New Hampshire Avenue  
 Silver Spring, MD 20993  
[www.fda.gov](http://www.fda.gov)

# Unable to Determine Pre-Existing Tobacco Product Status Letter (EXAMPLE)

## Who can I contact for a status of my submission?

- FDA generally does not give updates or timelines regarding the review status of a pre-existing tobacco product submission.

## Where can I send questions regarding the standalone pre-existing tobacco product review program?

- Email [CTP-Preexisting@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:CTP-Preexisting@fda.hhs.gov) with your questions, and please include a submission tracking number if you have one.

# RESOURCES

FDA

## **Pre-Existing TOBACCO PRODUCT QUESTIONS**

Email: [CTP-Preexisting@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:CTP-Preexisting@fda.hhs.gov)

## **Pre-Existing TOBACCO PRODUCT WEBSITE**

<https://www.fda.gov/tobaccoproducts/labeling/tobaccoproductreviewevaluation/ucm304380.htm>

## **SECTION 910 of the FD&C ACT**

[https://www.fda.gov/TobaccoProducts/Labeling/RulesRegulationsGuidance/ucm262073.htm#910\\_a\\_1\\_B](https://www.fda.gov/TobaccoProducts/Labeling/RulesRegulationsGuidance/ucm262073.htm#910_a_1_B)

## **CTP PORTAL**

<https://ctpportal.fda.gov/ctpportal/login.jsp>

## **FDA ESUBMITTER**

<https://www.fda.gov/ForIndustry/FDAeSubmitter/ucm189469.htm>

## **FDA's DOCUMENT CONTROL CENTER ADDRESS**

<https://www.fda.gov/tobacco-products/about-center-tobacco-products-ctp/contact-ctp>

## **PRE-MARKET TOBACCO APPLICATION FINAL RULE**

<https://www.fda.gov/tobacco-products/market-and-distribute-tobacco-product/premarket-tobacco-product-applications>

## **Pre-Existing GUIDANCE**

<https://www.fda.gov/regulatory-information/search-fda-guidance-documents/establishing-tobacco-product-was-commercially-marketed-united-states-february-15-2007-revised>

## **SE GUIDANCE**

<https://www.fda.gov/regulatory-information/search-fda-guidance-documents/demonstrating-substantial-equivalence-new-tobacco-product-responses-frequently-asked-questions>

## **FDA's DOCUMENT CONTROL CENTER ADDRESS**

<https://www.fda.gov/tobacco-products/about-center-tobacco-products-ctp/contact-ctp>

## **SEARCHABLE TOBACCO PRODUCTS DATABASE**

<https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/searchtobacco/>

## **SUBSTANTIAL EQUIVALENCE PROCESS, RULES, AND GUIDANCE**

<https://www.fda.gov/tobacco-products/market-and-distribute-tobacco-product/substantial-equivalence>

## **EXEMPTION FROM SUBSTANTIAL EQUIVALENCE**

<https://www.fda.gov/tobacco-products/market-and-distribute-tobacco-product/exemption-substantial-equivalence>

## **Pre-Existing TOBACCO PRODUCT PROGRAM WEBINAR SERIES**

<https://www.fda.gov/tobacco-products/compliance-enforcement-training/fda-tobacco-compliance-webinars>

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<http://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLA803FAFDFA860129>

Sign Up for Email Updates on Tobacco Products

<https://www.fda.gov/tobacco-products/newsroom/sign-email-updates-ctp>

# THANK YOU!

FDA



Center For Tobacco Products