

N A T I O N A L

**B A R L E Y**

F O O D S C O U N C I L

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February 4, 2005

Dr. James Hoadley  
Food and Drug Administration  
Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition  
Office of Nutritional Products, Labeling and Dietary Supplements  
Division of Nutrition Programs and Labeling (HFS-832)  
5100 Paint Branch Pkwy.  
College Park, MD 20740

Re: Health Claim Petition - To amend 21 CFR 101.81 to authorize a health claim relating barley  $\beta$ -glucan soluble fiber and barley foods containing  $\beta$ -glucan soluble fiber and coronary heart disease risk. Docket No. 2004P-0512

Dear Dr. Hoadley,

This is in response to the phone conversation that we had on Wednesday, February 2, 2005. You contacted me (as representative of the National Barley Foods Council) to request a six month extension to the 90 day review period that followed the initial filing of the above petition on November 11, 2004. The National Barley Foods Council agrees to the six month extension of this review period and anticipates publication of your review prior to or by August 9, 2005.

As requested previously, should the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) grant preliminary approval of this health claim petition, the National Barley Foods Council also requests that FDA grant an Interim Final Rule, by which products containing barley could carry the "Barley/soluble fiber and CHD health claim" during the period after FDA's preliminary approval and prior to its publication of a Final Rule.

Sincerely,



Christine E. Fastnaught  
Barley Consultant  
National Barley Foods Council  
701/293-5146

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