



Calorie Control Council

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Division of Dockets Management (HFA-305)
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane
rm. 1061
Rockville MD 20852

RE: Docket No. 2006F-0059
Safe Use of Polydextrose as a bulking agent, formulation aid, humectant and texturizer in all foods, except meat and poultry

The Calorie Control Council provides the following comments in support of Danisco USA, Inc.'s petition proposing that the food additive regulations be amended to provide for the safe use of polydextrose as a bulking agent, formulation aid, humectant and texturizer in all foods, except meat and poultry. The Council is an international association of manufacturers of reduced calorie and reduced fat foods and beverages, including the manufacturers and users of a variety of alternative sweeteners, fat replacers and low-calorie bulking agents.

With obesity and overweight at all time highs in the US, the availability of good-tasting reduced calorie foods and beverages is increasingly important to assist Americans in reducing their calorie intake. And, according to the Calorie Control Council's 2004 Light Products Consumer Survey, 92 percent of adult American use low-calorie and/or reduced fat foods and beverages; 84 percent of adults use low-cal products. Interestingly, over eight out of ten users (85%) would like additional low-calorie products.

Polydextrose can assist in meeting this consumer demand for additional low-calorie products. It is the ultimate companion to high-intensity sweeteners, providing bulk, texture, mouthfeel and functional attributes of caloric sweeteners. With only one calorie per gram, polydextrose increases consumer acceptance on the basis of both taste and caloric value.

Polydextrose has been available for almost 25 years. It is a safe and extremely important ingredient to the light food and beverage industry. The Calorie Control Council urges the US Food and Drug Administration to act in a timely manner and amend the food additive regulations as requested, thereby providing for the safe use of polydextrose as a bulking agent, formulation aid, humectant and texturizer in all foods, except meat and poultry.

Thank you for considering the comments of the Calorie Control Council.

Respectfully submitted,

Lyn O'Brien Nabors
President

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