


submissions

From: [REDACTED]
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To: submissions
Subject: FSANZ Submission Form Received (Internet) - Hemp Industries Australia

	
Code Submission	
Application/Proposal Number:	Low THC Hemp seeds as food
Organisation Name:	Hemp Industries Australia
Organisation Type:	Other
Representing:	Hemp Industries Australia Pty Ltd
Street Address:	[REDACTED] [REDACTED]
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Submission Text:	<p>I would like to start off by saying that I feel the entire approval process for proposal to permit foods from hemp seems an absolute farce and one can only suspect that there are some vested interests from some parties or organizations to continue to reject such a measure as it is very clear that hemp seed and the derived oil is absolutely safe to consume and will not have any drug like effect that would be resulting</p>

from high THC "marijuana" varieties. Australia and NZ are the only countries in the world that do not permit consumption. The arguments are without scientific evidence or simple common sense and illustrate a profound ignorance. An ignorance that is dumbfounding! The main argument that such approval will sponsor drug use or indeed put across to the general public that Marijuana is safe to consume is also laudable especially now that the Government in Victoria and NSW are currently growing their own crops of high THC marijuana for use in conditions such as intractable childhood epilepsy, nausea and terminal illness for pain relief. So if anyone is portraying that Marijuana is safe and is at risk of promoting its use it is indeed the government not the hemp farmers. Secondly roadside drug tests for cannabis are based on detecting residues in the mouth and mucous membranes from smoking high THC marijuana not eating low THC hemp. The idea that eating low THC hemp seed or oil or indeed any other food product will show a positive for marijuana drug use road side test once again illustrates a profound ignorance of 1. the difference in THC contents of hemp and marijuana and 2. how roadside drug tests for marijuana work ! To further add weight to this perspective these foods are not only highly nutritious and beneficial to the human organism due to their amazing constituents such as omega

oils and amino acids- the hemp seed is literally a " complete food" Another extremely relevant point is that hemp derived foods are ALREADY being consumed in Australia. You can walk into virtually ANY health food store in the country and buy them with a disclaimer saying " not for internal consumption" . It is worth noting that these products , in particular hemp hearts (the inner part of the hemp seed once it has been dehulled) are labelled as " Australian certified organic " when in fact they are imported products of questionable quality. It is a complete insult to the Australian public and indeed Australian hemp farmers that this ridiculous situation exists and that our labelling laws are so profoundly inadequate as to fool Australian consumers and make a mockery of the current law. Consumers are being misled thinking they are supporting Australian farmers and getting a good quality product of "certified" status when the reality is that just because another country " tells" us it's an organic product that the powers that be then simply say " ok we believe you , you can now call it Australian Certified Organic" . I mean this is absolutely shameful and disgraceful practice as hemp seed imported from countries such as China (one of the current sources) are quite likely grown in human sewerage on contaminated land but once some money changes hands they suddenly become certified organic and are sold to the public as such. Our labelling laws

are pathetic and extremely inadequate and do nothing to promote or protect Australian industry or guarantee a quality product! The Food Regulation Standard Committee seem ignorant and ill equipped. It is about time and well overdue for these absurd and ineffective laws to be changed as the rest of the world seems to know the difference between hemp and marijuana so why does this situation even exist? If Europe and Canada and many other countries are not only consuming but also profiting in a massive way (Canada's estimated gross revenue of between \$30.75 million to \$34.17 million Last Reviewed/Revised on November 13, 2015.) then why isn't Australia taking position to do the same. Australian farmers need all the help they can get and it is mind boggling that they are being restricted by sheer ignorance and out dated irrational laws. There is indeed not a single valid reason that hemp foods should not be approved for consumption immediately to help not only Australian farmers but also consumers. In Summary 1. There is a profound ignorance surrounding the difference between marijuana and hemp 2. Food products derived from hemp seed are already being sold and consumed in Australia 3. Farmers and consumers are made a mockery of by dubiously certified products that are imported from questionable sources such as China. 4. The argument that approval for consumption would promote drug use is unfounded as the

medicinal qualities of Marijuana are known and consequently the Government are growing their own and will be issuing licenses applications for commercial growers by Oct 31 so if anyone is promoting drug use it is the government not hemp farmers ! 5. The argument about positive roadside drug testing from hemp is ridiculous as these tests are based on detecting residues from smoking rather than eating. Please approval hemp seed derived foods immediately to give consumers a chance to obtain an Australian grown quality product of known origin and Australian farmers a chance to compete in a massively increasing industry which will help improve the Australian economy. It really is a no brainer that has been tied up in red tape for far too long and makes a mockery of the law and those that regulate the law.