

**From:** [Haase, Lorraine](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED] [@health.vic.gov.au](#); [REDACTED] [@foodauthority.nsw.gov.au](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Proposed different approach [SEC=UNOFFICIAL]  
**Date:** Wednesday, 14 June 2017 1:23:19 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)  
[Nano-hydroxyapatite.msg](#)  
**Importance:** High

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Hi both

See below.

Amanda will send to network contacts. You're the only two direct media contacts I have so FYI.

Give me a call if you need to discuss.

Lorraine

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**From:** Haase, Lorraine  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 14, 2017 1:22 PM  
**To:** Hill, Amanda  
**Subject:** FW: Proposed different approach [SEC=UNOFFICIAL]  
**Importance:** High

Hi Amanda can you pass this on to the jurisdictions for information as we did previously Friends of the Earth have provided Fairfax reporter Esther Han with the report on nanoscale particles in infant formula. Esther has asked a number of questions (attached). Our statement in response is below.  
FSANZ is also preparing website content and social media in anticipation of the story.  
Hi Esther

We have provided a statement below. FSANZ is concerned that an extremely vulnerable section of the community will be unnecessarily scared by this work and we therefore would appreciate balanced reporting on this issue.

**FSANZ statement in response to nanoparticle detection in infant formula**

FSANZ scientists (along with experts who make up an expert advisory group on nanotechnology) have examined the data provided in the PowerPoint. The findings do not contain any new information to suggest that these products might pose a public health and safety risk.

FSANZ takes concerns about food safety extremely seriously. FSANZ does not believe that there is a risk to infant health and safety.

Hydroxyapatite is a mineral. It is a natural component of bone and teeth. It is a source of calcium and phosphate, and small amounts in food are likely to readily dissolve in the stomach to release these minerals which are beneficial when absorbed. Both calcium and phosphate are required to be in infant formula as nutritive substances. The presence of a substance in food (regardless of size), that is not in the additive schedule, does not mean there is a safety concern. Particles (nanoscale or otherwise) could be present in food unintentionally as a result of food processing techniques. Nanoparticles also occur naturally and can be found in foods.

The EC Scientific Committee on Consumer Safety (SCCS) opinion on hydroxyapatite considered that the information provided by applicants was insufficient to draw a conclusion on safety when used in oral cosmetic products (e.g. toothpaste, whiteners, mouth washes) at levels of up to 10%. In reaching this conclusion, the SCCS noted that the hydroxyapatite materials under consideration could not clearly be related to the data submitted.

The SCCS report is considered of limited relevance to the detection of trace amounts of hydroxyapatite in the FoE-commissioned study of infant formula.

Several of your questions relate to enforcement and compliance. FSANZ is not an enforcement agency and does not have the power under its legislation to initiate a recall.

Lorraine Haase

Manager

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