

Comments from the Victorian Departments of Health & Human Services and Economic Development, Jobs, Transport & Resources

Due date of submission – 14 July 2015

The Victorian Departments of Health & Human Services and Economic Development, Jobs, Transport & Resources (the departments) welcome the opportunity to provide comments on Application A1106.

Application A1106 seeks permission for the sale and use of food derived from corn line 4114 which has been genetically modified (GM) to provide tolerance to the herbicide glufosinate ammonium and to protect against moth and beetle pests, in particular European corn borer and western corn rootworm.

From the FSANZ assessment report it is understood that:

- Corn line 4114 has been created to offer growers broader crop choices and enhanced pest control capability.
- The major foods derived from this corn line are highly refined products such as corn syrup and corn starch. These products are unlikely to contain any novel protein or DNA so would not require GM labelling. However, any products that do contain the novel protein or DNA would be subject to the GM labelling provisions under the Food Standards Code, enabling consumers to make informed choices.
- Commercial cultivation of this corn line is likely to occur predominantly in North America. Approval for cultivation of this GM corn variety in Australia is not being sought from the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator.
- FSANZ approval is required to ensure that foods derived from corn line 4114, and products containing these foods as ingredients, may legally be sold and used in Australia and New Zealand.

The departments acknowledge that no toxicity, allergenicity, or nutrient composition concerns were raised by FSANZ in its safety assessment of this Application.

On this basis, the departments support the progression of Application A1106.