

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

Due date of submission – 26 August 2015

The Victorian Departments of Health & Human Services and Economic Development, Jobs, Transport & Resources (the departments) welcome the opportunity to provide comments on Application A1110.

Application A1110 seeks permission for the sale and use of food derived from the soybean line MON87751 that has been genetically modified (GM) to protect against moth pests including the key soybean pests bean shoot moth, sunflower looper and fall armyworm.

From the FSANZ assessment report it is understood that:

- MON87751 is intended to be grown as a field soybean. The main food product from field soybean is refined oil which is 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, such as protein isolate or textured flour, would be subject to the GM labelling requirements under the Food Standards Code, enabling consumers to make informed choices.
- Commercial cultivation of MON87751 is likely to occur predominantly in South America. There is currently no intention to seek approval to grow this GM soybean variety in Australia or New Zealand.
- Food derived from MON87751 has been approved in the US and Canada. Applications for approval in a number of other countries are currently under assessment.
- FSANZ approval is required to ensure that foods derived from soybean line MON87751, and products containing these foods as ingredients, may legally be imported, sold and used in Australia and New Zealand.

On the basis of these undertakings and that no toxicity, allergenicity, or nutrient composition concerns were raised by FSANZ in its safety assessment of this Application, the departments support the progression of Application A1110.