

Coughlan, Christine

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 7 July 2017 12:33 PM
To: submissions
Subject: FSANZ Submission Form Received (Internet) - Annina Ruegger



Code Submission

Application/Proposal Number: A1139 - GE potatoes.

Organisation Name: Annina Ruegger

Organisation Type: Individual

Representing: Annina Ruegger

Street Address:

Postal Address:

Contact Person: Annina Ruegger

Contact Number:

Email Address:

Submission Text: Dear Sir or Madam, I have recently moved to New Zealand

from Switzerland together with my partner. One of the main reasons for our move has been the high living standard in this country. For me, an important part of "high living standard" is an intact and clean environment in which every person can eat and (if they want to) produce healthy, nutritious food in their backyard. Our food should be of the highest quality possible, growing from pure, natural (maybe even self-harvested) seeds, just the way our ancestors did it. I refuse to cook for myself and my family artificial and genetically modified products made by international companies only looking to make profit. As much as I will not buy any such thing I also strongly object to bringing these kind of dangerous products to New Zealand. It is important that we keep as many varieties of fruit and vegetables from being contaminated by genetically modified products, as such contamination cannot be reversed. Once in the country, it will

be impossible to control the modified seeds from spreading, no matter what precautions might be taken. I ask that FSANZ decline the approval of application A1139 - Food derived from Potato Lines E56, F10, J3, W8, X17 & Y9. I strongly object to FSANZ approving application A1139 - Food derived from Potato Lines E56, F10, J3, W8, X17 & Y9. I ask that FSANZ decline the application. There is no comprehensive data showing evidence of unintended effects of the transgenic potato lines. It makes it mandatory for FSANZ to decline the approval. It is necessary for FSANZ to require whole genome sequencing to identify off-target mutations and also essential to ascertain the effects of unintended changes on global patterns of gene function. FSANZ must require sequencing using molecular profiling analyses or "omics"- ◦ transcriptomics — gene expression profiling, ◦ proteomics — protein composition profiling, ◦ metabolomics — profiling of

metabolites, ° miR-omics – microRNA profiling The best evidence available for effective safety assessment also requires long-term toxicity studies in established animal model systems. In the absence of these data to inform FSANZ, there can be no legal approval of A1139. The APHIS documentation shows that these GE potato lines offer no nutritional advantage, as there are non-GE potato varieties that are naturally low in the desired profiles. This demonstrates that there is no need for approval of the GE potatoes. Instead of approving this application, FSANZ could instead recommend non-GE potato varieties that have naturally-occurring low levels of compounds responsible for acrylamide production. They could also educate food businesses on storing and cooking procedures that minimize acrylamide production. The FSANZ assessment is compromised with respect to rigorous scientific procedure.

These GE potato lines cannot be approved for the human or animal consumption, without the provision of comprehensive information regarding compositional differences to their non-GE counterparts. Compositional analyses are very limited in that they can only assay for known compounds. Any novel compounds would not be detected in such analyses. FSANZ must provide evidence of safety, when eaten, in the lines that have significant variations in nutrients, or more importantly anti-nutrients. Anti nutrients such as glycoalkaloids can be highly toxic for consumers. The afore-mentioned studies have not been carried out and in their absence, there should be no legal approval of the A1139 application. Agreed, New Zealand has its issues and is certainly no paradise if one takes a closer look (eg. contaminated water etc.). But it is still much cleaner, greener and healthier than many countries and it needs to preserve this for its residents, future generations and last but

not least visitors from other countries who generate a lot of
income in any sector. Yours sincerely, Annina Ruegger