

[REDACTED]

---

**From:**

**Sent:**

Friday, 11 December 2020 9:13 AM

**To:**

**Subject:**

Submission RE: A1193: Irradiation as a phytosanitary measure for all fresh fruit and vegetables

**Categories:**

Submission regarding [A1193](#): Irradiation as a phytosanitary measure for all fresh fruit and vegetables

In relation to the above application from the Queensland Government I am shocked that FSANZ would change the date for consultation and not allow proper public scrutiny and disclosure to ensure accountability in this process. FSANZ exists to uphold the standards of our food not undermine it! Consumers deserve a say in what is done to their food before it reaches their plate. They also deserve to have labelling which fully discloses irradiation and also chemical use so consumers can make informed choices. Please extend this deadline to allow full public consultation!

This application from the QLD government allowing for radiation of all fresh fruit and vegetables will potentially open the way for mandatory radiation of our food. This will result in the removal of more healthy choices for the consumer being organic, and chemical free locally grown produce from small farms.

As a parent, I have grave concerns about the quality of food available to feed my family. I make informed choices to avoid buying imported fresh produce wherever possible to avoid giving irradiated food to my family. If the QLD government were to be successful in its bid to have all fresh produce irradiated this would no longer be a clear choice for informed consumers.

Irradiation has been shown to destroy several vitamins including vitamin C and vitamin A. It destroys proteins, essential fatty acids and other nutrients in food and has been linked to several alarming health problems including, but not limited to nutritional deficiencies, immune system disorders, abnormal lymph cells, and genetic damage. Until FSANZ can be assured otherwise, it should be protecting consumers from the potentially very harmful effects of irradiation.

Furthermore, I am also concerned that irradiation is a tool used to further the interests of large agri-business. Such processes only support mass production systems that diminish the power of local food producers and destroy local markets. Blanket legislation will destroy more farmers, and further erode consumer health choices.

For the above reasons I call on Food Standards Australia and New Zealand to reject application [A1193](#) and to also rescind all previous irradiation approvals. I look forward to hearing your response to my concerns.

[REDACTED]