

NOSB Seeks Input on Petitions to Remove Two Forms of Lecithin from the National List

USDA's National Organic Standards Board (NOSB) has received petitions to remove two forms of lecithin from the National List of Allowed and Prohibited Substances.

Although a recommendation on these petitions to remove these forms of lecithin is not expected until the Spring 2009 NOSB meeting, the NOSB is seeking written comment on the suitability of organic forms of lecithin in advance of and during the November NOSB Meeting. (For information on the NOSB meeting, see Today's News.) The NOSB is soliciting specific technical input from end-users regarding the suitability of the organic forms of lecithin to replace the current uses of synthetic bleached lecithin and liquid forms of unbleached lecithin in organic products.

Comments may be submitted in writing to Ms. Valerie Frances, Executive Director, NOSB, USDA-AMS-TMD-NOP, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Room 4008-S, Ag Stop 0268, Washington, DC 20250-0268, or via the internet at www.regulations.gov until November 3, 2008. The comments should identify Docket Number AMS-AMS-08-0083. All comments, whether submitted by mail or the internet, will be available for viewing on the regulations.gov website.

Additional comments may be submitted in writing on the suitability of organic forms of lecithin after the fall NOSB meeting to Ms. Valerie Frances, Executive Director, NOSB, USDA-AMS-TMD-NOP, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Room 4008-S, Ag Stop 0268, Washington, DC 20250-0268, or via email to Valerie.frances@usda.gov, by facsimile to (202) 205-7808. These additional comments will be posted to the website at www.ams.usda.gov/nop. For more information, contact Valerie Frances, Executive Director, NOSB, NOP, (202) 720-3252, or visit the NOP home page at www.ams.usda.gov/nop. More information on providing comments will be provided in advance of the spring 2009 meeting as well.