



May 20, 2008

Stephen F. Sundlof, DVM., PhD
Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition
5100 Paint Branch Parkway (HFS-001)
College Park, MD 20740-3835

Dear Dr. Sundlof:

As you are aware the mission of the Conference for Food Protection (CFP/Conference) is to promote food safety through collaboration and partnership among federal, state and local regulatory agencies, the food industry, academia, and consumer groups.

On April 11-16, 2008, the Conference met in San Antonio, Texas. The three Councils deliberated on a total of 114 issues. Of these, the Assembly of State Delegates (a group of representatives from 49 States, the District of Columbia, and one territory) accepted 111. Several of these accepted issues deal directly with proposed changes to the Food Code.

As described in the Conference Procedures and addressed in our MOU with FDA, the Conference Chair must convey any recommendations related to the Food Code to the FDA within 45 days of the Conference meeting, and by agreement, request written response from the FDA to those recommendations within 60 days of receipt. In addition to specific Food Code issues, we are including several other issues that recommend FDA's involvement.

The attachment to this letter for FDA review and comment consists of the following parts:

- Part 1: Conference recommendations for changes to the FDA Food Code. This is a listing of Conference recommendations for language changes to the Food Code, including the Food Code annexes.
- Part 2: Other Conference recommendations that may directly or indirectly affect future versions of the Food Code or that suggest FDA's involvement in some way (e.g., through committees, coordination with other agencies and organizations, or other relevant issues).

CFP letter to FDA

May 20, 2008

Page 2

The CFP Executive Board is planning to meet in Orlando, FL on August 26-27, 2008. We will be reviewing the recommendations of the Conference and FDA's response to the recommendations, as well as other pertinent issues. We would welcome any opportunity that you or other members of your staff might have to meet and talk with the Executive Board at that time. In the interim, please contact me or the FDA CFP Executive Board member, Kevin Smith, if you have any inquiries to further clarify any of the aforementioned recommendations.

FDA's support of and cooperation with the Conference through the years has resulted in an improved regulatory process and increased efforts toward food safety. The CFP Executive Board looks forward to continuing this same collaboration and partnership with FDA in the coming months and years. With such a liaison, we expect to continue the great progress of the past.

Sincerely,



David Gifford, Chair
Conference for Food Protection
dave.gifford@doh.wa.gov

ATTACHMENT

c: Kevin Smith, Director
FDA, Retail Food and Cooperative Programs Coordination Staff

Executive Board, CFP

Part 1: Recommendations related to the FDA Food Code and Food Code Annexes

Issue Number	Issue Title
2008-I-005	Legal authority to issue permits and to adopt regulations
2008-I-013	Person in Charge (PIC) Designation – Annex 3 clarification
2008-I-014	Interstate shipment of shellfish (letter to FDA – not code specific)
2008-I-015	Standardized Labeling of Foods that Need Refrigeration
2008-I-019	Terminology, Definitions and Process for Food Code Item Criticality
2008-I-121	Incorporation of new FDA three tier criticality ratings into Food Code
2008-I-022	Re-designation of Food Code Provisions – Criticality Definitions
2008-I-023	Preset tableware clarification
2008 III-002	Change FDA Food Code to Better Define Tenderization
2008 III-006	Food Allergy info for restaurant & food service managers & employees
2008 III-010	Harmonizing the Food Code with EPA Sanitizer Provisions
2008 III-011	Quaternary Ammonium Compounds & Harmonization with EPA Practice
2008 III-016	Post-sanitizing, Potable Water Rinse for Commercial Dishwashers
2008 III-017	Modification of Time as a Public Health Control
2008 III-019	Cooling and reheating of partially cooked meat and poultry products
2008 III-022	Time/Temperature Control for Safety for Cut Leafy Greens

Part 2: Recommendations with direct or indirect implications to FDA

Issue Number	Issue Title
2008-I-002	Plan Review for Food Establishments 2008 (re-establish committee)
2008-I-008	Request Approval of the TCS Committee's Training Document
2008-I-027	FDA provide on-going interpretations to Regulatory & Industry
2008-II-042	Instructions for Marking the Food Establishment Report Form
2008-II-044	Standard No. 5: FBI and food Security Preparedness and Response
2008-II-045	Program Standard No. 1: Regulatory Foundation
2008-II-046	Proposed Changes the Program Standards Definitions
2008-II-049	Field Training Manual for Regulatory Retail Food Safety Inspection Officers
2008-II-050	Clarifying Language for Step 2, Standard 2, FDA Program Standards (2007)
2008-II-051	Revision to Appendix B-1, Standard 2, FDA Program Standards (2007)
2008-II-053	Education Provision for Voluntary Retail Food Regulatory Program Standard
2008-II-054	FDA Evaluation of State Retail Food Safety Regulatory Programs
2008-II-055	Report: Interdisciplinary Foodborne Illness Training Committee
2008 III-003	Guidelines on Tenderized Beef for Retail and Food Service Establishments
2008 III-005	Advice to Food-Allergic Individuals from Professional Medical Societies
2008 III-007	Food Allergy information for state/local regulatory officials
2008 III-021	Storage Temperature of Certain Natural Cheeses



the
Conference
for FOOD
PROTECTION

May 21, 2008

Julie L. Gerberding, MD, MPH
Director
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
1600 Clifton Road
Atlanta, Georgia 30333

Dear Dr. Gerberding,

As you are aware, the mission of the Conference for Food Protection (CFP/Conference) is to promote food safety through collaboration and partnership among federal, State and local regulatory agencies, the food industry, academia and consumer groups.

On April 11-16, 2008, the Conference met in San Antonio, Texas. The three Councils deliberated on a total of 114 issues. Of these, the Assembly of State Delegates (a group of representatives from 49 States, the District of Columbia and one territory) accepted 111. Four of these issue recommendations involved CDC.

2008-II-055 Report: Interdisciplinary Foodborne Illness Training Committee

The Conference recommends that foodborne illness training materials be collected on behalf of the Conference for Food Protection and housed as a resource at the offices of the FDA, CDC, or a mutually agreed upon location to be determined.

2008-II-057 National Voluntary Environmental Assessment Information System (NVEAIS)

The Conference recommends the formation of a committee composed of interested stakeholders to consult with CDC regarding the establishment of a National Voluntary Environmental Assessment Information System (NVEAIS). The committee charges include: 1) review the concept of a NVEAIS as proposed in the CDC NVEAIS Background Paper; and 2) determine how a NVEAIS could be best supported by the Conference for Food Protection.

2008-II-059 CB 2 – CFP Constitution – Memorandum of Understanding between CFP and CDC

The Conference recommends adoption of the Memorandum of Understanding with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

CFP letter to CDC
May 21, 2008
Page 2

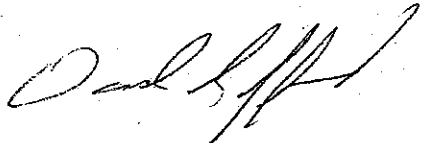
2008-III-008 Report – Barrier Hazards Committee

The Conference recommends that FDA, USDA and CDC be asked to conduct further research into the hazards of using latex gloves in food service and to react accordingly.

The CFP Executive Board is planning to meet in Orlando, Florida on August 26-27, 2008. We will be reviewing the recommendations of the Conference and CDC's response to the recommendations, as well as other pertinent issues. We would welcome any opportunity that you or other members of your staff might have to meet and talk with the Executive Board at that time. In the interim, please contact me or the CDC executive Board member, Charles Otto, if you have any inquiries or to further clarify any of the aforementioned recommendations.

CDC's support of and cooperation with the Conference results in improved regulatory processes and increased efforts toward food safety. The CFP Executive Board looks forward to continuing this same collaboration and partnership with CDC for many years.

Sincerely,



David Gifford, Chair
Conference for Food Protection
dave.gifford@doh.wa.gov

c: Charles Otto
CDC/Environmental Health Service



May 20, 2008

Alfred Almanza, Administrator
Food Safety and Inspection Service
United States Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Room 331-E JLW Bldg.
Washington D.C. 20250-3700

Dear Mr. Almanza:

As you are aware, the mission of the Conference for Food Protection (CFP/Conference) is to promote food safety through collaboration and partnership among federal, State, and local regulatory agencies, the food industry, academia and consumer groups.

On April 11-16, 2008, the Conference met in San Antonio, Texas. The three Councils deliberated on a total of 114 issues. Of these, the Assembly of State Delegates (a group of representatives from 49 states, the District of Columbia and one territory) accepted 111. One of these issue recommendations involved areas under USDA authority.

As described in the Conference Procedures and addressed in our MOU with USDA, the Conference Chair must convey any recommendations related to the USDA within 45 days of the Conference meeting, and by agreement, request written response from the USDA to those recommendations within 60 days of receipt.

The following is the aforementioned issue with a brief recommendation for your consideration:

2008-III-008 Barrier Hazards Committee

CFP request that USDA, along with CDC and FDA, conduct further research into the hazards of using latex gloves in food service and react appropriately.

The CFP Executive Board is planning to meet in Orlando, Florida on August 26-27, 2008. We will be reviewing the recommendations of the Conference and USDA's response to this recommendation, as well as other pertinent issues. We would welcome any opportunity that you or other members of your staff might have to meet and talk with the Executive Board at that time. In the interim, please contact me or the USDA CFP Executive Board member, Amelia Sharar, if you have any inquiries or to further clarify any of the aforementioned recommendations.

CFP letter to USDA

May 20, 2008

Page 2

USDA's support of and cooperation with the Conference results in both improved regulatory processes and increased efforts toward food safety. The CFP Executive Board looks forward to continuing this same collaboration and partnership with USDA for many years. With such a liaison, we expect to continue great progress.

Sincerely,



David Gifford, Chair
Conference for Food Protection
dave.gifford@doh.wa.gov

c: Amelia Sharar, Ph.D.
USDA/FSIS, OPPD

Philip Derfler
USDA/FSIS, OPPD

CFP Executive Board