

**FORMAL RECOMMENDATION BY THE
NATIONAL ORGANIC STANDARDS BOARD (NOSB)
TO THE NATIONAL ORGANIC PROGRAM (NOP)**

Date: November 30, 2007

Subject: Cellulose for re-listing on § 205.605b

Chair: Andrea Caroe
(sign)

Recommendation

The NOSB hereby recommends to the NOP the following:

Rulemaking Action: XXX

Guidance Statement: _____

Other: _____

Statement of the Recommendation (including Recount of Vote):

The Board Recommends the continuation of Cellulose on the National List under section 205.605b Nonagricultural (nonorganic) substances allowed as ingredients in or on processed products labeled as “organic” or “made with organic (specified ingredients or food group(s)).”

Motion: Julie Weisman

Second: Tina Ellor

Board Vote: Yes – 15 No – 0 Abstain - 0 Absent - 0

Rationale Supporting Recommendation (including consistency with OFPA and NOP):

Demonstrated continued use in handling. Organic substitute unavailable at this time.

Response by the NOP:

National Organic Standards Board

Final Recommendation for Sunset Review of Materials on § 205.605b

November 30, 2007

I. List: 205.605 Nonagricultural (nonorganic) substances allowed as ingredients in or on processed products labeled as “organic” or “made with organic (specified ingredients or food groups.”

(b) Synthetics allowed

II. Committee Summary:

The Federal register notice of the sunset of these materials had elicited no public comments by early October when this committee was due to give its recommendation on the continued use of Cellulose.

Review of the original TAP did not reveal unacceptable risks to the environment, human or animal health as a result of the use or manufacture of these materials. There is no new information contradicting the original TAP review which was the basis for the previous NOSB decision to list this substance.

Even though this material appeared not to present a risk to the environment, the sunset process requires public comment to support the continuation of this regulation. For this reason the initial recommendation of the Handling Committee in early October for the re-listing of these materials failed.

It should be noted that this material had been erroneously been included in a group of materials that had been due to sunset in October 2007. At it's November 2005 meeting in Washington, DC, the NOSB voted to re-list this material.

In addition, in the eight weeks prior to the Board meeting, numerous comments have been received requesting that this materials be re-listed and there have been no comments received opposing it's continued use in organic handling.

Motion for the Handling Committee to reconsider it's earlier vote was made and seconded.

Deleted: ¶

III. Board Recommendation(s):

The Board recommends the re-listing of the following substances in this use category as published in the final rule:

Cellulose

Moved: Julie Weisman

Second: Tina Ellor

Yes: 15 No: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 0