



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY

Directorate E – Food and Feed Safety, Innovation
E2 – Food processing technologies and novel foods

Brussels.
SANTE E2/ [redacted] (2020) 8844661

Dear [redacted]

Subject: Comments on the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) lowering tolerable weekly intake (TWI) for certain PFAS substances.

Ms Gallina requested me to reply to your letter dated 10 November 2020 (Ares (2020) 7877483) in which you express concerns about the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) opinion on the risks to human health related to the presence of perfluoroalkylated (PFAS) substances in food and on possible risk management measures, which would be taken on the basis of this opinion.

For comments on the EFSA opinion on PFAS substances in food, I would like to refer you to the Authority itself. As regards any comments on the drinking water legislation, I would like to refer you to DG Environment, which is responsible for it.

DG SANTE has now initiated the discussions with the Member States on possible regulatory measures on PFAS substances in food on the basis of the risk assessment included in the EFSA opinion, with a view of improving consumer health protection.

As regards the possible establishment of Maximum Levels (MLs), I would like to inform you that such MLs are set under Regulation (EC) 1881/2006 on the basis of Council Regulation (EEC) No 315/93 at levels which are as low as can reasonably be achieved by following good practices. I can reassure you that, for this, both the occurrence data in food and the analytical feasibility are taken into account.

[redacted]
Europe and MEA -3M
[redacted]

As the discussions on possible regulatory measures for food are still at an early stage, it would be premature to organize a meeting to discuss such measures. However, once a concrete proposal is available, at a more advanced stage of the discussion, all relevant stakeholders will be consulted. In the meanwhile you can provide us with any information which you consider useful and we will share it with the Member States to feed into the ongoing discussion.

Yours sincerely,

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