

FEB 07 2008



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Archive
cc: Sopko
Kyle C.
J Royce
P Jung

January 31, 2008

The Honorable John D. Dingell
U. S. House of Representatives
2125 Rayburn House Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20515-2215

The Honorable Bart Stupak
U.S. House of Representatives
2352 Rayburn House Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20515-2201

Re: Committee on Energy and Commerce Questions dated January 17, 2008

Dear Congressmen Dingell and Stupak:

I am responding on behalf of Mr. Stephen Golsby, President of Mead Johnson & Company, to your letter of January 17, 2008. Mead Johnson wants to assure you of our commitment to the most stringent manufacturing, packaging and quality assurance requirements. Mead Johnson has been feeding babies for nearly 100 years and is trusted by health care professionals and consumers throughout the world. We are committed to providing safe and nutritious products to our consumers.

Mead Johnson is pleased to provide the following information in response to your questions. For ease in reading, we have included your original questions.

1. Does your company use BPA in the lining of metal cans used to hold liquid infant formula? Please provide the specific names of which brands do or do not use BPA in their can lining.

All of our liquid infant formulas that are packaged in metal cans use epoxy resin can lining. The brand names of the formulas available in liquid form and packaged in metal cans are listed in Attachment A to this letter. Let us be clear that BPA is not used in the manufacture of infant formula. However, BPA is a component in the manufacture of the epoxy resins used as coatings to line the inside surfaces of metal cans such as those used by Mead Johnson and other manufacturers of liquid formula. The lining helps ensure the safety of the products in the cans. The lining prevents the food or beverage from coming into contact with the metal, which without the lining could result in damage to both the container and its contents. For example, without the lining, elements in the metal could transfer into the food or beverage, and the potency of the



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nutrients in the food or beverage could be reduced, or rust could compromise the ability of the can to protect its contents.

These linings continue to be used safely as they have for over 50 years. It is our understanding that virtually all liquid food and beverage products sold in metal cans in the U.S. are lined with these epoxy coatings. The body of science reflects the fact that the trace amounts of BPA in the linings are generally undetectable and well below any level that would present a risk to human health including infants. The can lining used for our liquid infant formula meets all criteria established by regulatory agencies, including the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the European Food Safety Authority. There is currently no known alternative material that provides the same assurance of safety of a liquid food or beverage packaged in a metal can.

2. Have you ever tested your infant formula for BPA?

We do not test our finished products for BPA. Regulatory agencies in the U.S. and elsewhere have reviewed the science relating to various materials used to package foods and beverages, including the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the European Food Safety Authority. They adopted requirements for the purpose of protecting the foods and beverages both from impurities outside the container and from any potentially harmful materials of the container. Other agencies have also studied the science and concluded that no further requirements are needed for the continued safety of consumers, including government agencies in Japan and the United Kingdom.

We rely on those requirements, and the science supporting them for our continued assurance of the safety of our formulas packaged in lined metal cans. We therefore do not conduct additional testing of the contents of the cans for BPA. We would be pleased to share some of the notable scientific support for the safety of coatings if the Committee determines that it would like to review such information. We also obtain certifications from our suppliers that their cans and lining materials meet all regulatory requirements and are safe for use. We do not know the methodology and results used by the manufacturers of metal cans to conduct tests on their cans and linings for BPA.

3. If you did test your infant formula for BPA, what was the specific methodology used (e.g., gas chromatography-mass spectrometry, liquid chromatography-mass spectrometry, high performance liquid chromatography, or enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay, etc.) and what was the detection limit for the assay used?

Not applicable.

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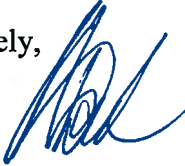
4. If you tested your infant formula for BPA, what were the specific results for each test given the methodology used?

Not applicable.

We would be pleased to have representatives of Mead Johnson & Company meet with your staff to provide additional information.

We are sending copies of this letter by fax to your staff on January 31, 2008, and we are placing the original in the U.S. Mail to you on this same date.

Sincerely,



Dirk Hondmann, Ph.D.
Senior Vice President, Global Research & Development

Attachment

cc: The Honorable Joe Barton
U.S. House of Representatives
2109 Rayburn House Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20515-4306

The Honorable John Shimkus
U.S. House of Representatives
2452 Rayburn House Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20515-1319

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Attachment A

Brands

Enfamil LIPIL®
ProSobee®
LactoFree®
Nutramigen®
EnfaCare®
Enfamil A.R.®
Next Step®