



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health Service

Food and Drug Administration
Washington DC 20204

JUL 10 2001

Mae Lepak
2708 Henrietta Street
Stevens Point, Wisconsin 54481

Dear Mae Lepak:

Your letter to the FDA Commissioner about *trans* fatty acids has been forwarded to me for response.

FDA shares your concerns about *trans* fatty acids in foods. In response to our concerns, FDA published a proposed rule in the Federal Register on November 17, 1999 that would require that the amount of *trans* fatty acids in a food be included in the nutrition label. In addition, FDA proposed that wherever saturated fat limits are placed on nutrient content claims, health claims, or disclosure and disqualifying levels, the amount of *trans* fatty acids be limited as well.

FDA has received over 1650 letters in response to the proposal on *trans* fatty acids. The agency will address the issues raised in these letters in a final rule, which we intend to publish in the Federal Register before the end of this year.

Your letter has been forwarded to the FDA's Dockets Management Branch for inclusion in the public record on *trans* fatty acids. Thank you for taking the time to share your views with us.

Sincerely yours,

Susan Thompson

Susan Thompson, Ph.D.
Nutrition Labeling and Programs Team
Division of Nutrition Science and Policy
Office of Nutritional Products, Labeling
and Dietary Supplements
Center for Food Safety
and Applied Nutrition

94P-0036

LET 19