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December 15, 2006

Docket Clerk  
FSIS Docket Room  
USDA—FSIS  
300 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Room 102 Cotton Annex  
Washington, DC 20250

Re: FSIS Docket Number 2006-0040--Product Labeling: Definition of the term "Natural"

Dear Sir or Madame:

On behalf of my client, Danisco USA Inc., I am writing to request FSIS to formally extend the comment period for the above referenced docket (Docket No. FSIS 2006-0040) for a period of at least 60 days beyond the present comment deadline of January 11, 2007.

The subject matter of the docket, labeling of the term "natural", requires significantly more time to prepare thoughtful comments than the initial time period provided in the docket's Federal Register notice. Very little notice was provided prior to the public meeting held this week on the topic. Interested parties lost time spent in preparing comments for the meeting and to rearrange schedules to attend the meeting. Information presented at the meeting, both from FSIS and the public, now needs to be taken into consideration in formulating comments on the docket. Time off for the upcoming holidays, as well as necessary year ending and year beginning activities provide inadequate time to devote to proper contemplation and preparation of comments by the present January 11 deadline. Also, several comments at the public meeting urged FSIS to grant an additional 60 days for comments because of the many issues that are interrelated in this matter.

In the interest of allowing sufficient time for public consideration and preparation of comments on this important topic, we urge you to expeditiously consider this request and to promptly issue at least a 60 day extension of the comment period. Thank you for your consideration to this request.

Sincerely,



Robert H. Sindt