



JAN 27 2001

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Ruth Armstrong
302 South Street
Jonesville, Michigan 49250

Re: Docket No. 01P-0034/CP 1

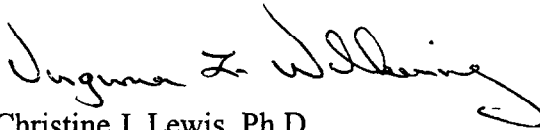
Dear Ms. Armstrong:

This letter is in response to your citizen petition, dated January 19, 2001, requesting that the Food and Drug Administration require the declaration of the presence of methylcellulose and carrageenan in restaurant foods on the menus. You also requested that these additives be identified in foods by their names, "methylcellulose" and "carrageenan," rather than by terms such as "modified vegetable gum" or "carbohydrate gum."

In accordance with 21 CFR §10.30(e)(2), this letter is to advise you that we have not been able to reach a decision on your petition within the first 180 days of its receipt because of other Agency priorities and the limited availability of resources. We hope to be able to review your petition and respond to your request in the near future.

Should you have additional questions, do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely yours,


for Christine J. Lewis, Ph.D.
Director
Office of Nutritional Products, Labeling
and Dietary Supplements
Center for Food Safety
and Applied Nutrition

01P-0034

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