



AMERICAN FEED INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION

June 19, 2003

Dockets Management Branch
(HFA-305)
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

0835 '03 JUN 19 P2:09

Re: **REQUEST FOR EXTENTION OF COMMENT PERIOD –**
Docket No. 93P-0174 (Liquid And Free Choice Medicated
Animal Feed)

Dear Food and Drug Administration:

The American Feed Industry Association (AFIA) respectfully requests that the comment period on the proposed rule on liquid and free choice medicated feeds published in the Federal Register for May 28, 2003 be extended by sixty (60) days, until October 27, 2003.

AFIA and its members have a long standing interest in the manufacture and regulation of liquid medicated feeds. As detailed in the preamble to the proposed rule, the current rulemaking proceeding resulted from AFIA's April 1993 citizen petition. Since then, there have been several rounds of correspondence between AFIA and the agency, leading to the proposed rule as published on May 28.

AFIA will be holding its annual Liquid Feed Symposium on September 8-10, 2003 in Indianapolis. This long-standing, annual event is the principal meeting of liquid feed manufacturers, suppliers to the liquid feed industry, technical and regulatory experts, and others associated with the U.S. liquid feed industry. Given the importance of this meeting to the industry, a representative of FDA's Center for Veterinary Medicine generally attends to provide perspective on FDA regulatory issues. This year's Liquid Feed Symposium will provide an opportunity for industry leaders to meet and discuss FDA's proposed rule. This industry input will enable AFIA to submit meaningful comments to the agency on the proposed rule.

As a decade has elapsed since AFIA first petitioned FDA on this matter, AFIA believes that this request for an extension of the comment period is not unreasonable. In addition, we note that the proposed regulatory changes were characterized by FDA as clarifying in nature; they are not needed to respond to a statutory or regulatory deadline or other pressing situation.

93P-0174

EXT 1

Letter to Dockets Management Branch

June 19, 2003

Page 2

AFIA is the national, not-for-profit trade association representing the animal feed, feed ingredient, and related industries. AFIA also represents the interests of over 20 state and regional animal feed associations.

AFIA appreciates the agency's attention to this request.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Richard Sellers" with a stylized flourish at the end.

Richard Sellers

Vice President – Feed Control and Nutrition

RS:jdc

cc: Stephen F. Sundlof, D.V.M., Ph.D.
Dr. Dragan Momcilovic