

To: Interested Parties
(Interested Parties list attached)

9 May 2007

Reference: LSB/383

Consultation on new Statutory Instrument (SI) to update The Spreadable Fats (Marketing Standards) (England) Regulations 1999, to include reference to Commission Regulation (EC) 445/2007, setting out additional rules for declaring fat content on spreadable fats and use of the word 'butter'.

I am writing to inform you that European Commission Regulation 577/97 and its amendments have been codified. The consolidated Commission Regulation (EC) 445/2007 will replace the existing Commission Regulation (EC) 577/97 (as amended) and is identical in terms of its requirements. This new Regulation was published in the Official Journal of the European Communities on 24 April 2007 and will come into force on 14 May.

Commission Regulation (EC) 577/97 is enforced in England by Statutory Instrument (SI) 1999 No. 2457. New domestic legislation will need to be brought in to update references in the existing SI to the new Commission Regulation (EC) 445/2007. This amending legislation will simply update references in the existing SI from Regulation 577/97 to the new consolidated Commission Regulation and will not result in any substantive change. Therefore the Agency does not intend to hold a full formal consultation on the amending SI or to produce a Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA). If, however, you believe that this amendment will result in a significant change, requiring a full consultation or RIA, we would welcome your comments and evidence by 23 May.

Yours faithfully,

Paul Nunn
Labelling, Standards and Allergy Division

Interested parties

ARLA Foods

BCCCA

BRC

Campden and Chorleywood Food RA

Dairy Council

Dairy Crest

Dairy UK

Duchy Originals

FDF

Leatherhead Food RA

Provision Trade Federation

The Village Bakery

Unilever