



3131 Woodcreek Drive
Downers Grove, IL 60515
(630) 512-1001
01 SEP 10 PM 2:37

Refrigerated Prepared Foods

September 7, 2001

FSIS Docket #97-013P
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Food Safety and Inspection Service
Room 102, Cotton Annex
300 12 St., SW
Washington, DC 20250-3700

2708

97-013P-2708
97-013P
R.B. Tompkin

RE: FSIS Docket No. 97-013P: *Performance Standards for the Production of Processed Meat and Poultry Products*

To whom it may concern:

This letter is in response the proposed rule: 9 CFR Parts 301, 303, et al, published in the Federal Register on February 27, 2001. The comments are being submitted on behalf of ConAgra Foods and ConAgra Refrigerated Prepared Foods.

ConAgra Refrigerated Prepared Foods is a leading producer and marketer of fresh and processed meats and meat alternatives under an array of brands including Armour, Butterball, Cook's, Decker, Eckrich, Healthy Choice, Hebrew National, Lightlife and Swift Premium. ConAgra Refrigerated Prepared Foods is part of ConAgra Foods, Inc., North America's largest foodservice manufacturer and second largest retail food supplier, with annual sales in excess of \$27 billion.

Our response consists of several attachments including:

Listeria monocytogenes

- Response of ConAgra Foods to the Proposed Rule for *Listeria* Testing.
- Control of *Listeria monocytogenes* in the Food Processing Environment by R. B. Tompkin

Chilling requirements (stabilization)

- Notes used by R. B. Tompkin to comment on the chilling requirements for cooked meat and poultry products: public meeting, Washington, DC, May 9, 2001
- Response of ConAgra Foods to the rule on chilling and reheating cooked meat and poultry products

Cooking requirements (lethality)

- Response of ConAgra Foods to the rule on cooking meat and poultry products

Fermented products

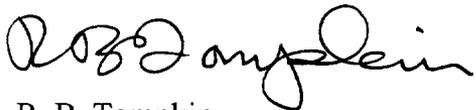
- Response of ConAgra Foods to the proposed lethality performance standard for fermented products

Miscellaneous

- Response of ConAgra Foods to certain questions and concepts posed in the proposed rule

We respectfully request that consideration be given to these comments.

Yours truly,



R. B. Tompkin
Vice President, Product Safety
ConAgra Refrigerated Prepared Foods
Downers Grove, IL 60515

Phone 630-512-1031

FAX 630-512-1124

Email: btompkin@crfc.com