

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2014-2015, 2/3 June 2014

Ref No: SQ14-000591

OUTCOME: 1 – Population Health

Topic: Migration of nanomaterials from packaging into food

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Siewert, Rachel

Question:

In responding to an Estimates question on notice (SQ14-000093) regarding the migration of nanomaterials from packaging into food, FSANZ refers to one study of titanium nitride which concluded that as no titanium migrated from the packaging there was no exposure via food, and as such no health concern. Is it the view of FSANZ that this study is sufficient to conclude that no nanomaterials in food packaging migrate into food products?

Answer:

No. Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ) assesses each study on a case-by-case basis. FSANZ maintains an active review of the literature on nanotechnology in relation to food safety and the migration of chemicals from packaging into food and assesses each study on its own merits in order to ascertain whether it builds the evidence base.