

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**HEALTH PORTFOLIO**

**Budget Estimates 2017–2018, 29 & 30 May 2017**

**Ref No:** SQ17-000747

**OUTCOME:** 2 – Health Access and Support Services

**Topic:** Nanomaterials in food

**Type of Question:** Written Question on Notice

**Senator:** Janet Rice

**Question:**

In its online report on its review of the January 2017 study, FSANZ refers to the ToxConsult review FSANZ commissioned which was published last year. FSANZ summarises the reports, saying that “none of the nanotechnologies described are of health concern.” This included nano-titanium dioxide. The review’s actual conclusion is: “overall this review concludes there is insufficient, directly relevant information available to confidently support a contemporary risk assessment of nano-TiO<sub>2</sub> in food.”

- (a) What is the basis for FSANZ concluding – unequivocally – that the review of nano titanium dioxide raised no health concerns?
- (b) Where in the ToxConsult report is this conclusion made?
- (c) Does FSANZ see the conclusion from ToxConsult and the summary conclusion of FSANZ as being contradictory?

**Answer:**

- (a) Subsequent to the ToxConsult review, FSANZ requested a peer review of the report by an independent scientist. The peer reviewer concurred with ToxConsult report that none of the nanotechnologies described in the reports are of health concern. We maintain that this is consistent with the overall conclusions of the ToxConsult report.
- (b) The conclusion was made in the report of the independent peer reviewer.
- (c) No.