

Note: Subcommittee notes may include preliminary discussions regarding substances considered for addition to or removal from the National List. They do not represent official National Organic Program (NOP) policy or regulations. Please see the NOP website for official NOP policy, regulations, and status of substances used in organic production and handling.

**National Organic Standards Board (NOSB)
Handling Subcommittee (HS) Meeting Notes
Tuesday, January 3, 2017 1:00 pm ET**

Present: Lisa de Lima (LD), Chair; Harold Austin (HA); Zea Sonnabend (ZS); Ashley Swaffar (AS); Tom Chapman (TC); Scott Rice, Vice Chair (SR); Joelle Mosso (JM) - observer; A-dae Briones (ARB) - observer; Tracy Favre (TF) - observer; Steve Ela (SA) - observer, Harriet Behar (HB) - observer; Asa Bradman (AB)

Absent: Jean Richardson (JR)

Staff: Michelle Arsenault (MA); Jessica Walden (JW)

Work Agenda

Petitioned Substances						
Substance	National List §	Contact	TR reqst?	Notes*	Scheduled, Discussed, Voted	Meeting
Sodium dodecylbenzene sulfonate (SDBS)	205.605(b)	HA/new member/AS	Y	Petition sent to HS on 11 02 15. Response/request for TR due 01 04 16. Petition found suff 12 01 15. No new TR will be requested. Referred back to HS at Apr 2016 NOSB meeting. TR request sent 05 18 16. TR in development - Expected late Dec 2016/early Jan	Jan 3,	Spr 2017?
Sodium Chlorite for the generation of chlorine dioxide gas Petition, Addendum	205.605	JR/SR	N	Petition for chlorine dioxide dry gas sent to HS on 12 02 15. Response/request for TR due 02 02 16. HS sent request 03 17 16 for additional info from petitioner. Sodium chlorite addendum received 05 05 16. Suff due 07 05 16. Petition found sufficient 06 07 16. Sent back to Subcomm at fall 2016 meeting		Spr 2017?
L-Methionine	205.605	TF/AS	N	Petition sent to HS on 08 25 16. Response/request for TR due 10 24 16. Petition found suff 10 04 16. No new TR	Jan 17	Spr 2017
Short DNA Tracers	205.605	LD	N	Petition sent to HS on 10 21 16. Response/request for TR due 01 04 17. Petition found sufficient. No TR request	Jan 3	Spr 2017

2019 Sunsets §205.605(a), §205.605(b) and 205.606

Summary: Spr 2017 Complete Review: Fall 2017

Name	National List §	Contact	TAP/TR	Notes	Scheduled, Discussed	Review Meeting
Attapulgit	205.605(a)	JR/JM	N		Jan 17	Spr 2017
Bentonite	205.605(a)	JR/JM	N		Jan 17	"
Diatomaceous earth	205.605(a)	JR/JM	N		Jan 17	"
Nitrogen	205.605(a)	LD	N		Dec 6	"
Sodium carbonate	205.605(a)	LD	N		Dec 6	"
Acidified sodium chlorite	205.605(b)	AS	N		Dec 20	"
Calcium hypochlorite	205.605(b)	AS	N		Dec 20	"
Carbon dioxide	205.605(b)	LD	N		Dec 6	"
Chlorine dioxide	205.605(b)	AS	N		Dec 20	"
Magnesium chloride	205.605(b)	JR/LD	Y	TR in development; expected December 2016. TR sent to HS 12 12 16. Suff due 02 14 17	Jan 17	"
Potassium acid tartrate	205.605(b)	JR/SE	Y	TR in development; expected December 2016	Jan 17	"
Sodium hypochlorite	205.605(b)	AS	N		Dec 20	"
Sodium phosphates	205.605(b)	JR/HA	2016	Phosphates - TR Request rec'd 7/28/15; TR sent to HS on 2/10/2016; TR found sufficient on 3/15/2016	Jan 17	"
Casings	205.606	JR/AB	N		Jan 17	"
Konjac flour	205.606	SR	N		Jan 17	"
Pectin (non-amidated forms only)	205.606	TC	N		Jan 3	"

Other projects			
Name	Contact	Notes*	Meeting
Packaging substances used in organic food handling - including BPA	ZS/LD/AB	Submitted briefing paper to NOP 01 12 14. Response memo from NOP sent to HS 11 19 14. TR in development, expected mid-Sep - delayed. TR received 9/30/16. In review by the program. TR sent to HS 10 19 16. TR sufficiency due 12 20 16. TR found insufficient 12 20 16.	Disc Doc Spr 2017
Xanthan Gum Reclassification	ZS	TR in development. TR request send to NOP 10 26 15. TR expected May 2016. TR sent to HS 04 22 16. Response due 06 21 16. Review scheduled Jun 7. TR found sufficient 06 07 16. HS will not go forth with reclassification - Waiting for NOP re: how to finalize. NOP determined that a verbal update at the fall 2016 meeting would suffice. HS will submit written update at fall meeting. Pending MS review	TBD
Tocopherols Reclassification	TF/TC	Review scheduled 9/6/16. Voted 09 06 16. Sent back to Subcomm at fall 2016 meeting. Scheduled for discussion 01 17 17	Spr 2017
Tocopherols. Additional Listing @ 205.605(a)	TF	Voted 09 06 16. Sent back to Subcomm at fall 2016 meeting. Scheduled for discussion 01 17 17	Spr 2017
Nutrient Vitamins and Minerals - annotation change	ZS	Pending NOP Approval. Approved 01 12 16. Proposal. On hold.	TBD
Phosphates - proposal? Potential future annotation change	HA/JR	Request to add to work agenda discussed on October 9 on ES call. TR request sent to NOP 07 28 15. Formal request for addition to agenda sent 11 24 15. Awaiting NOP approval. TR in development - estimated March 2016. TR sent to HS 02 11 16. TR suff due 04 12 16. TR found sufficient 03 15 16. Vote: 08 16 16.	TBD
Marine materials (marine algae and extracts). Proposal	JR/SR	Pending NOP approval. NOP approved request 01 12 16. TR request sent to NOP 02 05 16. TR expected Jul 2016. TR sent to HS 08 10 16. TR suff due 10 11 16. TR found sufficient 09 06 16. Voted 09 06 16. Proposal in development 12 06 16	Spr 2017
Reclassification of Magnesium chloride	JR/LD	HS requested addition of this. NOP approved 01 12 16, but delayed until after classification guidance is published and TR is available.	TBD
Additional ancillary substances used in cellulose	HA		
Research Priorities	TC/ALL	RPs due to MS Aug 2017	Fall 2017
NOP operating plan suggestions	ALL		NA

*Highlight indicates committee action needed. *Highlight indicates review completion and/or vote

Agenda

- Approve December 20, 2017
- Pectin (non-amidated forms only) (TC) - Discuss review for first posting
- Cellulose (HA) - ancillary substances
- Short DNA Tracers (LD) - Petition sufficiency/TR determination
- BPA - Discuss discussion document
- L-Methionine (TF) - Discuss petition
- Assign leads for sunset materials, and other projects
- Other business
- Adjourn

Discussion

- **HS Notes from December 20** were approved with no changes
- **Pectin (non-amidated forms only) (TC)** - The lead reviewed the uses for pectin and noted that there are no organic forms. A full TR was completed in 2010, and a limited scope TR in 2015. There seems to be no new information or changes in use since the last review, but the lead would like to add a question about organic sources since 2015. The lead will update the document to include information about international use and manufacture, as per the template.
- **Cellulose (HA) - ancillary substances.** Based on discussion at the last NOSB meeting and from public comment, the HS is reviewing additional ancillary substances in cellulose. The lead summarized the review for the group and moved to a vote.

Motion to accept the document in support of, or to restrict use of, the ancillary substances or categories of substances in cellulose as shown in the chart and text of the document.

Motion by: HA

Seconded by: AS

Additional discussion: none

Yes: 7 No: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 2 Recuse: 0

- **Short DNA Tracers (LD)** - Petition sufficiency/TR determination. The lead reviewed the uses petitioned, and the group discussed essentiality and the potential need for a TR. Several members felt that this substance does not satisfy the OFPA criteria of compatibility. The petition was found sufficient and the HS will not request a TR. The lead will draft a proposal for discussion on a future call.
- **BPA - discussion document (ZS).** The HS discussed the TR sufficiency and briefly discussed the draft outline for the discussion document. On the last call, the HS determined that the TR was not sufficient. The TR was found to be overly technical, somewhat biased, and lacking in information regarding alternatives. Additionally, the citations that the NOSB provided were included, but they were not discussed in the document. The lead circulated some background information on BPA for the benefit of the new members. AB volunteered to co-lead this project with LD once ZS rotates off. The goal is to produce a discussion document for spring 2017 and a proposal for fall 2017. The lead will make some modifications of the draft discussion document and recirculate it to the group.
- **L-Methionine (TF) - Discuss petition.** The lead asked that the group review the discussion portion of the draft document that was circulated, for further discussion on the next call.
- **SDBS update (HA).** The lead circulated two documents - a brief overview of the previous review and a draft proposal. SDBS was discussed at the fall meeting and sent back to Subcommittee for further work, and the HS requested a TR in order to complete the proposal. Once the TR arrives,

the new lead will take over. The current lead offered to prepare some additional notes for the transition.

- **Assign leads for sunset materials, and other projects.** See table above and schedule below
- **Other business.** None
- **The meeting was adjourned**

[Previous HS Notes](#)

Future Call Schedule (1st and 3rd Tuesdays 1:00 ET)

December 20, 2016

2019 sunsets (AS): Acidified sodium chlorite, Calcium hypochlorite, Chlorine dioxide, Sodium hypochlorite (AS) - Discuss review for first posting
BPA (ZS) - TR sufficiency
Marine Materials (JR) - Discuss proposal/vote?

January 3, 2017

Pectin (non-amidated forms only) (TC) - Discuss review for first posting
Cellulose (HA) - ancillary substances
Short DNA Tracers (LD) - Petition sufficiency/TR determination
BPA - Discuss discussion document
L-Methionine (TF) - Discuss petition
Assign leads for sunset materials, and other projects

January 17, 2017

BPA (ZS) Discuss discussion document
Phosphates (JR) - discuss proposal
Marine Materials (JR) - Discuss proposal/vote
2019 sunsets (JR): Attapulgite, Bentonite, Diatomaceous earth, Magnesium chloride, Potassium acid tartrate, Sodium phosphates (JR/HA), Casings - Discuss review for first posting
2019 sunsets (SR) - Konjac Flour
Tocopherols (TF) - discuss proposals
L-Methionine (TF) - Discuss proposal

January 31, 2017 (rescheduled from Feb 7)

February 21, 2017

March 7, 2017

March 21, 2017

April 4, 2017

April 18, 2017

May 2, 2017

May 16, 2017

June 6, 2017

June 20, 2017

July 18, 2017

August 1, 2017

August 15, 2017

September 5, 2017

September 19, 2017

October 3, 2017

October 17, 2017

November 7, 2017

November 21, 2017

December 5, 2017
 December 19, 2017
 January 2, 2018
 January 16, 2018

Spring 2017 Milestones	2017 Target date
New NOSB member orientation	Feb 8, 2017
NOP - Complete Spring 2017 NOSB meeting tentative agenda	Feb 10, 2017
NOSB - Spring 2017 proposals due to NOP	Feb 17, 2017
NOP - Post proposals, Publish FRN, Open public comment	Mar 1, 2017
Discuss work agendas on ES call	Mar 17, 2017
Public comment closes	Mar 30, 2017
NOP - Send compiled public comments to NOSB	Apr 5, 2017
Work agendas finalized on ES call (last call before fall meeting)	Apr 7, 2017
Public comment webinar	Apr 13, 2017
Spring 2017 NOSB meeting – Denver, CO	Apr 19-21, 2017 (W-F)

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Absent: none

Staff: Michelle Arsenault (MA); Jessica Walden (JW)

Work Agenda

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Sodium phosphates	205.605(b)	TC/LD	2016	Phosphates - TR Request rec'd 7/28/15; TR sent to HS on 2/10/2016; TR found sufficient on 3/15/2016	Jan 17	"
Casings	205.606	JR/AB	N		Jan 17	"
Konjac flour	205.606	SR	N		Jan 31	"
Pectin (non-amidated forms only)	205.606	TC	N		Jan 3	"

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Reclassification of Magnesium chloride	JR/LD	HS requested addition of this. NOP approved 01 12 16, but delayed until after classification guidance is published and TR is available.	TBD
Ancillary substances used in cellulose	HA	Voted: 01 03 17	Spr 2017
Research Priorities	TC/ALL	RPs due to MS Aug 2017	Fall 2017
NOP operating plan suggestions	ALL		NA

*Highlight indicates committee action needed. *Highlight indicates review completion and/or vote

Agenda

- Approve January 3, 2017
- BPA (ZS) - discuss discussion document
- Marine Materials (JR) - discuss proposal/vote
- Tocopherols (TF) - discuss proposal
- L-Methionine (TF) - discuss proposal
- Potassium Acid Tartrate TR (JR) - TR sufficiency
- 2019 sunsets (JR): Attapulgate, Bentonite, Diatomaceous earth, Magnesium chloride, Potassium acid tartrate, Casings - Discuss review for first posting
- 2019 sunsets (SR) - Konjac Flour
- Other business
- Adjourn

Discussion

- **HS Notes from** January 3, 2017 approved with the addition of clarifying language about and the ancillary substance review of cellulose, which is a review of additional ancillary substances.
- **BPA (ZS).** The lead summarized the draft document and identified some sections that need to be flushed out. The document, which will be completed by two other members as the current lead is completing her term, will be discussed on next call.
- **Marine Materials (JR). The lead author summarized the proposal for the group and the Subcommittee voted on the two motions.**

Motion to annotate the marine algae listings and annotate as follows, shown in underline:

§205.605 Nonagricultural (nonorganic) substances allowed as ingredients in or on processed products labeled as “organic” or “made with organic (specified ingredients or food groups).”

(a) Nonsynthetics allowed:

Acids (Alginic; ...). derived from brown seaweeds, class Phaeophyceae

Agar-agar. Derived from red seaweeds, class Rhodophyceae

Carrageenan. Derived from red seaweeds, class Rhodophyceae.

(b) Synthetics allowed:

Alginates. derived from brown seaweeds, class Phaeophyceae.

§205.606 Nonorganically produced agricultural products allowed as ingredients in or on processed products labeled as “organic.”

(d) Colors derived from agricultural products-must not be produced using synthetic carriers and solvent systems or any artificial preservative.

(2) Beta-carotene extract color derived from carrots or algae (pigment CAS 1393-61-1). Derived from green algae, class Chlorophyceae.

(l) Kelp – for use only as a thickener and dietary supplement. Derived from *Macrocystis pyrifera*, *Laminaria digitata*, *Laminaria saccharina* and *Laminaria cloustoni*.

(t) Seaweed, Pacific Kombu, derived from *Laminaria japonica*, class Phaeophyceae

(x) Wakame Seaweed (*Undaria pinnatifida*).

Motion by: JR

Seconded by: HA

Additional discussion: A member acknowledged the complexity of the topic and thanked the lead for developing the proposal. She also indicated support for the continuation of this work beyond

this proposal.

Yes: 9 No: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 0 Recuse: 0

Motion to recommend that the NOP develop Guidance to clarify the term “kelp” as used in organic production and wild harvesting.

Motion by: JR

Seconded by: HA

Additional discussion: none

Yes: 9 No: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 0 Recuse: 0

- **Tocopherols (TF).** Tocopherols is listed at 205.605(b). The group discussed two tocopherol proposals: one to annotate the listing at 205.605(b) and one to add tocopherols at 205.605(a). After some discussion, members indicated support of moving forward with the motion for annotating the listing at 205.605(b) and holding off on adding tocopherols to 205.605(a) until they can collect public comment. MA will insert a link in the document to the classification of materials guidance.

Motion to change the annotation for Tocopherols listed at 205.605(b) of the National List: “Derived from vegetable oil when rosemary extracts are not a suitable alternative” to the following annotation – “Derived from plant oils. Non-synthetic or organic tocopherols are to be used when commercially available.”

Motion by: TF

Seconded by: JR

Additional discussion: none

Yes: 8 No: 0 Abstain: 1 Absent: 0 Recuse: 0

- **L-Methionine (TF).** Petitioned for use in infant enteral formulas. During a previous review, the petitioner made a case for why L-Methionine should remain on the list, and were advised to petition.

Motion to classify L-Methionine as petitioned as non-agricultural/synthetic

Motion by: TF

Seconded by: HA

Additional discussion:

Yes: 8 No: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 0 Recuse: 0

Motion to add L methionine at §205.605(b) as petitioned, allowed in or on nutritionally complete enteral pediatric formulas labeled “organic” or “made with organic (specific ingredients)” with the annotation, “for use in nutritionally complete pediatric enteral formulas based on soy protein”.

Motion by: TF

Seconded by: JR

Additional discussion: a member asked about use in adult enteral formula. Not petitioned for that.

Yes: 9 No: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 0 Recuse: 0

- **2019 sunsets (JR):** Attapulgit, Bentonite, Diatomaceous earth - filter aids. The lead drafted the initial template and will pass them along to JM. These three substances were recently reviewed and the NOSB recommended they remain on the list.

- **Magnesium chloride (JR).** The TR was found sufficient. The group discussed the substance and the lead noted that the primary issue of concern is the classification, as magnesium chloride can be classified as synthetic, non synthetic, or both. MA will add link to new TR
- **Potassium acid tartrate (JR)** - The TR was found sufficient, and the lead felt the historical information was excellent. The substance and its uses was summarized for the members and the new lead reviewer. MA will add the link to the new TR.
- **Casings (JR).** The lead noted that the review was straight forward. There are currently no alternatives or substitutes. There is no separation of organic animal intestines at time of slaughter from those of non-organic animals.
- **Sodium phosphates (HA and JR).** The leads summarized the draft review and the questions for public comment. Cumulative impacts of phosphates are an item of concern. Questions include alternatives. MA will add link to the TR.
- **2019 sunsets (SR).** Konjac Flour. Deferred to next call
- **Other business.** None
- **The meeting was adjourned**

[Previous HS Notes](#)

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January 17, 2017

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 Phosphates (JR) - discuss proposal
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January 31, 2017 (rescheduled from Feb 7)

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Silver Dihydrogen Citrate	205.605(b)			Petition sent to HS 01 24 17. Response/request for TR due 03 28 17.		TBD

2019 Sunsets §205.605(a), §205.605(b) and 205.606

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Potassium acid tartrate	205.605(b)	SE	Y	TR in development; expected December 2016. TR sent to HS 01 11 17. TR suff due 03 15 17. TR found sufficient 01 17 17	Jan 17	"
Sodium hypochlorite	205.605(b)	AS	N		Dec 20	"
Sodium phosphates	205.605(b)	TC/LD	2016	Phosphates - TR Request rec'd 7/28/15; TR sent to HS on 2/10/2016; TR found sufficient on 3/15/2016	Jan 17	"
Casings	205.606	AB	N		Jan 17	"
Konjac flour	205.606	SR	N		Jan 31	"
Pectin (non-amidated forms only)	205.606	TC	N		Jan 3	"

Other projects			
Name	Contact	Notes*	Meeting
Packaging substances used in organic food handling - including BPA	LD/AB	Submitted briefing paper to NOP 01 12 14. Response memo from NOP sent to HS 11 19 14. TR in development, expected mid-Sep - delayed. TR received 9/30/16. In review by the program. TR sent to HS 10 19 16. TR sufficiency due 12 20 16. TR found insufficient 12 20 16.	Disc Doc Spr 2017
Xanthan Gum Reclassification	ZS	TR in development. TR request send to NOP 10 26 15. TR expected May 2016. TR sent to HS 04 22 16. Response due 06 21 16. Review scheduled Jun 7. TR found sufficient 06 07 16. HS will not go forth with reclassification - Waiting for NOP re: how to finalize. NOP determined that a verbal update at the fall 2016 meeting would suffice. HS will submit written update at fall 2016 meeting. Pending MS review	TBD
Tocopherols Reclassification	TC	Review scheduled 9/6/16. Voted 09 06 16. Sent back to Subcomm at fall 2016 meeting. Scheduled for discussion 01 17 17	Spr 2017
Tocopherols. Additional Listing @ 205.605(a)	TC	Voted 09 06 16. Sent back to Subcomm at fall 2016 meeting. Scheduled for discussion 01 17 17. Deferred to fall 2017 meeting	Fall 2017?
Nutrient Vitamins and Minerals - annotation change	ZS	Pending NOP Approval. Approved 01 12 16. Proposal. On hold.	TBD
Phosphates - proposal? Potential future annotation change	JR	Request to add to work agenda discussed on October 9 on ES call. TR request sent to NOP 07 28 15. Formal request for addition to agenda sent 11 24 15. Awaiting NOP approval. TR in development - estimated March 2016. TR sent to HS 02 11 16. TR suff due 04 12 16. TR found sufficient 03 15 16. Vote: 08 16 16.	TBD
Marine materials (marine algae and extracts). Proposal	SR	Pending NOP approval. NOP approved request 01 12 16. TR request sent to NOP 02 05 16. TR expected Jul 2016. TR sent to HS 08 10 16. TR suff due 10 11 16. TR found sufficient 09 06 16. Voted 09 06 16. Proposal in development 12 06 16. Voted 01 17 17	Spr 2017
Reclassification of Magnesium chloride	LD	HS requested addition of this. NOP approved 01 12 16, but delayed until after classification guidance is published and TR is available.	TBD
Ancillary substances used in cellulose	LD	Voted: 01 03 17	Spr 2017
Research Priorities	TC/ALL	RP's due to MS Aug 2017	Fall 2017
NOP operating plan suggestions	ALL		NA

*Highlight indicates committee action needed. *Highlight indicates review completion and/or vote

Agenda

- Approve January 17, 2017
- BPA (ZS) - discuss discussion document
- 2019 sunsets (SR) - Konjac Flour
- Other business - Silver Dihydrogen Citrate - assign lead
- Adjourn

Discussion

- **HS Notes from** January 17, 2017 were approved with no changes
- **2019 sunsets (SR)**. Konjac Flour. The lead summarized the uses and previous reviews, noting that the Board received no public comment during the last review. The HS will include questions for public comment for the next posting.
- **Sodium Chlorite** for the generation of chlorine dioxide gas (SR). The lead summarized the history of the review for the new members. The proposal was sent back to the Subcommittee at the fall 2016 meeting for further work. Members discussed the need or usefulness of a TR. The lead will have further discussions with the NOP about the best path forward and the HS will discuss it on the Feb 21 call.
- **BPA (LD/AB)**. Members have been contributing ideas on this document, and will continue the discussion and likely vote on the February 21 call. NOP will follow up and report back about questions regarding rulemaking.
- **Other business.**
 - **Short DNA tracers.** The HS is waiting for additional info from the petitioner before moving forward. Several members provided some preliminary feedback about the petition, and the group will discuss on a future call.
- **The meeting was adjourned**

[Previous HS Notes](#)

Future Call Schedule (1st and 3rd Tuesdays 1:00 ET)

January 17, 2017

BPA (ZS) Discuss discussion document

Phosphates (JR) - discuss proposal

Marine Materials (JR) - Discuss proposal/vote

2019 sunsets (JR): Attapulgate, Bentonite, Diatomaceous earth, Magnesium chloride, Potassium acid tartrate, Sodium phosphates (JR/HA), Casings - Discuss review for first posting

2019 sunsets (SR) - Konjac Flour

Tocopherols (TF) - Discuss proposals

L-Methionine (TF) - Discuss proposal

January 31, 2017 (rescheduled from Feb 7)

BPA (LD/AB) - Discuss discussion document

2019 sunsets (SR) - Konjac Flour

February 21, 2017

BPA (LD/AB) - Discuss/vote on discussion document

Short DNA tracers - Discuss next steps

Sodium chlorite (SR) - Discuss next steps

Silver Dihydrogen Citrate - Assign lead

March 7, 2017

March 21, 2017

April 4, 2017

April 18, 2017
 May 2, 2017
 May 16, 2017
 June 6, 2017
 June 20, 2017
 July 18, 2017
 August 1, 2017
 August 15, 2017
 September 5, 2017
 September 19, 2017
 October 3, 2017
 October 17, 2017
 November 7, 2017
 November 21, 2017
 December 5, 2017
 December 19, 2017
 January 2, 2018
 January 16, 2018

Spring 2017 Milestones	2017 Target date
New NOSB member orientation	Feb 8, 2017
NOP - Complete Spring 2017 NOSB meeting tentative agenda	Feb 10, 2017
NOSB - Spring 2017 proposals due to NOP	Feb 17, 2017
NOP - Post proposals, Publish FRN, Open public comment	Mar 1, 2017
Discuss work agendas on ES call	Mar 10, 2017
Public comment closes	Mar 30, 2017
NOP - Send compiled public comments to NOSB	Apr 5, 2017
Work agendas finalized on ES call (last call before fall meeting)	Apr 7, 2017
Public comment webinar	Apr 13, 2017
Spring 2017 NOSB meeting – Denver, CO	Apr 19-21, 2017 (W-F)

Note: Subcommittee notes may include preliminary discussions regarding substances considered for addition to or removal from the National List. They do not represent official National Organic Program (NOP) policy or regulations. Please see the NOP website for official NOP policy, regulations, and status of substances used in organic production and handling.

**National Organic Standards Board (NOSB)
Handling Subcommittee (HS) Meeting Notes
Tuesday, February 21, 2017 1:00 pm ET**

Present: Lisa de Lima (LD), Chair; Asa Bradman (AB); Joelle Mosso (JM); Scott Rice (SR); Ashley Swaffar (AS); A-dae Briones (ARB); Harriet Behar (HB) - observer
Absent: Steve Ela (SE); Tom Chapman (TC)
Staff: Michelle Arsenault (MA); Jessica Walden (JW)

Work Agenda

Petitioned Substances						
Substance	National List §	Contact	TR rqst?	Notes*	Scheduled, Discussed, Voted	Meeting
Sodium dodecylbenzene sulfonate (SDBS)	205.605(b)	SR	Y	Petition sent to HS on 11 02 15. Response/request for TR due 01 04 16. Petition found suff 12 01 15. No new TR will be requested. Referred back to HS at Apr 2016 NOSB meeting. TR request sent 05 18 16. TR in development - Expected late Dec 2016/early Jan (delayed)	Jan 3,	Fall 2017
Sodium Chlorite for the generation of chlorine dioxide gas Petition, Addendum	205.605	SR	N	Petition for chlorine dioxide dry gas sent to HS on 12 02 15. Response/request for TR due 02 02 16. HS sent request 03 17 16 for additional info from petitioner. Sodium chlorite addendum received 05 05 16. Suff due 07 05 16. Petition found sufficient 06 07 16. Sent back to Subcomm at fall 2016 meeting	Jan 31, Feb 21	TBD
L-Methionine	205.605	AS	N	Petition sent to HS on 08 25 16. Response/request for TR due 10 24 16. Petition found suff 10 04 16. No new TR	Jan 17	Spr 2017
Short DNA Tracers	205.605	LD	N	Petition sent to HS on 10 21 16. Response/request for TR due 01 04 17. Petition found sufficient. No TR request	Jan 3, Feb 21	TBD
Silver Dihydrogen Citrate	205.605(b)	JM		Petition sent to HS 01 24 17. Response/request for TR due 03 28 17.	Mar 31	TBD
Japones pepper	205.606			Petition sent to HS 02 09 17. Response/request for TR due 04 11 17.		

Petitioned Substances

Substance	National List §	Contact	TR rqst?	Notes*	Scheduled, Discussed, Voted	Meeting
Ethiopian pepper	205.606			Petition sent to HS 02 09 17. Response/request for TR due 04 11 17.		
Tamarind Seed Gum	205.606			Petition sent to HS 02 15 17. Response/request for TR due 04 17 17.		

2019 Sunsets §205.605(a), §205.605(b) and 205.606

Summary: Spr 2017 Complete Review: Fall 2017

Name	National List §	Contact	TAP/TR	Notes	Scheduled, Discussed	Review Meeting
Attapulgit	205.605(a)	JM	N		Jan 17	Spr 2017
Bentonite	205.605(a)	JM	N		Jan 17	"
Diatomaceous earth	205.605(a)	JM	N		Jan 17	"
Nitrogen	205.605(a)	LD	N		Dec 6	"
Sodium carbonate	205.605(a)	LD	N		Dec 6	"
Acidified sodium chlorite	205.605(b)	AS	N		Dec 20	"
Calcium hypochlorite	205.605(b)	AS	N		Dec 20	"
Carbon dioxide	205.605(b)	LD	N		Dec 6	"
Chlorine dioxide	205.605(b)	AS	N		Dec 20	"
Magnesium chloride	205.605(b)	LD	Y	TR in development; expected December 2016. TR sent to HS 12 12 16. Suff due 02 14 17. TR found sufficient 01 17 17	Jan 17	"
Potassium acid tartrate	205.605(b)	SE	Y	TR in development; expected December 2016. TR sent to HS 01 11 17. TR suff due 03 15 17. TR found sufficient 01 17 17	Jan 17	"

Sodium hypochlorite	205.605(b)	AS	N		Dec 20	"
Sodium phosphates	205.605(b)	TC/LD	2016	Phosphates - TR Request rec'd 7/28/15; TR sent to HS on 2/10/2016; TR found sufficient on 3/15/2016	Jan 17	"
Casings	205.606	AB	N		Jan 17	"
Konjac flour	205.606	SR	N		Jan 31	"
Pectin (non-amidated forms only)	205.606	TC	N		Jan 3	"

Other projects

Name	Contact	Notes*	Meeting
Packaging substances used in organic food handling - including BPA	LD/AB	Submitted briefing paper to NOP 01 12 14. Response memo from NOP sent to HS 11 19 14. TR in development, expected mid-Sep - delayed. TR received 9/30/16. In review by the program. TR sent to HS 10 19 16. TR sufficiency due 12 20 16. TR found insufficient 12 20 16. Vote: 02 21 17	Disc Doc Spr 2017
Xanthan Gum Reclassification	ZS	TR in development. TR request send to NOP 10 26 15. TR expected May 2016. TR sent to HS 04 22 16. Response due 06 21 16. Review scheduled Jun 7. TR found sufficient 06 07 16. HS will not go forth with reclassification - Waiting for NOP re: how to finalize. NOP determined that a verbal update at the fall 2016 meeting would suffice. HS will submit written update at fall 2016 meeting. Pending MS review	TBD
Tocopherols Reclassification	TC	Review scheduled 9/6/16. Voted 09 06 16. Sent back to Subcomm at fall 2016 meeting. Scheduled for discussion. Vote: 01 17 17	Spr 2017
Tocopherols. Additional Listing @ 205.605(a)	TC	Voted 09 06 16. Sent back to Subcomm at Fall 2016 meeting. Deferred to Fall 2017 meeting.	Fall 2017
Nutrient Vitamins and Minerals - annotation change	ZS	Pending NOP Approval. Approved 01 12 16. Proposal. On hold.	TBD
Phosphates - proposal? Potential future annotation change	JR	Request to add to work agenda discussed on October 9 on ES call. TR request sent to NOP 07 28 15. Formal request for addition to agenda sent 11 24 15. Awaiting NOP approval. TR in development - estimated March 2016. TR sent to HS 02 11 16. TR suff due 04 12 16. TR found sufficient 03 15 16. Vote: 08 16 16.	TBD

Marine materials (marine algae and extracts). Proposal	SR	Pending NOP approval. NOP approved request 01 12 16. TR request sent to NOP 02 05 16. TR expected Jul 2016. TR sent to HS 08 10 16. TR suff due 10 11 16. TR found sufficient 09 06 16. Voted 09 06 16. Proposal in development 12 06 16. Voted 01 17 17	Spr 2017
Reclassification of Magnesium chloride	LD	HS requested addition of this. NOP approved 01 12 16, but delayed until after classification guidance is published and TR is available.	TBD
Ancillary substances used in cellulose	LD	Voted: 01 03 17	Spr 2017
Research Priorities	TC/ALL	RP's due to MS Aug 2017	Fall 2017
NOP operating plan suggestions	ALL		NA

***Highlight** indicates committee action needed. ***Highlight** indicates review completion and/or vote

Agenda

- Approve January 31, 2017
- BPA (LD/AB) - Discuss/vote on discussion document
- Short DNA tracers - Discuss next steps
- Sodium chlorite (SR) - Discuss next steps
- Silver Dihydrogen Citrate - Assign lead
- Other items
- Adjourn

Discussion

- **HS Notes** from January 31, 2017 were approved with no changes
- **BPA (LD/AB)**. The lead reviewed the changes to the draft document that were made since the last call, which was to remove policy options, and included more references. The document is essentially a review of the status of the issue and a request for public comment. The lead noted that currently there are data being aggregated on BPA and that the industry is already transitioning. Feels that this discussion document will garner more information. MA will find previous BPA comments -

Motion to accept discussion document with the addition of language as discussed during the call.

Motion by: SR

Seconded by: LD

Additional discussion:

Yes: 6 No: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 2 Recuse: 0

- **Short DNA tracers**. The lead summarized additional information regarding classification of short DNA tracers. At this time the group feels this is not necessary for organic production and is not recommending it be listed.

Motion to classify short DNA tracers as petitioned, as non-agricultural and synthetic

Motion by: LD

Seconded by: SR

Additional discussion: none

Yes: 6 No: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 2 Recuse: 0

Motion to list short DNA tracers as petitioned at §205.605(b)

Motion by: LD

Seconded by: AB

Additional discussion: none

Yes: 0 No: 6 Abstain: 0 Absent: 2 Recuse: 0

- **Sodium chlorite (SR).** The group discussed the next steps with regard to sodium chlorite. The petitioner submitted some additional information addressing questions the Board had at the fall 2016 meeting. Commenters submitted information regarding worker safety and alternatives. The HS discussed the need for a TR and will wait to do so until they evaluate further information.
- **Silver Dihydrogen Citrate.** JM volunteered to lead this review.
- **Other items:** The HS received three petitions and will assign leads on next call.
The meeting was adjourned

[Previous HS Notes](#)

Future Call Schedule (1st and 3rd Tuesdays 1:00 ET)

January 31, 2017 (rescheduled from Feb 7)

BPA (LD/AB) - Discuss discussion document

2019 sunsets (SR) - Konjac Flour

February 21, 2017

BPA (LD/AB) - Discuss/vote on discussion document

Short DNA tracers - Discuss next steps

Sodium chlorite (SR) - Discuss next steps

Silver Dihydrogen Citrate - Assign lead

March 7, 2017

Japones Pepper - Assign lead

Ethiopian pepper - Assign lead

Tamarind Seed Gum - Assign lead

March 21, 2017

Silver Dihydrogen Citrate - Petition sufficiency

April 4, 2017

~~April 18, 2017~~ - NOSB meeting Denver

May 2, 2017

May 16, 2017

June 6, 2017

June 20, 2017

July 18, 2017

August 1, 2017

August 15, 2017

September 5, 2017

September 19, 2017

October 3, 2017

October 17, 2017

November 7, 2017

November 21, 2017

December 5, 2017
 December 19, 2017
 January 2, 2018
 January 16, 2018

Spring 2017 Milestones	2017 Target date
New NOSB member orientation	Feb 8, 2017
NOP - Complete Spring 2017 NOSB meeting tentative agenda	Feb 10, 2017
NOSB - Spring 2017 proposals due to NOP	Feb 17, 2017
NOP - Post proposals, Publish FRN, Open public comment	Mar 1, 2017
Discuss work agendas on ES call	Mar 10, 2017
Public comment closes	Mar 30, 2017
NOP - Send compiled public comments to NOSB	Apr 5, 2017
Work agendas finalized on ES call (last call before fall meeting)	Apr 7, 2017
Public comment webinar	Apr 13, 2017
Spring 2017 NOSB meeting – Denver, CO	Apr 19-21, 2017 (W-F)

Note: Subcommittee notes may include preliminary discussions regarding substances considered for addition to or removal from the National List. They do not represent official National Organic Program (NOP) policy or regulations. Please see the NOP website for official NOP policy, regulations, and status of substances used in organic production and handling.

**National Organic Standards Board (NOSB)
Handling Subcommittee (HS) Meeting Notes
Tuesday, March 7, 2017 1:00 pm ET**

Present: Lisa de Lima (LD), Chair; Scott Rice, Vice Chair (SR); Asa Bradman (AB); Tom Chapman (TC); Steve Ela (SE); Joelle Mosso (JM); A-dae Briones (ARB); Ashley Swaffar (AS); Harriet Behar (HB) - observer

Absent: none

Staff: Michelle Arsenault (MA); Jessica Walden (JW)

Work Agenda

Petitioned Substances						
Substance	National List §	Contact	TR reqst?	Notes*	Scheduled, Discussed, Voted	Meeting
Sodium dodecylbenzene sulfonate (SDBS)	205.605(b)	SR	Y	Petition sent to HS on 11 02 15. Response/request for TR due 01 04 16. Petition found suff 12 01 15. No new TR will be requested. Referred back to HS at Apr 2016 NOSB meeting. TR request sent 05 18 16. TR in development - Expected late Dec 2016/early Jan (delayed)	Jan 3,	Fall 2017
Sodium Chlorite for the generation of chlorine dioxide gas Petition, Addendum	205.605	SR	N	Petition for chlorine dioxide dry gas sent to HS on 12 02 15. Response/request for TR due 02 02 16. HS sent request 03 17 16 for additional info from petitioner. Sodium chlorite addendum received 05 05 16. Suff due 07 05 16. Petition found sufficient 06 07 16. Sent back to Subcomm at fall 2016 meeting	Jan 31, Feb 21	TBD
L-Methionine	205.605	AS	N	Petition sent to HS on 08 25 16. Response/request for TR due 10 24 16. Petition found suff 10 04 16. No new TR	Jan 17	Spr 2017
Short DNA Tracers	205.605	LD	N	Petition sent to HS on 10 21 16. Response/request for TR due 01 04 17. Petition found sufficient. No TR request	Jan 3, Feb 21	Spr 2017
Silver Dihydrogen Citrate	205.605(b)	JM	Y	Petition sent to HS 01 24 17. Response/request for TR due 03 28 17. Petition found sufficient 03 07 17. HS requested TR 03 07 14	Mar 7	TBD
Japones pepper	205.606	ARB		Petition sent to HS 02 09 17. Response/request for TR due 04 11 17.	Apr 4	

Petitioned Substances

Substance	National List §	Contact	TR rqst?	Notes*	Scheduled, Discussed, Voted	Meeting
Ethiopian pepper	205.606	ARB		Petition sent to HS 02 09 17. Response/request for TR due 04 11 17.	Apr 4	
Tamarind Seed Gum	205.606	SE		Petition sent to HS 02 15 17. Response/request for TR due 04 17 17.	Apr 4	

2019 Sunsets §205.605(a), §205.605(b) and 205.606

Summary: Spr 2017 Complete Review: Fall 2017

Name	National List §	Contact	TAP/TR	Notes	Scheduled, Discussed	Review Meeting
Attapulgit	205.605(a)	JM	N		Jan 17	Spr 2017
Bentonite	205.605(a)	JM	N		Jan 17	"
Diatomaceous earth	205.605(a)	JM	N		Jan 17	"
Nitrogen	205.605(a)	LD	N		Dec 6	"
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Acidified sodium chlorite	205.605(b)	AS	N		Dec 20	"
Calcium hypochlorite	205.605(b)	AS	N		Dec 20	"
Carbon dioxide	205.605(b)	LD	N		Dec 6	"
Chlorine dioxide	205.605(b)	AS	N		Dec 20	"
Magnesium chloride	205.605(b)	LD	Y	TR in development; expected December 2016. TR sent to HS 12 12 16. Suff due 02 14 17. TR found sufficient 01 17 17	Jan 17	"
Potassium acid tartrate	205.605(b)	SE	Y	TR in development; expected December 2016. TR sent to HS 01 11 17. TR suff due 03 15 17. TR found sufficient 01 17 17	Jan 17	"

Sodium hypochlorite	205.605(b)	AS	N		Dec 20	"
Sodium phosphates	205.605(b)	TC/LD	2016	Phosphates - TR Request rec'd 7/28/15; TR sent to HS on 2/10/2016; TR found sufficient on 3/15/2016	Jan 17	"
Casings	205.606	AB	N		Jan 17	"
Konjac flour	205.606	SR	N		Jan 31	"
Pectin (non-amidated forms only)	205.606	TC	N		Jan 3	"

Other projects

Name	Contact	Notes*	Meeting
Packaging substances used in organic food handling - including BPA	LD/AB	Submitted briefing paper to NOP 01 12 14. Response memo from NOP sent to HS 11 19 14. TR in development, expected mid-Sep - delayed. TR received 9/30/16. In review by the program. TR sent to HS 10 19 16. TR sufficiency due 12 20 16. TR found insufficient 12 20 16. Vote: 02 21 17	Disc Doc Spr 2017
Xanthan Gum Reclassification	ZS	TR in development. TR request send to NOP 10 26 15. TR expected May 2016. TR sent to HS 04 22 16. Response due 06 21 16. Review scheduled Jun 7. TR found sufficient 06 07 16. HS will not go forth with reclassification - Waiting for NOP re: how to finalize. NOP determined that a verbal update at the fall 2016 meeting would suffice. HS will submit written update at fall 2016 meeting. Pending MS review	TBD
Tocopherols Reclassification	TC	Review scheduled 9/6/16. Voted 09 06 16. Sent back to Subcomm at fall 2016 meeting. Scheduled for discussion. Vote: 01 17 17	Spr 2017
Tocopherols. Additional Listing @ 205.605(a)	TC	Voted 09 06 16. Sent back to Subcomm at Fall 2016 meeting. Deferred to Fall 2017 meeting.	Fall 2017
Nutrient Vitamins and Minerals - annotation change	ZS	Pending NOP Approval. Approved 01 12 16. Proposal. On hold.	TBD
Phosphates - proposal? Potential future annotation change	JR	Request to add to work agenda discussed on October 9 on ES call. TR request sent to NOP 07 28 15. Formal request for addition to agenda sent 11 24 15. Awaiting NOP approval. TR in development - estimated March 2016. TR sent to HS 02 11 16. TR suff due 04 12 16. TR found sufficient 03 15 16. Vote: 08 16 16.	TBD

Marine materials (marine algae and extracts). Proposal	SR	Pending NOP approval. NOP approved request 01 12 16. TR request sent to NOP 02 05 16. TR expected Jul 2016. TR sent to HS 08 10 16. TR suff due 10 11 16. TR found sufficient 09 06 16. Voted 09 06 16. Proposal in development 12 06 16. Voted 01 17 17	Spr 2017
Reclassification of Magnesium chloride	LD	HS requested addition of this. NOP approved 01 12 16, but delayed until after classification guidance is published and TR is available.	TBD
Ancillary substances used in cellulose	LD	Voted: 01 03 17	Spr 2017
Research Priorities	TC/ALL	RPs due to MS Aug 2017	Fall 2017
NOP operating plan suggestions	ALL		NA

***Highlight** indicates committee action needed. ***Highlight** indicates review completion and/or vote

Agenda

- Approve February 21, 2017
- Silver Dihydrogen citrate - petition sufficiency (JM)
- Ethiopian and Japonese pepper petitions - assign lead
- Tamarind seed gum petition - assign lead
- Other items
- Adjourn

Discussion

- **HS Notes** from February 21, 2017 were approved with no changes
- **Silver dihydrogen citrate (JM)**. The lead summarized the material and the HS deemed the petition sufficient. According to the petition, silver dihydrogen citrate is used in low concentration as a food contact sanitizer and disinfectant. It is non-corrosive, and has negligible human health concerns. The active compound is silver, as a silver ion in low concentration, and not a nanoparticle. It is a practical alternative in food manufacturing as it has dual uses. The group will request a TR to glean more information about environmental and/or human health issues.
- **Ethiopian and Japonese pepper petitions**. ARB volunteered to lead the reviews on the two peppers, since they were submitted by the same petitioner. The HS will discuss petition sufficiency on the April 4 call.
- **Tamarind seed gum petition**. SE volunteered to lead the review for this petition. The HS will discuss petition sufficiency on the April 4 call.
- **Other items**. The HS will cancel the March 21 call.
- **The meeting was adjourned**

[Previous HS Notes](#)

Future Call Schedule (1st and 3rd Tuesdays 1:00 ET)

February 21, 2017

BPA (LD/AB) - Discuss/vote on discussion document

Short DNA tracers - Discuss next steps
 Sodium chlorite (SR) - Discuss next steps
 Silver Dihydrogen Citrate - Assign lead

March 7, 2017

Japones Pepper - Assign lead
 Ethiopian pepper - Assign lead
 Tamarind Seed Gum - Assign lead
 Silver Dihydrogen Citrate (JM) - Petition sufficiency

March 21, 2017- cancelled

April 4, 2017

Japones Pepper (ARB) - discuss petition sufficiency
 Ethiopian pepper (ARB) - discuss petition sufficiency
 Tamarind Seed Gum (SE) - discuss petition sufficiency
 Discuss public comment

~~April 18, 2017~~ - NOSB meeting Denver

May 2, 2017

May 16, 2017

June 6, 2017

June 20, 2017

July 18, 2017

August 1, 2017

August 15, 2017

September 5, 2017

September 19, 2017

October 3, 2017

October 17, 2017

November 7, 2017

November 21, 2017

December 5, 2017

December 19, 2017

January 2, 2018

January 16, 2018

Spring 2017 Milestones	2017 Target date
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Spring 2017 NOSB meeting – Denver, CO	Apr 19-21, 2017 (W-F)

Note: Subcommittee notes may include preliminary discussions regarding substances considered for addition to or removal from the National List. They do not represent official National Organic Program (NOP) policy or regulations. Please see the NOP website for official NOP policy, regulations, and status of substances used in organic production and handling.

**National Organic Standards Board (NOSB)
Handling Subcommittee (HS) Meeting Notes
Tuesday, April 4, 2017 1:00 pm ET**

Present: Lisa de Lima (LD), Chair; Scott Rice, Vice Chair (SR); Asa Bradman (AB); Tom Chapman (TC); Steve Ela (SE); Joelle Mosso (JM); A-dae Briones (ARB); Ashley Swaffar (AS); Harriet Behar (HB) - observer; Jesse Buie (JB) - observer

Absent: none

Staff: Michelle Arsenault (MA); Jessica Walden (JW)

Work Agenda

Petitioned Substances						
Substance	National List §	Contact	TR rqst?	Notes*	Scheduled, Discussed, Voted	Meeting
Sodium dodecylbenzene sulfonate (SDBS)	205.605(b)	SR	Y	Petition sent to HS on 11 02 15. Response/request for TR due 01 04 16. Petition found suff 12 01 15. No new TR will be requested. Referred back to HS at Apr 2016 NOSB meeting. TR request sent 05 18 16. TR in development - Expected late Dec 2016/early Jan. Delayed until Spring 2017	Jan 3,	Fall 2017
Sodium Chlorite for the generation of chlorine dioxide gas Petition, Addendum	205.605	SR	N	Petition for chlorine dioxide dry gas sent to HS on 12 02 15. Response/request for TR due 02 02 16. HS sent request 03 17 16 for additional info from petitioner. Sodium chlorite addendum received 05 05 16. Suff due 07 05 16. Petition found sufficient 06 07 16. Sent back to Subcomm at Fall 2016 meeting	Jan 31, Feb 21	TBD
L-Methionine	205.605	AS	N	Petition sent to HS on 08 25 16. Response/request for TR due 10 24 16. Petition found suff 10 04 16. No new TR	Jan 17	Spr 2017
Short DNA Tracers	205.605	LD	N	Petition sent to HS on 10 21 16. Response/request for TR due 01 04 17. Petition found sufficient. No TR request	Jan 3, Feb 21	Spr 2017
Silver Dihydrogen Citrate	205.605(b)	JM	Y	Petition sent to HS 01 24 17. Response/request for TR due 03 28 17. Petition found sufficient 03 07 17. HS requested TR 03 07 14	Mar 7	TBD

Petitioned Substances

Substance	National List §	Contact	TR rqst?	Notes*	Scheduled, Discussed, Voted	Meeting
Japones pepper	205.606	ARB	N	Petition sent to HS 02 09 17. Response/request for TR due 04 11 17. Petition found suff 04 04 17. No TR.	Apr 4	Fall 2017
Ethiopian pepper	205.606	ARB	N	Petition sent to HS 02 09 17. Response/request for TR due 04 11 17. Petition found suff 04 04 17. No TR.	Apr 4	Fall 2017
Tamarind Seed Gum	205.606	SE		Petition sent to HS 02 15 17. Response/request for TR due 04 17 17. HS will request additional info from the petitioner.	Apr 4	TBD

2019 Sunsets §205.605(a), §205.605(b) and 205.606

Summary: Spr 2017 Complete Review: Fall 2017

Name	National List §	Contact	TAP/TR	Notes	Scheduled, Discussed	Review Meeting
Attapulgit	205.605(a)	JM	N		Jan 17	Spr 2017
Bentonite	205.605(a)	JM	N		Jan 17	"
Diatomaceous earth	205.605(a)	JM	N		Jan 17	"
Nitrogen	205.605(a)	LD	N		Dec 6	"
Sodium carbonate	205.605(a)	LD	N		Dec 6	"
Acidified sodium chlorite	205.605(b)	AS	N		Dec 20	"
Chlorine Materials (Calcium hypochlorite, Chlorine dioxide, Sodium hypochlorite)	205.605(b)	AS	N		Dec 20	"
Carbon dioxide	205.605(b)	LD	N		Dec 6	"

Magnesium chloride	205.605(b)	LD	Y	TR in development; expected December 2016. TR sent to HS 12 12 16. Suff due 02 14 17. TR found sufficient 01 17 17	Jan 17	“
Potassium acid tartrate	205.605(b)	SE	Y	TR in development; expected December 2016. TR sent to HS 01 11 17. TR suff due 03 15 17. TR found sufficient 01 17 17	Jan 17	“
Sodium phosphates	205.605(b)	TC/LD	2016	Phosphates - TR Request rec'd 07 28 15; TR sent to HS on 02 10 2016; TR found sufficient on 03 15 2016	Jan 17	“
Casings	205.606	AB	N		Jan 17	“
Konjac flour	205.606	SR	N		Jan 31	“
Pectin (non-amidated forms only)	205.606	TC	N		Jan 3	“

Other projects

Name	Contact	Notes*	Meeting
Packaging substances used in organic food handling - including BPA	LD/AB	Submitted briefing paper to NOP 01 12 14. Response memo from NOP sent to HS 11 19 14. TR in development, expected mid-Sep - delayed. TR received 9/30/16. In review by the program. TR sent to HS 10 19 16. TR sufficiency due 12 20 16. TR found insufficient 12 20 16. Vote: 02 21 17	Disc Doc Spr 2017
Tocopherols Reclassification	TC	Review scheduled 9/6/16. Voted 09 06 16. Sent back to Subcomm at fall 2016 meeting. Scheduled for discussion. Vote: 01 17 17	Spr 2017
Tocopherols. Additional Listing @ 205.605(a)	TC	Voted 09 06 16. Sent back to Subcomm at Fall 2016 meeting. Deferred to Fall 2017 meeting.	Fall 2017
Nutrient Vitamins and Minerals - annotation change	TC	Pending NOP Approval. Approved 01 12 16. Proposal. On hold.	TBD
Marine materials (marine algae and extracts). Proposal	SR	Pending NOP approval. NOP approved request 01 12 16. TR request sent to NOP 02 05 16. TR expected Jul 2016. TR sent to HS 08 10 16. TR suff due 10 11 16. TR found sufficient 09 06 16. Voted 09 06 16. Proposal in development 12 06 16. Voted 01 17 17	Spr 2017
Reclassification of Magnesium chloride	LD	HS requested addition of this. NOP approved 01 12 16, but delayed until after classification guidance is published and TR is available.	TBD
Ancillary substances used in cellulose	LD	Voted: 01 03 17	Spr 2017

Research Priorities	TC/ALL	RPs due to MS Aug 2017	Fall 2017
NOP operating plan suggestions	ALL		NA

*Highlight indicates committee action needed. *Highlight indicates review completion and/or vote

Agenda

- Approve March 7, 2017
- Japonese Pepper (ARB) - discuss petition sufficiency
- Ethiopian pepper (ARB) - discuss petition sufficiency
- Tamarind Seed Gum (SE) - discuss petition sufficiency
- Discuss public comment
- Tocopherols
- Other items
- Adjourn

Discussion

- **HS Notes** from March 7 were approved with the following amendments:
 - The phosphates work agenda item will be removed from the table above as of April 4, 2017. The HS discussed this item during the December 6 2016 call, and will not move forward with this particular document. Instead, the HS requested that the discussion document be posted on the petitioned substances webpage as a way to maintain an archive of the work to date. Phosphates will be reviewed under sunset.
 - The draft rule on Nutrient Vitamins and Minerals (NVM) was never finalized, and as noted above, is pending. TC will lead the review if it moves forward.
- **Japones Pepper (ARB)**. The lead summarized the petition and uses. Japonese pepper is being petitioned for use on 205.606. The petitioner indicated that it is not available in sufficient quantity organically. The petition was found sufficient.
- **Ethiopian pepper (ARB)**. Similar petition to Japonese peppers, and submitted by the same petitioner. The petitioner cited lack of commercial availability. They also noted that they are able to source this as seed, but not in the form of a pepper. The HS found the petition sufficient.
- **Tamarind Seed Gum (SE)**. Petitioned for inclusion on 205.606. As noted on the petition, tamarind seed gum has a wide variety of uses including as a powder to facilitate viscosity and mouth feel. The petitioner claims that the organic supply is not sufficient. A member noted that there are many suppliers, especially in India and Thailand. The group discussed alternatives and processing methods. The HS will ask some follow up questions from the petitioner.
- **Public comment**. The group reviewed public comment for various documents and discussed the shortened comment period. During the next executive call the NOSB will discuss whether or not they have received adequate public comment, and if they are ready to vote on all proposals before them.
- **Tocopherols**. The group discussed tocopherols specifically, and the determination was that the tocopherol proposal is fine as-is. A member offered that certifiers agree that tocopherols do not need to be listed both on 205.605(a) and 205.605(b) and that it is adequate to change the annotation at 205.605(b) to require nonsynthetic and organic versions be used if commercially available.
- **Other items**. None

- The meeting was adjourned

[Previous HS Notes](#)

Future Call Schedule (1st and 3rd Tuesdays 1:00 ET)

March 7, 2017

- Japones Pepper - Assign lead
- Ethiopian pepper - Assign lead
- Tamarind Seed Gum - Assign lead
- Silver Dihydrogen Citrate (JM) - Petition sufficiency

March 21, 2017- cancelled

April 4, 2017

- Japones Pepper (ARB) - discuss petition sufficiency
- Ethiopian pepper (ARB) - discuss petition sufficiency
- Tamarind Seed Gum (SE) - discuss petition sufficiency
- Discuss public comment

~~April 18, 2017~~ - NOSB meeting Denver

May 2, 2017

May 16, 2017

June 6, 2017

June 20, 2017

July 18, 2017

August 1, 2017

August 15, 2017

September 5, 2017

September 19, 2017

October 3, 2017

October 17, 2017

November 7, 2017

November 21, 2017

December 5, 2017

December 19, 2017

January 2, 2018

January 16, 2018

Spring 2017 Milestones	2017 Target date
New NOSB member orientation	Feb 8, 2017
NOP - Complete Spring 2017 NOSB meeting tentative agenda	Feb 10, 2017
NOSB - Spring 2017 proposals due to NOP	Feb 17, 2017
NOP - Post proposals, Publish FRN, Open public comment	Mar 1, 2017
Discuss work agendas on ES call	Mar 10, 2017

Public comment closes	Mar 30, 2017
NOP - Send compiled public comments to NOSB	Apr 5, 2017
Work agendas finalized on ES call (last call before fall meeting)	Apr 7, 2017
Public comment webinar	Apr 13, 2017
Spring 2017 NOSB meeting – Denver, CO	Apr 19-21, 2017 (W-F)

Note: Subcommittee notes may include preliminary discussions regarding substances considered for addition to or removal from the National List. They do not represent official National Organic Program (NOP) policy or regulations. Please see the NOP website for official NOP policy, regulations, and status of substances used in organic production and handling.

**National Organic Standards Board (NOSB)
Handling Subcommittee (HS) Meeting Notes
Tuesday, May 2, 2017 1:00 pm ET**

Present: Lisa de Lima (LD), Chair; Scott Rice, Vice Chair (SR); Asa Bradman (AB); Tom Chapman (TC); Steve Ela (SE); Joelle Mosso (JM); A-dae Briones (ARB); Harriet Behar (HB) - observer; Jesse Buie (JB) - observer

Absent: Ashley Swaffar (AS)

Staff: Michelle Arsenault (MA); Jessica Walden (JW)

Work Agenda

Petitioned Substances						
Substance	National List §	Contact	TR rqst?	Notes*	Scheduled, Discussed, Voted	Meeting
Sodium dodecylbenzene sulfonate (SDBS)	205.605(b)	SR	Y	Petition sent to HS on 11 02 15. Response/request for TR due 01 04 16. Petition found suff 12 01 15. No new TR will be requested. Referred back to HS at Apr 2016 NOSB meeting. TR request sent 05 18 16. TR in development - Expected late Dec 2016/early Jan. TR delayed until Spring 2017	TBD	Fall 2017
Sodium Chlorite for the generation of chlorine dioxide gas Petition, Addendum	205.605	SR	Y	Petition for chlorine dioxide dry gas sent to HS on 12 02 15. Response/request for TR due 02 02 16. HS sent request 03 17 16 for additional info from petitioner. Sodium chlorite addendum received 05 05 16. Suff due 07 05 16. Petition found sufficient 06 07 16. Sent back to Subcomm at Fall 2016 meeting. HS will request a TR.	May 16	TBD
Silver Dihydrogen Citrate	205.605(b)	JM	Y	Petition sent to HS 01 24 17. Response/request for TR due 03 28 17. Petition found sufficient 03 07 17. HS requested TR 03 07 14	Mar 7	Fall 2017
Japones pepper	205.606	ARB	N	Petition sent to HS 02 09 17. Response/request for TR due 04 11 17. Petition found suff 04 04 17. No TR.	Apr 4, June 6	Fall 2017
Ethiopian pepper	205.606	ARB	N	Petition sent to HS 02 09 17. Response/request for TR due 04 11 17. Petition found suff 04 04 17. No TR.	Apr 4 June 6	Fall 2017

Petitioned Substances

Substance	National List §	Contact	TR rqst?	Notes*	Scheduled, Discussed, Voted	Meeting
Tamarind Seed Gum	205.606	SE		Petition sent to HS 02 15 17. Response/request for TR due 04 17 17. HS will request additional info from the petitioner.	Apr 4	Spr 2018

2019 Sunsets §205.605(a), §205.605(b) and 205.606

Summary: Spr 2017 Review: Fall 2017

Name	National List §	Contact	TAP/TR	Notes	Scheduled, Discussed	Review Meeting
Attapulgit	205.605(a)	JM	N		Jun 6	Fall 2017
Bentonite	205.605(a)	JM	N		Jun 6	"
Diatomaceous earth	205.605(a)	JM	N		Jun 6	"
Nitrogen	205.605(a)	LD	N		May 16	"
Sodium carbonate	205.605(a)	LD	N		Jun 6	"
Acidified sodium chlorite	205.605(b)	AS	N		May 16	"
Chlorine Materials (Calcium hypochlorite, Chlorine dioxide, Sodium hypochlorite)	205.605(b)	AS	N		May 16	"
Carbon dioxide	205.605(b)	LD	N		May 16	"
Magnesium chloride	205.605(b)	LD	Y	TR in development; expected December 2016. TR sent to HS 12 12 16. Suff due 02 14 17. TR found sufficient 01 17 17	Disc May 16	"
Potassium acid tartrate	205.605(b)	SE	Y	TR in development; expected December 2016. TR sent to HS 01 11 17. TR suff due 03 15 17. TR found sufficient 01 17 17	May 16	"

Sodium phosphates	205.605(b)	TC/LD	2016	Phosphates - TR Request rec'd 07 28 15; TR sent to HS on 02 10 2016; TR found sufficient on 03 15 2016	June 20	“
Casings	205.606	AB	N		Aug 1	“
Konjac flour	205.606	SR	N		Aug 15	“
Pectin (non-amidated forms only)	205.606	TC	N		June 6	“

Other projects			
Name	Contact	Notes*	Meeting
Packaging substances used in organic food handling - including BPA	LD/AB	Submitted briefing paper to NOP 01 12 14. Response memo from NOP sent to HS 11 19 14. TR in development, expected mid-Sep - delayed. TR received 9/30/16. In review by the program. TR sent to HS 10 19 16. TR sufficiency due 12 20 16. TR found insufficient 12 20 16. Vote: 02 21 17. New TR in development.	Proposal? Fall 2017
Tocopherols Reclassification	TC	Review scheduled 9/6/16. Voted 09 06 16. Sent back to Subcomm at fall 2016 meeting. Scheduled for discussion. Vote: 01 17 17. Referred back to HS at Spr 2017 NOSB meeting	Fall 2017
Tocopherols. Additional Listing @ 205.605(a)	TC	Voted 09 06 16. Sent back to Subcomm at Fall 2016 meeting. Deferred to Fall 2017 meeting.	Fall 2017
Nutrient Vitamins and Minerals - annotation change	TC	Pending NOP Approval. Approved 01 12 16. Proposal. On hold.	TBD
Marine materials (marine algae and extracts). Proposal	SR	Pending NOP approval. NOP approved request 01 12 16. TR request sent to NOP 02 05 16. TR expected Jul 2016. TR sent to HS 08 10 16. TR suff due 10 11 16. TR found sufficient 09 06 16. Voted 09 06 16. Proposal in development 12 06 16. Voted 01 17 17. Referred back to HS at Spr 2017 NOSB meeting	Fall 2017
Reclassification of Magnesium chloride	LD	HS requested addition of this. NOP approved 01 12 16, but delayed until after classification guidance is published and TR is available.	Fall 2017?
Ancillary substances used in cellulose	LD	Voted: 01 03 17. Referred back to HS at Spr 2017 NOSB meeting	Fall 2017
Research Priorities	TC/ALL	RPs due to MS Aug 2017	Fall 2017
NOP operating plan suggestions	ALL		NA

*Highlight indicates committee action needed. *Highlight indicates review completion and/or vote

Agenda

- Approve April 4, 2017
- Debrief - Denver meeting
- Assign dates for work agenda items.
- Other items
- Adjourn

Discussion

- **HS Notes** from April 4, 2017 approved with a correction to the title of the agenda item on tocopherols
- **Debrief - Denver meeting.** The Chair asked for feedback about the meeting. The NOP noted that the updated member guide contains information about meeting flow and asked that the new members review it and send any feedback.
- **Assign dates for work agenda items.** The group reviewed the work agenda and assigned discussion dates for various substances. See table above and call schedule below for dates. Members discussed a possible annotation change to potassium acid tartrate and may request to add this to the work agenda. Members also discussed sodium chlorite, and feel that in order to move forward they will need to request a TR. The group will continue this discussion further on the May 16 call. The group also talked about how to move forward with the BPA project while awaiting the TR.
- **Other items.** None
- **The meeting was adjourned**

[Previous HS Notes](#)

Future Call Schedule (1st and 3rd Tuesdays 1:00 ET)

April 4, 2017

Japones Pepper (ARB) - discuss petition sufficiency
Ethiopian pepper (ARB) - discuss petition sufficiency
Tamarind Seed Gum (SE) - discuss petition sufficiency
Discuss public comment

~~April 18, 2017 - NOSB meeting Denver~~

May 2, 2017

May 16, 2017

Sodium Chlorite for the generation of chlorine dioxide gas - Disc questions for TR
Nitrogen (LD) - Discuss proposal/vote
Acidified sodium chlorite (AS) - Discuss proposal/vote
Chlorine Materials (Calcium hypochlorite, Chlorine dioxide, Sodium hypochlorite) (AS) - Discuss proposal/vote
Carbon dioxide (LD) - Discuss proposal/vote
Magnesium chloride (LD) - Discuss proposal
Potassium acid tartrate (SE) - Discuss proposal/vote

June 6, 2017

Japones Pepper (ARB) - Discuss proposal/vote
Ethiopian pepper (ARB) - Discuss proposal/vote
Attapulgate (JM) - Discuss proposal/vote
Bentonite (JM) - Discuss proposal/vote
Diatomaceous earth (JM) - Discuss proposal/vote
Sodium carbonate (LD) - Discuss proposal/vote
Pectin (TC) - Discuss proposal/vote

June 20, 2017
 Sodium phosphates (TC/LD) - Discuss proposal/vote
 July 18, 2017
 August 1, 2017
 Casings (AB) - Discuss proposal/vote
 August 15, 2017 -
 BPA (AS) - Discuss if TR is available.
 Konjac Flour (SR) - Discuss proposal/vote
 September 5, 2017
 September 19, 2017
 October 3, 2017
 October 17, 2017
 November 7, 2017
 November 21, 2017
 December 5, 2017
 December 19, 2017
 January 2, 2018
 January 16, 2018

Fall 2017 Milestones	Target dates (tentative)
NOP - Publish FRN, Open public comment	~May 5, 2017
NOSB Request for TRs for 2020 sunset materials	July 17, 2017
NOP - Complete Fall 2017 NOSB meeting tentative agenda	Aug 11, 2017
NOSB - Fall 2017 proposals due to NOP	Aug 29, 2017
NOP - Post proposals	On or before Sep 12, 2017
Public comment closes	Oct 11, 2017
Discuss/finalize work agendas on ES call	Oct 13, 2017
NOP - Send compiled public comments to NOSB	Oct 16, 2017
Two Public comment webinars	Oct 24, and if needed 26, 2017
Fall 2017 NOSB meeting - Jacksonville, FL	Oct 31- Nov 2, 2017

Note: Subcommittee notes may include preliminary discussions regarding substances considered for addition to or removal from the National List. They do not represent official National Organic Program (NOP) policy or regulations. Please see the NOP website for official NOP policy, regulations, and status of substances used in organic production and handling.

**National Organic Standards Board (NOSB)
Handling Subcommittee (HS) Meeting Notes
Tuesday, May 16, 2017 1:00 pm ET**

Present: Lisa de Lima (LD), Chair; Steve Ela (SE); Joelle Mosso (JM); A-dae Briones (ARB); Ashley Swaffar (AS); Asa Bradman (AB); Harriet Behar (HB) - observer; Jesse Buie (JB) - observer

Absent: Scott Rice, Vice Chair (SR); Tom Chapman (TC)

Staff: Michelle Arsenault (MA); Jessica Walden (JW); Devon Pattillo (DP)

Work Agenda

Petitioned Substances						
Substance	National List §	Contact	TR reqst?	Notes*	Scheduled, Discussed, Voted	Meeting
Sodium dodecylbenzene sulfonate (SDBS)	205.605(b)	SR	Y	Petition sent to HS on 11 02 15. Response/request for TR due 01 04 16. Petition found suff 12 01 15. No new TR will be requested. Referred back to HS at Apr 2016 NOSB meeting. TR request sent 05 18 16. TR in development - Expected late Dec 2016/early Jan. TR delayed until Spring 2017	TBD	Fall 2017
Sodium Chlorite for the generation of chlorine dioxide gas Petition, Addendum	205.605	SR	Y	Petition for chlorine dioxide dry gas sent to HS on 12 02 15. Response/request for TR due 02 02 16. HS sent request 03 17 16 for additional info from petitioner. Sodium chlorite addendum received 05 05 16. Suff due 07 05 16. Petition found sufficient 06 07 16. Sent back to Subcomm at Fall 2016 meeting. HS will request a TR.	May 16	TBD
Silver Dihydrogen Citrate	205.605(b)	JM	Y	Petition sent to HS 01 24 17. Response/request for TR due 03 28 17. Petition found sufficient 03 07 17. HS requested TR 03 07 14	Mar 7	Fall 2017
Japones pepper	205.606	ARB	N	Petition sent to HS 02 09 17. Response/request for TR due 04 11 17. Petition found suff 04 04 17. No TR.	Apr 4, June 6	Fall 2017
Ethiopian pepper	205.606	ARB	N	Petition sent to HS 02 09 17. Response/request for TR due 04 11 17. Petition found suff 04 04 17. No TR.	Apr 4 June 6	Fall 2017

Petitioned Substances

Substance	National List §	Contact	TR rqst?	Notes*	Scheduled, Discussed, Voted	Meeting
Tamarind Seed Gum	205.606	SE		Petition sent to HS 02 15 17. Response/request for TR due 04 17 17. HS will request additional info from the petitioner.	Apr 4	Spr 2018

2019 Sunsets §205.605(a), §205.605(b) and 205.606

Summary: Spr 2017 Review: Fall 2017

Name	National List §	Contact	TAP/TR	Notes	Scheduled, Discussed	Review Meeting
Attapulgit	205.605(a)	JM	N		Jun 6	Fall 2017
Bentonite	205.605(a)	JM	N		Jun 6	"
Diatomaceous earth	205.605(a)	JM	N		Jun 6	"
Nitrogen	205.605(a)	LD	N		May 16	"
Sodium carbonate	205.605(a)	LD	N		Jun 6	"
Acidified sodium chlorite	205.605(b)	AS	N		May 16	"
Chlorine Materials (Calcium hypochlorite, Chlorine dioxide, Sodium hypochlorite)	205.605(b)	AS	N		May 16	"
Carbon dioxide	205.605(b)	LD	N		May 16	"
Magnesium chloride	205.605(b)	LD	Y	TR in development; expected December 2016. TR sent to HS 12 12 16. Suff due 02 14 17. TR found sufficient 01 17 17	May 16	"
Potassium acid tartrate	205.605(b)	SE	Y	TR in development; expected December 2016. TR sent to HS 01 11 17. TR suff due 03 15 17. TR found sufficient 01 17 17	May 16	"

Sodium phosphates	205.605(b)	TC/LD	2016	Phosphates - TR Request rec'd 07 28 15; TR sent to HS on 02 10 2016; TR found sufficient on 03 15 2016	June 20	“
Casings	205.606	AB	N		Aug 1	“
Konjac flour	205.606	SR	N		Aug 15	“
Pectin (non-amidated forms only)	205.606	TC	N		June 6	“

Other projects

Name	Contact	Notes*	Meeting
Packaging substances used in organic food handling - including BPA	LD/AB	Submitted briefing paper to NOP 01 12 14. Response memo from NOP sent to HS 11 19 14. TR in development, expected mid-Sep - delayed. TR received 9/30/16. In review by the program. TR sent to HS 10 19 16. TR sufficiency due 12 20 16. TR found insufficient 12 20 16. Vote: 02 21 17. New TR in development.	Proposal? Fall 2017
Tocopherols Reclassification	TC	Review scheduled 9/6/16. Voted 09 06 16. Sent back to Subcomm at fall 2016 meeting. Scheduled for discussion. Vote: 01 17 17. Referred back to HS at Spr 2017 NOSB meeting	Fall 2017
Tocopherols. Additional Listing @ 205.605(a)	TC	Voted 09 06 16. Sent back to Subcomm at Fall 2016 meeting. Deferred to Fall 2017 meeting.	Fall 2017
Nutrient Vitamins and Minerals - annotation change	TC	Pending NOP Approval. Approved 01 12 16. Proposal. On hold.	TBD
Marine materials (marine algae and extracts). Proposal	SR	Pending NOP approval. NOP approved request 01 12 16. TR request sent to NOP 02 05 16. TR expected Jul 2016. TR sent to HS 08 10 16. TR suff due 10 11 16. TR found sufficient 09 06 16. Voted 09 06 16. Proposal in development 12 06 16. Voted 01 17 17. Referred back to HS at Spr 2017 NOSB meeting	Fall 2017
Reclassification of Magnesium chloride	LD	HS requested addition of this. NOP approved 01 12 16, but delayed until after classification guidance is published and TR is available.	Fall 2017
Ancillary substances used in cellulose	LD	Voted: 01 03 17. Referred back to HS at Spr 2017 NOSB meeting	Fall 2017
Research Priorities	TC/ALL	RPs due to MS Aug 2017	Fall 2017
NOP operating plan suggestions	ALL		NA

*Highlight indicates committee action needed. *Highlight indicates review completion and/or vote

Agenda

- Approve May 2, 2017
- Sodium Chlorite for the generation of chlorine dioxide gas - Disc questions for TR
- Nitrogen (LD) - Discuss proposal/vote
- Acidified sodium chlorite (AS) - Discuss proposal/vote
- Chlorine Materials (Calcium hypochlorite, Chlorine dioxide, Sodium hypochlorite) (AS) - Discuss proposal/vote
- Carbon dioxide (LD) - Discuss proposal/vote
- Magnesium chloride (LD) - Discuss proposal
- Potassium acid tartrate (SE) - Discuss proposal/vote
- Marine materials (SR) - discuss next steps
- Research priorities discussion (LD)
- Other items
- Adjourn

Discussion

- **HS Notes** from May 2, 2017
- **Sodium Chlorite for the generation of chlorine dioxide gas (SR)**. Deferred to next call.
- **Nitrogen (LD)**. Used for flash freezing and storage. Lots of comments in support of retaining it on the National List.

Motion to remove nitrogen from 205.605(a)

Motion by: LS

Seconded by: AS

Additional discussion: none

Yes: 0 No: 6 Abstain: 0 Absent: 2 Recuse: 0

- **Acidified sodium chlorite (AS)**. The lead noted that it is essential for food safety. Commenters have asked that the NOSB undertake a review of all sanitizers as a group. HS is discussing this project, but if they move it forward, it will occur separate from the current sunset review.

Motion to remove acidified sodium chlorite from 205.605(b)

Motion by: AS

Seconded by: LD

Additional discussion: none

Yes: 0 No: 6 Abstain: 0 Absent: 2 Recuse: 0

- **Chlorine materials (Calcium hypochlorite, Chlorine dioxide, Sodium hypochlorite) (AS)**. The lead noted that stakeholders opposed to relisting want a comprehensive review of all sanitizers. Handlers assert that chlorine materials are essential. There are alternatives but the lead noted that they are not as readily available to smaller operations. Additionally, there are some uses, e.g. as an egg wash, where chlorine is required. A member added that, based on feedback from farmers in his regional area, they are concerned about health hazards associated with chlorine materials.

Motion to remove chlorine materials from 205.605(b)

Motion by: AS

Seconded by: JM

Additional discussion: none

Yes: 0 No: 6 Abstain: 0 Absent: 2 Recuse: 0

- **Carbon dioxide (LD).** Carbon dioxide (CO₂) is used in packaging and freezing, carbonating beverages, extraction, processing, and pest control. All public comment was in favor of retention on the National List, and the NOSB recently voted (in 2015) for continued listing.

Motion to remove Carbon dioxide from 205.605(b)

Motion by: LS

Seconded by: AS

Additional discussion: none

Yes: 0 No: 6 Abstain: 0 Absent: 2 Recuse: 0

- **Magnesium chloride (LD).** Used as a processing aid, firming agent and coagulant in tofu, and as an essential mineral in infant formula. The NOSB voted to relist this material in 2015. During that review the NOSB discussed an annotation for use in tofu production only. The lead noted that there are very few organic supplements already, so if it were restricted, it could have an economic impact on that industry. There was also a previous discussion about moving the listing from 205.605(a) because it is derived from seawater. The HS will reassess reclassification after the next comment period.

Motion to remove Magnesium chloride from 205.605(b)

Motion by: LD

Seconded by: AS

Additional discussion: none

Yes: 0 No: 6 Abstain: 0 Absent: 2 Recuse: 0

- **Potassium acid tartrate (SE).** The group discussed the use of this material, and the potential for reclassifying this as non-synthetic, agricultural. The Chair will request the addition of this to the work agenda during the next ES call.

Motion to remove Potassium acid tartrate from 205.605(b)

Motion by: SE

Seconded by: AS

Additional discussion: none

Yes: 0 No: 6 Abstain: 0 Absent: 2 Recuse: 0

- **Marine materials (SR).** Deferred to next call
- **Research priorities discussion (LD).** Last year's research priorities were circulated to the NOSB for review and consideration. Members discussed possible new topics for this year's priorities. A member emphasized that celery powder is a crucial topic and should remain on the list, but the topic of consumer demand may not be something that should go forward.
- **Other items.** None
- **The meeting was adjourned**

[Previous HS Notes](#)

Future Call Schedule (1st and 3rd Tuesdays 1:00 ET)

May 2, 2017

May 16, 2017

Sodium Chlorite for the generation of chlorine dioxide gas - Disc questions for TR

Nitrogen (LD) - Discuss proposal/vote
 Acidified sodium chlorite (AS) - Discuss proposal/vote
 Chlorine Materials (Calcium hypochlorite, Chlorine dioxide, Sodium hypochlorite) (AS) - Discuss proposal/vote
 Carbon dioxide (LD) - Discuss proposal/vote
 Magnesium chloride (LD) - Discuss proposal
 Potassium acid tartrate (SE) - Discuss proposal/vote
 June 6, 2017
 Sodium Chlorite for the generation of chlorine dioxide gas - Disc questions for TR
 Japones Pepper (ARB) - Discuss proposal/vote
 Ethiopian pepper (ARB) - Discuss proposal/vote
 Attapulgate (JM) - Discuss proposal/vote
 Bentonite (JM) - Discuss proposal/vote
 Diatomaceous earth (JM) - Discuss proposal/vote
 Sodium carbonate (LD) - Discuss proposal/vote
 Pectin (TC) - Discuss proposal/vote
 Marine Materials (SR)
 June 20, 2017
 Sodium phosphates (TC/LD) - Discuss proposal/vote
 July 18, 2017
 August 1, 2017
 Casings (AB) - Discuss proposal/vote
 August 15, 2017 -
 BPA (AS) - Discuss if TR is available.
 Konjac Flour (SR) - Discuss proposal/vote
 September 5, 2017
 September 19, 2017
 October 3, 2017
 October 17, 2017
 November 7, 2017
 November 21, 2017
 December 5, 2017
 December 19, 2017
 January 2, 2018
 January 16, 2018

Fall 2017 Milestones	Target dates (tentative)
NOP - Publish FRN, Open public comment	~May 5, 2017
NOSB Request for TRs for 2020 sunset materials	July 17, 2017
NOP - Complete Fall 2017 NOSB meeting tentative agenda	Aug 11, 2017
NOSB - Fall 2017 proposals due to NOP	Aug 29, 2017
NOP - Post proposals	On or before Sep 12, 2017
Public comment closes	Oct 11, 2017
Discuss/finalize work agendas on ES call	Oct 13, 2017

NOP - Send compiled public comments to NOSB	Oct 16, 2017
Two Public comment webinars	Oct 24, and if needed 26, 2017
Fall 2017 NOSB meeting - Jacksonville, FL	Oct 31- Nov 2, 2017

Note: Subcommittee notes may include preliminary discussions regarding substances considered for addition to or removal from the National List. They do not represent official National Organic Program (NOP) policy or regulations. Please see the NOP website for official NOP policy, regulations, and status of substances used in organic production and handling.

**National Organic Standards Board (NOSB)
Handling Subcommittee (HS) Meeting Notes
Tuesday, June 6, 2017 1:00 pm ET**

Present: Lisa de Lima (LD), Chair; Steve Ela (SE); Joelle Mosso (JM); Ashley Swaffar (AS); Asa Bradman (AB); Scott Rice, Vice Chair (SR); Tom Chapman (TC)

Absent: A-dae Briones (ARB)

Staff: Michelle Arsenault (MA); Devon Pattillo (DP)

Work Agenda

Petitioned Substances						
Substance	National List §	Contact	TR reqst?	Notes*	Scheduled, Discussed, Voted	Meeting
Sodium dodecylbenzene sulfonate (SDBS)	205.605(b)	SR	Y	Petition sent to HS on 11 02 15. Response/request for TR due 01 04 16. Petition found suff 12 01 15. No new TR will be requested. Referred back to HS at Apr 2016 NOSB meeting. TR request sent 05 18 16. TR in development - Expected late Dec 2016/early Jan. TR delayed until Spring 2017. TR sent to HS 05 30 17. Response due 08 01 17	Aug 1	Fall 2017
Sodium Chlorite for the generation of chlorine dioxide gas Petition, Addendum	205.605	SR	Y	Petition for chlorine dioxide dry gas sent to HS on 12 02 15. Response/request for TR due 02 02 16. HS sent request 03 17 16 for additional info from petitioner. Sodium chlorite addendum received 05 05 16. Suff due 07 05 16. Petition found sufficient 06 07 16. Sent back to Subcomm at Fall 2016 meeting. HS requested a TR 06 06 17.	May 16, Jun 6,	TBD
Silver Dihydrogen Citrate	205.605(b)	JM	Y	Petition sent to HS 01 24 17. Response/request for TR due 03 28 17. Petition found sufficient 03 07 17. HS requested TR 03 07 14. TR in development.	Mar 7	Fall 2017
Japones pepper	205.606	ARB	N	Petition sent to HS 02 09 17. Response/request for TR due 04 11 17. Petition found suff 04 04 17. No TR.	Apr 4, June 20	Fall 2017
Ethiopian pepper	205.606	ARB	N	Petition sent to HS 02 09 17. Response/request for TR due 04 11 17. Petition found suff 04 04 17. No TR.	Apr 4 June 20	Fall 2017

Petitioned Substances

Substance	National List §	Contact	TR rqst?	Notes*	Scheduled, Discussed, Voted	Meeting
Tamarind Seed Gum	205.606	SE		Petition sent to HS 02 15 17. Response/request for TR due 04 17 17. HS requested additional info from the petitioner 04 04.	Apr 4	Spr 2018

2019 Sunsets §205.605(a), §205.605(b) and 205.606

Summary: Spr 2017 Review: Fall 2017

Name	National List §	Contact	TAP/TR	Notes	Scheduled, Discussed	Review Meeting
Attapulgit	205.605(a)	JM	N		Jun 6	Fall 2017
Bentonite	205.605(a)	JM	N		Jun 6	"
Diatomaceous earth	205.605(a)	JM	N		Jun 6	"
Nitrogen	205.605(a)	LD	N		May 16	"
Sodium carbonate	205.605(a)	LD	N		Jun 6	"
Acidified sodium chlorite	205.605(b)	AS	N		May 16	"
Chlorine Materials (Calcium hypochlorite, Chlorine dioxide, Sodium hypochlorite)	205.605(b)	AS	N		May 16	"
Carbon dioxide	205.605(b)	LD	N		May 16	"
Magnesium chloride	205.605(b)	LD	Y	TR in development; expected December 2016. TR sent to HS 12 12 16. Suff due 02 14 17. TR found sufficient 01 17 17	May 16	"
Potassium acid tartrate	205.605(b)	SE	Y	TR in development; expected December 2016. TR sent to HS 01 11 17. TR suff due 03 15 17. TR found sufficient 01 17 17	May 16	"

Sodium phosphates	205.605(b)	TC/LD	2016	Phosphates - TR Request rec'd 07 28 15; TR sent to HS on 02 10 2016; TR found sufficient on 03 15 2016	June 20	“
Casings	205.606	AB	N		Aug 1	“
Konjac flour	205.606	SR	N		Aug 15	“
Pectin (non-amidated forms only)	205.606	TC	N		June 6	“

Other projects

Name	Contact	Notes*	Meeting
Packaging substances used in organic food handling - including BPA	LD/AB	Submitted briefing paper to NOP 01 12 14. Response memo from NOP sent to HS 11 19 14. TR in development, expected mid-Sep - delayed. TR received 9/30/16. In review by the program. TR sent to HS 10 19 16. TR sufficiency due 12 20 16. TR found insufficient 12 20 16. Vote: 02 21 17. New TR in development.	Proposal? Fall 2017
Tocopherols Reclassification	TC	Review scheduled 9/6/16. Voted 09 06 16. Sent back to Subcomm at fall 2016 meeting. Scheduled for discussion. Vote: 01 17 17. Referred back to HS at Spr 2017 NOSB meeting	Fall 2017
Tocopherols. Additional Listing @ 205.605(a)	TC	Voted 09 06 16. Sent back to Subcomm at Fall 2016 meeting. Deferred to Fall 2017 meeting.	Fall 2017
Nutrient Vitamins and Minerals - annotation change	TC	Pending NOP Approval. Approved 01 12 16. Proposal. On hold.	TBD?
Marine materials (marine algae and extracts). Proposal	SR	Pending NOP approval. NOP approved request 01 12 16. TR request sent to NOP 02 05 16. TR expected Jul 2016. TR sent to HS 08 10 16. TR suff due 10 11 16. TR found sufficient 09 06 16. Voted 09 06 16. Proposal in development 12 06 16. Voted 01 17 17. Referred back to HS at Spr 2017 NOSB meeting	Spr 2018
Reclassification of Magnesium chloride	LD	HS requested addition of this. NOP approved 01 12 16, but delayed until after classification guidance is published and TR is available.	Spr 2018
Ancillary substances used in cellulose	LD	Voted: 01 03 17. Referred back to HS at Spr 2017 NOSB meeting	Fall 2017
Research Priorities	TC/ALL	RPs due to MS Aug 2017	Fall 2017
NOP operating plan suggestions	ALL		NA

*Highlight indicates committee action needed. *Highlight indicates review completion and/or vote

Agenda

- Approve May 16, 2017
- Japonese Pepper (ARB) - Discuss proposal/vote
- Ethiopian pepper (ARB) - Discuss proposal/vote
- Sodium carbonate (LD) - Discuss proposal/vote
- Pectin (TC) - Discuss proposal/vote
- Sodium Chlorite for the generation of chlorine dioxide gas - Disc questions for TR
- Marine Materials (SR)
- Attapulgate (JM) - Discuss proposal/vote
- Bentonite (JM) - Discuss proposal/vote
- Diatomaceous earth (JM) - Discuss proposal/vote
- Other items
- Adjourn

Discussion

- **HS Notes** from May 16, 2017 approved with no changes
- **Japonese Pepper (ARB)**. Deferred to next call
- **Ethiopian pepper (ARB)**. Deferred to next call
- **Sodium carbonate (LD)**. The lead summarized the material, and noted that she added public comment to the review. One commenter asked a question about how the substance must be manufactured to be considered nonsynthetic. The NOSB voted unanimously during the last review to continue listing.

Motion to remove sodium carbonate from §205.605(a)

Motion by: LD

Seconded by: AS

Additional discussion: none

Yes: 0 No: 7 Abstain: 0 Absent: 1 Recuse: 0

- **Pectin (TC)**. The lead indicated that there has been little change in the use of pectin since last review. The NOSB received comments during the first posting that will be summarized in the review. Most commenters were supportive of relisting, as it meets all OFPA criteria and there is a limited organic supply.

Motion to remove pectin (non-amidated forms only) from §205.606

Motion by: TC

Seconded by: AS

Additional discussion: none

Yes: 0 No: 7 Abstain: 0 Absent: 1 Recuse: 0

- **Sodium Chlorite for the generation of chlorine dioxide gas (SR)**. The lead summarized comments that were received during the last posting. The HS will request a full TR, and the members discussed questions to include in the request. The lead invited additional questions from members.
- **Marine Materials (SR)**. Marine materials are being reviewed by both the Crops and Handling Subcommittees. Both lead reviewers will meet to discuss the topic further. Initially, sustainability

was a focus, but the NOSB found that it was difficult to address this due to lack of metrics and standards. Additionally, issues are often site-specific and that makes it challenging. There is broad agreement and concern that this is an issue, and the HS and CS will continue to work on this project. LD volunteered to assist, and the lead welcomed others to participate.

- **Attapulgite (JM).** The lead added a summary of comments from last posting. Attapulgite is not apparently in widespread use.

Motion to remove attapulgite from §205.605(a)

Motion by: JM

Seconded by: AS

Additional discussion: none

Yes: 0 No: 7 Abstain: 0 Absent: 1 Recuse: 0

- **Bentonite (JM).** The lead noted that bentonite is used extensively by the wine industry. The HS sees no reason to remove this from the National List, but noted that previous commenters mentioned the potential impacts of mining activities associated with manufacture. No information about those impacts was provided.

Motion to remove bentonite from §205.605(a)

Motion by: JM

Seconded by: AS

Additional discussion: none

Yes: 0 No: 7 Abstain: 0 Absent: 1 Recuse: 0

- **Diatomaceous earth (JM).** The lead noted that diatomaceous earth is used by the wine industry. The HS sees no reason to remove this from the National List, but noted that previous commenters mentioned the potential impacts of mining activities associated with manufacture. No information about those impacts was provided.

Motion to remove diatomaceous earth from §205.605(a)

Motion by: JM

Seconded by: AS

Additional discussion: none

Yes: 0 No: 7 Abstain: 0 Absent: 1 Recuse: 0

- **Other items.** None
- **The meeting was adjourned**

[Previous HS Notes](#)

Future Call Schedule (1st and 3rd Tuesdays 1:00 ET)

May 16, 2017

Sodium Chlorite for the generation of chlorine dioxide gas - Disc questions for TR
Nitrogen (LD) - Discuss proposal/vote
Acidified sodium chlorite (AS) - Discuss proposal/vote
Chlorine Materials (Calcium hypochlorite, Chlorine dioxide, Sodium hypochlorite) (AS) - Discuss proposal/vote
Carbon dioxide (LD) - Discuss proposal/vote
Magnesium chloride (LD) - Discuss proposal
Potassium acid tartrate (SE) - Discuss proposal/vote

June 6, 2017

Sodium Chlorite for the generation of chlorine dioxide gas - Disc questions for TR
Japones Pepper (ARB) - Discuss proposal/vote
Ethiopian pepper (ARB) - Discuss proposal/vote
Attapulgit (JM) - Discuss proposal/vote
Bentonite (JM) - Discuss proposal/vote
Diatomaceous earth (JM) - Discuss proposal/vote
Sodium carbonate (LD) - Discuss proposal/vote
Pectin (TC) - Discuss proposal/vote
Marine Materials (SR)

June 20, 2017

Sodium phosphates (TC/LD) - Discuss proposal/vote
Japones Pepper (ARB) - Discuss proposal/vote
Ethiopian pepper (ARB) - Discuss proposal/vote
Assign leads to 2020 sunset materials for TR requests
Research Priorities - discuss fall 2017 submissions

July 18, 2017

August 1, 2017

Casings (AB) - Discuss proposal/vote
Sodium dodecylbenzene sulfonate (SDBS). TR sufficiency

August 15, 2017 -

BPA (AS) - Discuss if TR is available.
Konjac Flour (SR) - Discuss proposal/vote

September 5, 2017

September 19, 2017

October 3, 2017

October 17, 2017

November 7, 2017

November 21, 2017

December 5, 2017

December 19, 2017

January 2, 2018

January 16, 2018

Fall 2017 Milestones	Target dates (tentative)
NOP - Publish FRN, Open public comment	~May 5, 2017
NOSB Request for TRs for 2020 sunset materials	July 17, 2017

NOP - Complete Fall 2017 NOSB meeting tentative agenda	Aug 11, 2017
NOSB - Fall 2017 proposals due to NOP	Aug 29, 2017
NOP - Post proposals	On or before Sep 12, 2017
Public comment closes	Oct 11, 2017
Discuss/finalize work agendas on ES call	Oct 13, 2017
NOP - Send compiled public comments to NOSB	Oct 16, 2017
Two Public comment webinars	Oct 24, and if needed 26, 2017
Fall 2017 NOSB meeting - Jacksonville, FL	Oct 31- Nov 2, 2017

2020 Sunsets

TR Requests: July 2017, Summary: Spr 2018, Review: Fall 2018

Name	National List §	Contact	TAP/TR	Notes	Scheduled, Discussed	Review Meeting
Calcium carbonate	205.605(a)			1995 TAP		Summary: Spr 2018 Review: Fall 2018
Flavors	205.605(a)			2005 TR		
Gellan Gum	205.605(a)			2006 TAP		
Oxygen	205.605(a)			1995 TAP		
Potassium chloride	205.605(a)			1995 TAP; 2015 TR for Nutrient vitamins and minerals		
Alginates	205.605(b)			1995 TAP; 2015 TR		
Calcium hydroxide	205.605(b)			1995 TAP		
Ethylene	205.605(b)			1995 TAP; 1999 TAP - Processing		
Glycerides: mono and di	205.605(b)			1995 TAP; 2015 TR		
Magnesium stearate	205.605(b)			1995 TAP		
Phosphoric acid	205.605(b)			2003 TAP		

Potassium carbonate	205.605(b)			1995 TAP		
Sulfur dioxide	205.605(b)			1995 TAP ; 2011 TR		
Xanthan gum	205.605(b)			1995 TAP ; 2016 TR		
Fructooligosaccharides	205.606			2006 TAP ; 2015 TR		
Gums: Arabic, Carob bean, Guar, Locust bean	205.606			1995 TAP		
Lecithin - de-oiled	205.606			1995 TAP ; 2009 TR		
Tragacanth gum	205.606			None		

Note: Subcommittee notes may include preliminary discussions regarding substances considered for addition to or removal from the National List. They do not represent official National Organic Program (NOP) policy or regulations. Please see the NOP website for official NOP policy, regulations, and status of substances used in organic production and handling.

**National Organic Standards Board (NOSB)
Handling Subcommittee (HS) Meeting Notes
Tuesday, June 20, 2017 1:00 pm ET**

Present: Lisa de Lima (LD), Chair; Scott Rice, Vice Chair (SR); Steve Ela (SE); Joelle Mosso (JM); Tom Chapman (TC); A-dae Briones (ARB); Harriet Behar (HB) - observer

Absent: Ashley Swaffar (AS); Asa Bradman (AB)

Staff: Michelle Arsenault (MA); Devon Pattillo (DP)

Work Agenda

Petitioned Substances						
Substance	National List §	Contact	TR rqst?	Notes*	Scheduled, Discussed, Voted	Meeting
Sodium dodecylbenzene sulfonate (SDBS)	205.605(b)	SR	Y	Petition sent to HS on 11 02 15. Response/request for TR due 01 04 16. Petition found suff 12 01 15. No new TR will be requested. Referred back to HS at Apr 2016 NOSB meeting. TR request sent 05 18 16. TR in development - Expected late Dec 2016/early Jan. TR delayed until Spring 2017. TR sent to HS 05 30 17. Response due 08 01 17	Aug 1	Fall 2017
Sodium Chlorite for the generation of chlorine dioxide gas Petition, Addendum	205.605	SR	Y	Petition for chlorine dioxide dry gas sent to HS on 12 02 15. Response/request for TR due 02 02 16. HS sent request 03 17 16 for additional info from petitioner. Sodium chlorite addendum received 05 05 16. Suff due 07 05 16. Petition found sufficient 06 07 16. Sent back to Subcomm at Fall 2016 meeting. HS requested a TR 06 06 17.	May 16, Jun 6,	TBD
Silver Dihydrogen Citrate	205.605(b)	JM	Y	Petition sent to HS 01 24 17. Response/request for TR due 03 28 17. Petition found sufficient 03 07 17. HS requested TR 03 07 14. TR in development.	Mar 7	Fall 2017
Japones pepper	205.606	ARB	N	Petition sent to HS 02 09 17. Response/request for TR due 04 11 17. Petition found suff 04 04 17. No TR.	Apr 4, Jul 18	Fall 2017
Ethiopian pepper	205.606	ARB	N	Petition sent to HS 02 09 17. Response/request for TR due 04 11 17. Petition found suff 04 04 17. No TR.	Apr 4 Jul 18	Fall 2017

Petitioned Substances

Substance	National List §	Contact	TR rqst?	Notes*	Scheduled, Discussed, Voted	Meeting
Tamarind Seed Gum	205.606	SE		Petition sent to HS 02 15 17. Response/request for TR due 04 17 17. HS requested additional info from the petitioner 04 04.	Apr 4	Spr 2018

2019 Sunsets §205.605(a), §205.605(b) and 205.606

Summary: Spr 2017 Review: Fall 2017

Name	National List §	Contact	TAP/TR	Notes	Scheduled, Discussed	Review Meeting
Attapulgit	205.605(a)	JM	N		Jun 6	Fall 2017
Bentonite	205.605(a)	JM	N		Jun 6	"
Diatomaceous earth	205.605(a)	JM	N		Jun 6	"
Nitrogen	205.605(a)	LD	N		May 16	"
Sodium carbonate	205.605(a)	LD	N		Jun 6	"
Acidified sodium chlorite	205.605(b)	AS	N		May 16	"
Chlorine Materials (Calcium hypochlorite, Chlorine dioxide, Sodium hypochlorite)	205.605(b)	AS	N		May 16	"
Carbon dioxide	205.605(b)	LD	N		May 16	"
Magnesium chloride	205.605(b)	LD	Y	TR in development; expected December 2016. TR sent to HS 12 12 16. Suff due 02 14 17. TR found sufficient 01 17 17	May 16	"
Potassium acid tartrate	205.605(b)	SE	Y	TR in development; expected December 2016. TR sent to HS 01 11 17. TR suff due 03 15 17. TR found sufficient 01 17 17	May 16	"

Sodium phosphates	205.605(b)	TC/LD	2016	Phosphates - TR Request rec'd 07 28 15; TR sent to HS on 02 10 2016; TR found sufficient on 03 15 2016	Aug	“
Casings	205.606	AB	N		Aug 1	“
Konjac flour	205.606	SR	N		Aug 15	“
Pectin (non-amidated forms only)	205.606	TC	N		June 6	“

Other projects

Name	Contact	Notes*	Meeting
Packaging substances used in organic food handling - including BPA	LD/AB	Submitted briefing paper to NOP 01 12 14. Response memo from NOP sent to HS 11 19 14. TR in development, expected mid-Sep - delayed. TR received 9/30/16. In review by the program. TR sent to HS 10 19 16. TR sufficiency due 12 20 16. TR found insufficient 12 20 16. Vote: 02 21 17. New TR in development. Expected July 2017.	Proposal? Fall 2017
Tocopherols Reclassification	TC	Review scheduled 9/6/16. Voted 09 06 16. Sent back to Subcomm at fall 2016 meeting. Scheduled for discussion. Vote: 01 17 17. Referred back to HS at Spr 2017 NOSB meeting	Update Fall 2017
Tocopherols. Additional Listing @ 205.605(a)	TC	Voted 09 06 16. Sent back to Subcomm at Fall 2016 meeting. Deferred to Fall 2017 meeting.	Update Fall 2017
Nutrient Vitamins and Minerals - annotation change	TC	Pending NOP Approval. Approved 01 12 16. Proposal. On hold.	TBD?
Marine materials (marine algae and extracts). Proposal	SR	Pending NOP approval. NOP approved request 01 12 16. TR request sent to NOP 02 05 16. TR expected Jul 2016. TR sent to HS 08 10 16. TR suff due 10 11 16. TR found sufficient 09 06 16. Voted 09 06 16. Proposal in development 12 06 16. Voted 01 17 17. Referred back to HS at Spr 2017 NOSB meeting	Spr 2018
Reclassification of Magnesium chloride	LD	HS requested addition of this. NOP approved 01 12 16, but delayed until after classification guidance is published and TR is available.	Spr 2018
Ancillary substances used in cellulose	LD	Voted: 01 03 17. Referred back to HS at Spr 2017 NOSB meeting	Fall 2017
Research Priorities	TC/ALL	RPs due to MS Aug 2017	Fall 2017
NOP operating plan suggestions	ALL		NA

*Highlight indicates committee action needed. *Highlight indicates review completion and/or vote

Agenda

- Approve June 6, 2017 notes
- Sodium phosphates (TC/LD) - Discuss proposal/vote
- Japonese Pepper (ARB) - Discuss proposal/vote
- Ethiopian pepper (ARB) - Discuss proposal/vote
- Assign leads for 2020 Sunset materials (deadline 7/18)
- Research priorities - discuss so final priorities can be submitted to Materials Subcommittee
- Discuss tocopherols and any next steps (TC)
- Other items
- Adjourn

Discussion

- **HS Notes from June 6, 2017** approved with no changes.
- **Sodium phosphates (TC/LD).** The co-leads continue to work on this topic and are waiting for a report from the International Food Additives Council (IFAC) for additional information. The group discussed alternatives. The HS will continue the discussion and vote on a future call.
- **Japonese Pepper (ARB).** Deferred to the next call.
- **Ethiopian pepper (ARB).** Deferred to the next call.
- **2020 Sunset materials.** The HS members volunteered to take the lead on the 2020 sunset reviews. See table below. All but two of the substances were reviewed in 2015. The deadline to submit TR requests is July 19.
- **Research priorities.** The members discussed the previous list of research priorities (listed below) to determine if they will add or amend it for the next submission. The research priorities are due to the Materials Subcommittee in July.
 - **Chlorine materials and alternatives.** The HS will leave this on the list, as they have gotten lots of interest from stakeholders. The members are exploring the idea of reviewing all sanitizers as a group, which would include chlorine materials.
 - **Celery powder.** The Board, as well as stakeholders, feel this is a pressing issue. Currently there is an OTA working group reviewing the use of celery powder, and the HS would like to keep it as a priority.
 - **BPA.** This will remain on the research priority list, but the HS would like to augment the topic with more specific issues that need to be addressed, such as alternatives. The HS is currently waiting for a technical report.
 - **Consumer demand.** The group will remove this topic from the research priorities. The consensus is that this is not well suited to the research community. A member noted that this may possibly be an issue that could be addressed through the organic checkoff program.
- **Tocopherols (TC).** The lead gave an overview of the previous work on tocopherols. There were two proposals; one for an annotation change and one for a reclassification. Both proposals were sent back to Subcommittee for additional work at a previous meeting. The goal was to list tocopherols as non-synthetic, however, the lead indicated that this would be complicated, as tocopherols can be produced in a variety of ways. Additionally, the lead noted that the industry uses the terms synthetic and non-synthetic differently than meant by organic regulations. There were varied opinions by stakeholders about the need for this change or clarification. The HS will defer work on this for now, and provide an update on this work at the fall meeting.
- **Other items.** None
- **The meeting was adjourned**

[Previous HS Notes](#)

Future Call Schedule (1st and 3rd Tuesdays 1:00 ET)

June 6, 2017

- Sodium Chlorite for the generation of chlorine dioxide gas - Disc questions for TR
- Japones Pepper (ARB) - Discuss proposal/vote
- Ethiopian pepper (ARB) - Discuss proposal/vote
- Attapulgate (JM) - Discuss proposal/vote
- Bentonite (JM) - Discuss proposal/vote
- Diatomaceous earth (JM) - Discuss proposal/vote
- Sodium carbonate (LD) - Discuss proposal/vote
- Pectin (TC) - Discuss proposal/vote
- Marine Materials (SR)

June 20, 2017

- Sodium phosphates (TC/LD) - Discuss proposal/vote
- Japones Pepper (ARB) - Discuss proposal/vote
- Ethiopian pepper (ARB) - Discuss proposal/vote
- Assign leads to 2020 sunset materials for TR requests
- Research Priorities - discuss Fall 2017 submissions

July 18, 2017

- Japones Pepper (ARB) - Discuss proposal/vote
- Ethiopian pepper (ARB) - Discuss proposal/vote
- 2020 sunset materials - TR requests
- Research Priorities - Finalize Fall 2017 submissions

August 1, 2017

- Casings (AB) - Discuss proposal/vote
- Sodium dodecylbenzene sulfonate (SDBS). TR sufficiency
- Sodium phosphates (TC/LD) - Discuss proposal/vote

August 15, 2017 -

- BPA (AS) - Discuss if TR is available.
- Konjac Flour (SR) - Discuss proposal/vote

September 5, 2017

September 19, 2017

October 3, 2017

October 17, 2017

November 7, 2017

November 21, 2017

December 5, 2017

December 19, 2017

January 2, 2018

January 16, 2018

Fall 2017 Milestones	Target dates (tentative)
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NOSB Request for TRs for 2020 sunset materials	July 17, 2017

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2020 Sunsets

TR Requests: July 2017, Summary: Spr 2018, Review: Fall 2018

Name	National List §	Contact	TAP/TR	Notes	Scheduled, Discussed	Review Meeting
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Flavors	205.605(a)	TC		2005 TR		
Gellan Gum	205.605(a)	JM		2006 TAP		
Oxygen	205.605(a)	LB		1995 TAP		
Potassium chloride	205.605(a)	AS		1995 TAP; 2015 TR for Nutrient vitamins and minerals		
Alginates	205.605(b)	SE		1995 TAP; 2015 TR		
Calcium hydroxide	205.605(b)	AS		1995 TAP		
Ethylene	205.605(b)	AB		1995 TAP; 1999 TAP - Processing		
Glycerides: mono and di	205.605(b)	LD		1995 TAP; 2015 TR		
Magnesium stearate	205.605(b)	AB		1995 TAP		
Phosphoric acid	205.605(b)	AS		2003 TAP		

Potassium carbonate	205.605(b)	SR		1995 TAP		
Sulfur dioxide	205.605(b)	SE		1995 TAP ; 2011 TR		
Xanthan gum	205.605(b)	JM		1995 TAP ; 2016 TR		
Fructooligosaccharides (FOS)	205.606	TC		2006 TAP ; 2015 TR		
Gums: Arabic, Carob bean, Guar, Locust bean	205.606(k)	JM		1995 TAP		
Lecithin - de-oiled	205.606	AB		1995 TAP ; 2009 TR		
Tragacanth gum	205.606	JM		None		

Note: Subcommittee notes may include preliminary discussions regarding substances considered for addition to or removal from the National List. They do not represent official National Organic Program (NOP) policy or regulations. Please see the NOP website for official NOP policy, regulations, and status of substances used in organic production and handling.

**National Organic Standards Board (NOSB)
Handling Subcommittee (HS) Meeting Notes
Tuesday, July 18, 2017 1:00 pm ET**

Present: Scott Rice, Vice Chair (SR); Steve Ela (SE); Joelle Mosso (JM); Tom Chapman (TC); A-dae Briones (ARB); Ashley Swaffar (AS); Asa Bradman (AB); Harriet Behar (HB) - observer

Absent: Lisa de Lima (LD), Chair

Staff: Michelle Arsenault (MA); Devon Pattillo (DP)

Work Agenda

Petitioned Substances						
Substance	National List §	Contact	TR rqst?	Notes*	Scheduled, Discussed, Voted	Meeting
Sodium dodecylbenzene sulfonate (SDBS) Petition Addendum #1, SDBS (PDF)	205.605(b)	SR	Y	Petition sent to HS on 11 02 15. Response/request for TR due 01 04 16. Petition found suff 12 01 15. No new TR will be requested. Referred back to HS at Apr 2016 NOSB meeting. TR request sent 05 18 16. TR in development - Expected late Dec 2016/early Jan. TR delayed until Spring 2017. TR sent to HS 05 30 17. Response due 08 01 17. Petition addendum sent to HS 07 12 17.	Aug 1	Fall 2017
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Petitioned Substances

Substance	National List §	Contact	TR rqst?	Notes*	Scheduled, Discussed, Voted	Meeting
Ethiopian pepper	205.606	ARB	N	Petition sent to HS 02 09 17. Response/request for TR due 04 11 17. Petition found suff 04 04 17. No TR.	Apr 4 Jul 18	Fall 2017
Tamarind Seed Gum	205.606	SE		Petition sent to HS 02 15 17. Response/request for TR due 04 17 17. HS requested additional info from the petitioner 04 04.	Apr 4	Spr 2018

2019 Sunsets §205.605(a), §205.605(b) and 205.606

Summary: Spr 2017 Review: Fall 2017

Name	National List §	Contact	TAP/TR	Notes	Scheduled, Discussed	Review Meeting
Attapulgit	205.605(a)	JM	N		Jun 6	Fall 2017
Bentonite	205.605(a)	JM	N		Jun 6	"
Diatomaceous earth	205.605(a)	JM	N		Jun 6	"
Nitrogen	205.605(a)	LD	N		May 16	"
Sodium carbonate	205.605(a)	LD	N		Jun 6	"
Acidified sodium chlorite	205.605(b)	AS	N		May 16	"
Chlorine Materials (Calcium hypochlorite, Chlorine dioxide, Sodium hypochlorite)	205.605(b)	AS	N		May 16	"
Carbon dioxide	205.605(b)	LD	N		May 16	"
Magnesium chloride	205.605(b)	LD	Y	TR in development; expected December 2016. TR sent to HS 12 12 16. Suff due 02 14 17. TR found sufficient 01 17 17	May 16	"

Potassium acid tartrate	205.605(b)	SE	Y	TR in development; expected December 2016. TR sent to HS 01 11 17. TR suff due 03 15 17. TR found sufficient 01 17 17	May 16	“
Sodium phosphates	205.605(b)	TC/LD	2016	Phosphates - TR Request rec'd 07 28 15; TR sent to HS on 02 10 2016; TR found sufficient on 03 15 2016	Aug 1	“
Casings	205.606	AB	N		Aug 1	“
Konjac flour	205.606	SR	N		Aug 15	“
Pectin (non-amidated forms only)	205.606	TC	N		June 6	“

Other projects

Name	Contact	Notes*	Meeting
Packaging substances used in organic food handling - including BPA	LD/AB	Submitted briefing paper to NOP 01 12 14. Response memo from NOP sent to HS 11 19 14. TR in development, expected mid-Sep - delayed. TR received 9/30/16. In review by the program. TR sent to HS 10 19 16. TR sufficiency due 12 20 16. TR found insufficient 12 20 16. Vote: 02 21 17. New TR in development. Expected July 2017, TR received 07 10 17. Response due 09 08 17.	Fall 2017
Tocopherols Reclassification	TC	Review scheduled 9/6/16. Voted 09 06 16. Sent back to Subcomm at fall 2016 meeting. Scheduled for discussion. Vote: 01 17 17. Referred back to HS at Spr 2017 NOSB meeting	Update Fall 2017
Tocopherols. Additional Listing @ 205.605(a)	TC	Voted 09 06 16. Sent back to Subcomm at Fall 2016 meeting. Deferred to Fall 2017 meeting.	Update Fall 2017
Nutrient Vitamins and Minerals - annotation change	TC	Pending NOP Approval. Approved 01 12 16. Proposal. On hold.	TBD
Marine materials (marine algae and extracts). Proposal	SR	Pending NOP approval. NOP approved request 01 12 16. TR request sent to NOP 02 05 16. TR expected Jul 2016. TR sent to HS 08 10 16. TR suff due 10 11 16. TR found sufficient 09 06 16. Voted 09 06 16. Proposal in development 12 06 16. Voted 01 17 17. Referred back to HS at Spr 2017 NOSB meeting	Spr 2018
Reclassification of Magnesium chloride	LD	HS requested addition of this. NOP approved 01 12 16, but delayed until after classification guidance is published and TR is available.	Spr 2018
Ancillary substances used in cellulose	LD	Voted: 01 03 17. Referred back to HS at Spr 2017 NOSB meeting	Fall 2017
Research Priorities	TC/ALL	RP's due to MS Aug 2017	Fall 2017

NOP operating plan suggestions	ALL		NA
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*Highlight indicates committee action needed. *Highlight indicates review completion and/or vote

Agenda

- Approve June 20, 2017 notes
- 2020 sunset materials - TR requests
- Japones Pepper (ARB) - Discuss proposal/vote
- Ethiopian pepper (ARB) - Discuss proposal/vote
- Research Priorities - Finalize Fall 2017 submissions
- Adjourn

Discussion

- **HS Notes from June 20, 2017** approved with no changes.
- **2020 sunset materials (All)**. The group determined the need for TRs for the 2020 sunsets. See table below.
- **Japones Pepper (ARB)**. The lead summarized the substance and petition. The HS did not request a TR as the only aspect in question is about organic supply, which the TR will not answer. Members discussed why the peppers may not be readily available and noted that there could be a limited number of facilities that process small batches of peppers. The HS will ask the petitioner additional questions regarding alternate substances, and about their attempts to source the peppers, and will return to the discussion at a later date.
- **Ethiopian Pepper (ARB)**. The lead noted that the petition for Ethiopian peppers is similar to the Japones pepper in that it states there is a lack of organic supply. The HS will ask the petitioner additional questions regarding alternate substances and their attempts to source these peppers, and will return to the discussion at a later date.
- **Research Priorities**. The group discussed some minor modifications to the language in the research priority on BPA. The lead noted that the new TR is much more thorough, and the HS will complete its review and determine sufficiency by September 8. During the last posting of the BPA document, commenters noted that they did not have enough time to answer the NOSB questions, and the group discussed reposting the previous document for additional comments. A member added that many operations have already eliminated BPA from canned and jarred products. The group also discussed regulatory authority, and will discuss this more on the next call.
- **Other items** - none
- **The meeting was adjourned**

[Previous HS Notes](#)

Future Call Schedule (1st and 3rd Tuesdays 1:00 ET)

June 20, 2017

Sodium phosphates (TC/LD) - Discuss proposal/vote
 Japones Pepper (ARB) - Discuss proposal/vote
 Ethiopian pepper (ARB) - Discuss proposal/vote
 Assign leads to 2020 sunset materials for TR requests
 Research Priorities - discuss Fall 2017 submissions

July 18, 2017

Japones Pepper (ARB) - Discuss proposal
 Ethiopian pepper (ARB) - Discuss proposal

2020 sunset materials - TR requests
 Research Priorities - Finalize Fall 2017 submissions

August 1, 2017

Japones Pepper (ARB) - Discuss proposal/vote
 Ethiopian pepper (ARB) - Discuss proposal/vote
 BPA (LD/AB) - Discuss TR/determine sufficiency
 Casings (AB) - Discuss proposal/vote
 Sodium dodecylbenzene sulfonate (SDBS). TR sufficiency
 Sodium phosphates (TC/LD) - Discuss proposal/vote

August 14, 2017. Public web conference (NOSB)

August 15, 2017 -

BPA (AS) - Discuss proposal
 Konjac Flour (SR) - Discuss proposal/vote

September 5, 2017

September 19, 2017

October 3, 2017

October 17, 2017

November 7, 2017

November 21, 2017

December 5, 2017

December 19, 2017

January 2, 2018

January 16, 2018

Fall 2017 Milestones	Target dates (tentative)
NOP - Publish FRN, Open public comment	May 30, 2017
NOSB Request for TRs for 2020 sunset materials	July 19, 2017
NOP - Draft Fall 2017 NOSB meeting tentative agenda	Aug 11, 2017
NOSB public web conference	Aug 14, 2017
NOSB - Fall 2017 proposals due to NOP	Aug 29, 2017
NOP - Post proposals	On or before Sep 12, 2017
Public comment closes	Oct 11, 2017
Discuss/finalize work agendas on ES call	Oct 13, 2017
NOP - Send compiled public comments to NOSB	Oct 16, 2017
Two Public comment webinars	Oct 24, and if needed 26, 2017
Fall 2017 NOSB meeting - Jacksonville, FL	Oct 31- Nov 2, 2017

2020 Sunsets

TR Requests: July 2017, Summary: Spr 2018, Review: Fall 2018

Name	National List §	Contact	TAP/TR	Notes	Scheduled, Discussed	Review Meeting
Calcium carbonate	205.605(a)	SR	Y low	1995 TAP		Summary: Spr 2018 Review: Fall 2018
Flavors	205.605(a)	TC	N	2005 TR		"
Gellan Gum	205.605(a)	JM	N	2006 TAP		"
Oxygen	205.605(a)	LD	Y low	1995 TAP		"
Potassium chloride	205.605(a)	AS	N	1995 TAP ; 2015 TR for Nutrient vitamins and minerals		"
Alginates	205.605(b)	SE	N	1995 TAP ; 2015 TR		"
Calcium hydroxide	205.605(b)	AS	Y	1995 TAP		"
Ethylene	205.605(b)	AB	Y unless crops does	1995 TAP ; 1999 TAP - Processing		"
Glycerides: mono and di	205.605(b)	LD	N	1995 TAP ; 2015 TR		"
Magnesium stearate	205.605(b)	AB	Y	1995 TAP		"
Phosphoric acid	205.605(b)	AS	Y may request in LS also	2003 TAP		"
Potassium carbonate	205.605(b)	SR	Y low	1995 TAP		"
Sulfur dioxide	205.605(b)	SE	N	1995 TAP ; 2011 TR		"
Xanthan gum	205.605(b)	JM	N	1995 TAP ; 2016 TR		"
Fructooligosaccharides (FOS)	205.606	TC	N	2006 TAP ; 2015 TR		"
Gums: Arabic, Carob bean, Guar, Locust bean	205.606(k)	JM	Y	1995 TAP		"
Lecithin - de-oiled	205.606	AB	N	1995 TAP ; 2009 TR		"
Tragacanth gum	205.606	JM	Y	None		"

Note: Subcommittee notes may include preliminary discussions regarding substances considered for addition to or removal from the National List. They do not represent official National Organic Program (NOP) policy or regulations. Please see the NOP website for official NOP policy, regulations, and status of substances used in organic production and handling.

**National Organic Standards Board (NOSB)
Handling Subcommittee (HS) Meeting Notes
Tuesday, August 1, 2017 1:00 pm ET**

Present: Lisa de Lima (LD), Chair; Steve Ela (SE); Joelle Mosso (JM); Tom Chapman (TC); A-dae Briones (ARB); Ashley Swaffar (AS); Asa Bradman (AB); Scott Rice, Vice Chair (SR); Harriet Behar (HB) - observer

Absent: none

Staff: Michelle Arsenault (MA); Devon Pattillo (DP)

Work Agenda

Petitioned Substances						
Substance	National List §	Contact	TR rqst?	Notes*	Scheduled, Discussed, Voted	Meeting
Sodium dodecylbenzene sulfonate (SDBS) Petition Addendum #1, SDBS (PDF)	205.605(b)	SR	Y	Petition sent to HS on 11 02 15. Response/request for TR due 01 04 16. Petition found suff 12 01 15. No new TR will be requested. Referred back to HS at Apr 2016 NOSB meeting. TR request sent 05 18 16. TR in development - Expected late Dec 2016/early Jan. TR delayed until Spring 2017. TR sent to HS 05 30 17. Response due 08 01 17. Petition addendum sent to HS 07 12 17. The HS found the petition addendum suff 08 01 17	Aug 1, Aug 15	Fall 2017?
Sodium Chlorite for the generation of chlorine dioxide gas Petition, Addendum	205.605	SR	Y	Petition for chlorine dioxide dry gas sent to HS on 12 02 15. Response/request for TR due 02 02 16. HS sent request 03 17 16 for additional info from petitioner. Sodium chlorite addendum received 05 05 16. Suff due 07 05 16. Petition found sufficient 06 07 16. Sent back to Subcomm at Fall 2016 meeting. HS requested a TR 06 06 17.	May 16, Jun 6,	Spr 2018
Silver Dihydrogen Citrate	205.605(b)	JM	Y	Petition sent to HS 01 24 17. Response/request for TR due 03 28 17. Petition found sufficient 03 07 17. HS requested TR 03 07 14. TR in development.	Mar 7	Spr 2018
Japones pepper	205.606	ARB	N	Petition sent to HS 02 09 17. Response/request for TR due 04 11 17. Petition found suff 04 04 17. No TR. HS requested additional info from petitioner 07 19 17	Apr 4, Jul 18	Fall 2017?

Petitioned Substances

Substance	National List §	Contact	TR rqst?	Notes*	Scheduled, Discussed, Voted	Meeting
Ethiopian pepper	205.606	ARB	N	Petition sent to HS 02 09 17. Response/request for TR due 04 11 17. Petition found suff 04 04 17. No TR. HS requested additional info from petitioner 07 19 17	Apr 4 Jul 18	Fall 2017?
Tamarind Seed Gum	205.606	SE		Petition sent to HS 02 15 17. Response/request for TR due 04 17 17. HS requested additional info from the petitioner 04 04 17.	Apr 4	Spr 2018

2019 Sunsets §205.605(a), §205.605(b) and 205.606

Summary: Spr 2017 Review: Fall 2017

Name	National List §	Contact	TAP/TR	Notes	Scheduled, Discussed	Review Meeting
Attapulgit	205.605(a)	JM	N		Jun 6	Fall 2017
Bentonite	205.605(a)	JM	N		Jun 6	"
Diatomaceous earth	205.605(a)	JM	N		Jun 6	"
Nitrogen	205.605(a)	LD	N		May 16	"
Sodium carbonate	205.605(a)	LD	N		Jun 6	"
Acidified sodium chlorite	205.605(b)	AS	N		May 16	"
Chlorine Materials (Calcium hypochlorite, Chlorine dioxide, Sodium hypochlorite)	205.605(b)	AS	N		May 16	"
Carbon dioxide	205.605(b)	LD	N		May 16	"
Magnesium chloride	205.605(b)	LD	Y	TR in development; expected December 2016. TR sent to HS 12 12 16. Suff due 02 14 17. TR found sufficient 01 17 17	May 16	"

Potassium acid tartrate	205.605(b)	SE	Y	TR in development; expected December 2016. TR sent to HS 01 11 17. TR suff due 03 15 17. TR found sufficient 01 17 17	May 16	“
Sodium phosphates	205.605(b)	TC/LD	2016	Phosphates - TR Request rec'd 07 28 15; TR sent to HS on 02 10 2016; TR found sufficient on 03 15 2016	Aug 15,	“
Casings	205.606	AB	N		Aug 1	“
Konjac flour	205.606	SR	N		Aug 15	“
Pectin (non-amidated forms only)	205.606	TC	N		June 6	“

Other projects

Name	Contact	Notes*	Meeting
Packaging substances used in organic food handling - including BPA	LD/AB	Submitted briefing paper to NOP 01 12 14. Response memo from NOP sent to HS 11 19 14. TR in development, expected mid-Sep - delayed. TR received 9/30/16. In review by the program. TR sent to HS 10 19 16. TR sufficiency due 12 20 16. TR found insufficient 12 20 16. Vote: 02 21 17. New TR in development. Expected July 2017, TR received 07 10 17. Response due 09 08 17. TR found sufficient 08 01 17.	Discussion doc Spr 2018
Tocopherols Reclassification	TC	Review scheduled 9/6/16. Voted 09 06 16. Sent back to Subcomm at fall 2016 meeting. Scheduled for discussion. Vote: 01 17 17. Referred back to HS at Spr 2017 NOSB meeting	Verbal update Fall 2017
Tocopherols. Additional Listing @ 205.605(a)	TC	Voted 09 06 16. Sent back to Subcomm at Fall 2016 meeting. Deferred to Fall 2017 meeting.	Verbal update Fall 2017
Nutrient Vitamins and Minerals - annotation change	TC	Pending NOP Approval. Approved 01 12 16. Proposal. On hold.	TBD
Marine materials (marine algae and extracts). Proposal	SR	Pending NOP approval. NOP approved request 01 12 16. TR request sent to NOP 02 05 16. TR expected Jul 2016. TR sent to HS 08 10 16. TR suff due 10 11 16. TR found sufficient 09 06 16. Voted 09 06 16. Proposal in development 12 06 16. Voted 01 17 17. Referred back to HS at Spr 2017 NOSB meeting	Spr 2018
Magnesium chloride Reclassification 205.605(b)	LD	HS requested addition of this. NOP approved 01 12 16, but delayed until after classification guidance is published and TR is available.	Spr 2018
Ancillary substances used in cellulose	LD	Voted: 01 03 17. Referred back to HS at Spr 2017 NOSB meeting	Update Fall 2017, then remove

Potassium acid tartrate reclassification 205.605(b)	SE	NOP approved work agenda item 06 16 17. 2017 TR	Spr 2018
Research Priorities	TC/ALL	RPs due to MS Aug 2017	Fall 2017
NOP operating plan suggestions	ALL		NA

*Highlight indicates committee action needed. *Highlight indicates review completion and/or vote

Agenda

- Approve July 18, 2017 notes
- Sodium dodecylbenzene sulfonate (SDBS) (SR). TR sufficiency
- BPA (LD/AB) - Discuss TR/determine sufficiency
- 2019 Sunset: Casings (AB) - Discuss proposal/vote
- 2019 Sunset: Sodium phosphates (TC/LD) - Discuss proposal/vote - tentative
- Other items - cellulose/ancillary substances status
- Adjourn

Discussion

- **HS Notes from July 18, 2017** were approved with modification to the table for the 2020 sunsets to indicate the results of TR requests.
- **Sodium dodecylbenzene sulfonate (SDBS) (SR)**. The lead reviewed the addendum to the petition, noting that for the most part it addressed the Subcommittee's questions. The petition addendum was found sufficient. The group discussed manufacturing, essentiality, and the listing of this material on the EPA's Safer Choice Ingredients List (SCIL). As verified by the CAS number on the SCIL list, the material is listed as sodium lauryl benzene sulfonate.
- **Bisphenol A (BPA) (LD/AB)**. The lead indicated that the new TR was much more comprehensive and thorough, and was better written for the lay audience. The TR was found sufficient. The HS will update the previous discussion document to include the new information and citations from the new TR, and will likely have a document ready for the Spring 2018 meeting.
- **2019 Sunset: Casings (AB)**. The lead summarized the previous discussions, and comments from the Spring 2017 posting. The group discussed alternatives and incentives for organic casings. Commenters indicated that currently, supply of organic casings is a barrier to manufacturers. The lead will make some minor edits, add information regarding international information, and then recirculate the draft. Since the edits were minor, the HS proceeded to a vote:

Motion to remove casings from §205.606

Motion by: LD

Seconded by: TC

Additional discussion: none

Yes: 0 No: 8 Abstain: 0 Absent: 0 Recuse: 0

- **2019 Sunset: Sodium phosphates (TC/LD)**. The draft review is in progress, and the HS will discuss it and vote on the next call.
- **Other items**
 - Cellulose/ancillary substances status. Based on a conversation with the NOP during the July 11 PDS call, the HS has chosen to not move forward at this time with the review of ancillary

substances in cellulose. Until the NOP clarifies the process, the Subcommittees will continue to identify ancillaries as they are conducting sunset reviews and reviewing new petitions, for future reference. The work agenda item will be removed from the table above. A verbal update will be provided at the fall meeting.

- **The meeting was adjourned**

[Previous HS Notes](#)

Future Call Schedule (1st and 3rd Tuesdays 1:00 ET)

July 18, 2017

- Japones Pepper (ARB) - Discuss proposal
- Ethiopian pepper (ARB) - Discuss proposal
- 2020 sunset materials - TR requests
- Research Priorities - Finalize Fall 2017 submissions

August 1, 2017

- Sodium dodecylbenzene sulfonate (SDBS) (SR). TR sufficiency
- BPA (LD/AB) - Discuss TR/determine sufficiency
- Casings (AB) - Discuss proposal/vote
- Sodium phosphates (TC/LD) - Discuss proposal/vote

August 15, 2017 -

- Konjac Flour (SR) - Discuss proposal/vote
- Sodium phosphates (TC/LD) - Discuss proposal/vote
- Japones Pepper (ARB) - Discuss proposal/vote (pending response from petitioner)
- Ethiopian pepper (ARB) - Discuss proposal/vote (pending response from petitioner)

September 5, 2017

September 19, 2017

October 3, 2017

October 17, 2017

November 7, 2017

November 21, 2017

December 5, 2017

December 19, 2017

January 2, 2018

January 16, 2018

Fall 2017 Milestones	Target dates (tentative)
NOP - Publish FRN, Open public comment	May 30, 2017
NOSB Request for TRs for 2020 sunset materials	July 19, 2017
NOP - Draft Fall 2017 NOSB meeting tentative agenda	Aug 11, 2017
NOSB public web conference	Aug 14, 2017
NOSB - Fall 2017 proposals due to NOP	Aug 29, 2017
NOP - Post proposals	On or before Sep 12, 2017
Public comment closes	Oct 11, 2017
Discuss/finalize work agendas on ES call	Oct 13, 2017

NOP - Send compiled public comments to NOSB	Oct 16, 2017
Two Public comment webinars	Oct 24, and if needed 26, 2017
Fall 2017 NOSB meeting - Jacksonville, FL	Oct 31- Nov 2, 2017

2020 Sunsets

TR Requests: July 2017, Summary: Spr 2018, Review: Fall 2018

Name	National List §	Contact	TAP/TR	Notes	Scheduled, Discussed	Review Meeting
Calcium carbonate	205.605(a)	SR	Y	1995 TAP . TR requested 07 28 17.		Summary: Spr 2018 Review: Fall 2018
Flavors	205.605(a)	TC	N	2005 TR		"
Gellan Gum	205.605(a)	JM	N	2006 TAP		"
Oxygen	205.605(a)	LD	Y Low priority	1995 TAP . TR requested 07 28 17.		"
Potassium chloride	205.605(a)	AS	N	1995 TAP ; 2015 TR for Nutrient vitamins and minerals		"
Alginates	205.605(b)	SE	N	1995 TAP ; 2015 TR		"
Calcium hydroxide	205.605(b)	AS	Y low priority	1995 TAP . TR requested 07 28 17		"
Ethylene	205.605(b)	AB	Y low priority	1995 TAP ; 1999 TAP - Processing . TR requested 07 28 17.		"
Glycerides: mono and di	205.605(b)	LD	N	1995 TAP ; 2015 TR		"
Magnesium stearate	205.605(b)	AB	Y	1995 TAP . TR requested 07 28 17.		"
Phosphoric acid	205.605(b)	AS	Y if other Subcom ms request	2003 TAP . TR requested 07 28 17.		"
Potassium carbonate	205.605(b)	SR	Y Low priority	1995 TAP . TR requested 07 28 17.		"
Sulfur dioxide	205.605(b)	SE	N	1995 TAP ; 2011 TR		"
Xanthan gum	205.605(b)	JM	N	1995 TAP ; 2016 TR		"

Fructooligosaccharides (FOS)	205.606	TC	N	2006 TAP ; 2015 TR		“
Gums: Arabic, Carob bean, Guar, Locust bean	205.606(k)	JM	Y	1995 TAP . TR requested 07 28 17. TR in contracting.		“
Lecithin - de-oiled	205.606	AB	N	1995 TAP ; 2009 TR		“
Tragacanth gum	205.606	JM	Y	None. TR requested 07 28 17. TR in contracting.		“

Note: Subcommittee notes may include preliminary discussions regarding substances considered for addition to or removal from the National List. They do not represent official National Organic Program (NOP) policy or regulations. Please see the NOP website for official NOP policy, regulations, and status of substances used in organic production and handling.

**National Organic Standards Board (NOSB)
Handling Subcommittee (HS) Meeting Notes
Tuesday, August 15, 2017 1:00 pm ET**

Present: Lisa de Lima (LD), Chair; Steve Ela (SE); Joelle Mosso (JM); Tom Chapman (TC); A-dae Briones (ARB); Ashley Swaffar (AS); Asa Bradman (AB); Scott Rice, Vice Chair (SR); Harriet Behar (HB) - observer

Absent: none

Staff: Michelle Arsenault (MA); Devon Pattillo (DP)

Work Agenda

Petitioned Substances						
Substance	National List §	Contact	TR rqst?	Notes*	Scheduled, Discussed, Voted	Meeting
Sodium dodecylbenzene sulfonate (SDBS) Petition Addendum #1, SDBS (PDF)	205.605(b)	SR	Y	Petition sent to HS on 11 02 15. Response/request for TR due 01 04 16. Petition found suff 12 01 15. No new TR will be requested. Referred back to HS at Apr 2016 NOSB meeting. TR request sent 05 18 16. TR in development - Expected late Dec 2016/early Jan. TR delayed until Spring 2017. TR sent to HS 05 30 17. Response due 08 01 17. Petition addendum sent to HS 07 12 17. The HS found the petition addendum suff 08 01 17	Aug 1, Aug 15	Spr 2018
Sodium Chlorite for the generation of chlorine dioxide gas Petition, Addendum	205.605	SR	Y	Petition for chlorine dioxide dry gas sent to HS on 12 02 15. Response/request for TR due 02 02 16. HS sent request 03 17 16 for additional info from petitioner. Sodium chlorite addendum received 05 05 16. Suff due 07 05 16. Petition found sufficient 06 07 16. Sent back to Subcomm at Fall 2016 meeting. HS requested a TR 06 06 17.	May 16, Jun 6,	Spr 2018
Silver Dihydrogen Citrate Petition Addendum	205.605(b)	JM	Y	Petition sent to HS 01 24 17. Response/request for TR due 03 28 17. Petition found sufficient 03 07 17. HS requested TR 03 07 14. TR in development. Petition addendum sent to HS 08 03 17	Mar 7	Spr 2018

Petitioned Substances						
Substance	National List §	Contact	TR rqst?	Notes*	Scheduled, Discussed, Voted	Meeting
Japones pepper	205.606	ARB	N	Petition sent to HS 02 09 17. Response/request for TR due 04 11 17. Petition found suff 04 04 17. No TR. HS requested additional info from petitioner 07 19 17	Apr 4, Jul 18	Spr 2018
Ethiopian pepper	205.606	ARB	N	Petition sent to HS 02 09 17. Response/request for TR due 04 11 17. Petition found suff 04 04 17. No TR. HS requested additional info from petitioner 07 19 17	Apr 4 Jul 18	Spr 2018
Tamarind Seed Gum Petition Addendum	205.606	SE		Petition sent to HS 02 15 17. Response/request for TR due 04 17 17. HS requested additional info from the petitioner 04 04 17. Petition addendum Rcvd 08 10 17. Response due 10 10 17.	Apr 4	Spr 2018

2019 Sunsets §205.605(a), §205.605(b) and 205.606 Summary: Spr 2017 Review: Fall 2017						
Name	National List §	Contact	TAP/TR	Notes	Scheduled, Discussed	Review Meeting
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Bentonite	205.605(a)	JM	N		Jun 6	"
Diatomaceous earth	205.605(a)	JM	N		Jun 6	"
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Acidified sodium chlorite	205.605(b)	AS	N		May 16	"
Chlorine Materials (Calcium hypochlorite, Chlorine dioxide, Sodium	205.605(b)	AS	N		May 16	"

hypochlorite)						
Carbon dioxide	205.605(b)	LD	N		May 16	“
Magnesium chloride	205.605(b)	LD	Y	TR in development; expected December 2016. TR sent to HS 12 12 16. Suff due 02 14 17. TR found sufficient 01 17 17	May 16	“
Potassium acid tartrate	205.605(b)	SE	Y	TR in development; expected December 2016. TR sent to HS 01 11 17. TR suff due 03 15 17. TR found sufficient 01 17 17	May 16	“
Sodium phosphates	205.605(b)	TC/LD	2016	Phosphates - TR Request rec'd 07 28 15; TR sent to HS on 02 10 2016; TR found sufficient on 03 15 2016	Aug 15	“
Casings	205.606	AB	N		Aug 1	“
Konjac flour	205.606	SR	N		Aug 15	“
Pectin (non-amidated forms only)	205.606	TC	N		June 6	“

Other projects

Name	Contact	Notes*	Meeting
Packaging substances used in organic food handling - including BPA	LD/AB	Submitted briefing paper to NOP 01 12 14. Response memo from NOP sent to HS 11 19 14. TR in development, expected mid-Sep - delayed. TR received 9/30/16. In review by the program. TR sent to HS 10 19 16. TR sufficiency due 12 20 16. TR found insufficient 12 20 16. Vote: 02 21 17. New TR in development. Expected July 2017, TR received 07 10 17. Response due 09 08 17. TR found sufficient 08 01 17.	Discussion doc Spr 2018
Tocopherols Reclassification	TC	Review scheduled 9/6/16. Voted 09 06 16. Sent back to Subcomm at fall 2016 meeting. Scheduled for discussion. Vote: 01 17 17. Referred back to HS at Spr 2017 NOSB meeting	Verbal update Fall 2017
Tocopherols. Additional Listing @ 205.605(a)	TC	Voted 09 06 16. Sent back to Subcomm at Fall 2016 meeting. Deferred to Fall 2017 meeting.	Verbal update Fall 2017
Nutrient Vitamins and Minerals - annotation change	TC	Pending NOP Approval. Approved 01 12 16. Proposal. On hold.	TBD
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Magnesium chloride Reclassification 205.605(b)	LD	HS requested addition of this. NOP approved 01 12 16, but delayed until after classification guidance is published and TR is available.	Spr 2018
Ancillary substances used in cellulose	LD	Voted: 01 03 17. Referred back to HS at Spr 2017 NOSB meeting	Update Fall 2017, then remove
Potassium acid tartrate reclassification 205.605(b)	SE	NOP approved work agenda item 06 16 17. 2017 TR. Vote: 08 15 17	Fall 2017
Research Priorities	TC/ALL	RPs due to MS Aug 2017	Fall 2017
NOP operating plan suggestions	ALL		NA

***Highlight** indicates committee action needed. ***Highlight** indicates review completion and/or vote

Agenda

- Approve August 1, 2017 notes
- Konjac Flour (SR) - Discuss proposal/vote
- Sodium phosphates (TC/LD) - Discuss proposal/vote
- Potassium Acid Tartrate reclassification (SE) - Discuss proposal/vote
- BPA Discussion document (AB)
- SDBS (SR) – if any follow up needed on safer choice listing
- Marine materials update from Crops (SR)
- Other Items
- Adjourn

Discussion

- **HS Notes from August 1, 2017** were approved with several corrections and updates
- **Konjac Flour (SR).** The HS received very few comments during the last posting, and those that were received did not answer the questions that the HS proposed about use and essentiality. Other commenters provided little or no data supporting their position.

Motion to remove konjac flour from §205.606 based on non-essentiality

Motion by: SR

Seconded by: AS

Additional discussion: none

Yes: 8 No: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 0 Recuse: 0

- **Sodium phosphates (TC/LD).** The co-leads circulated a document and the group discussed the use and alternatives of sodium phosphates. A member noted that a manufacturer provided some feedback about the efficacy of alternatives, and will encourage them to submit written comments.

Motion to remove sodium phosphates from §205.605(b)

Motion by: LD

Seconded by: TC

Additional discussion: none

Yes: 0 No: 8 Abstain: 0 Absent: 0 Recuse: 0

- **Potassium acid tartrate reclassification (SE).** The lead summarized the material, noting that the HS is also reviewing potassium acid tartrate for sunset. During its sunset review the HS determined that the material is misclassified and is proposing to change the classification. Members discussed the decision trees for materials classification (NOP 5033), and whether it would be more appropriate to list this in section 205.605(a) or 205.606.

Motion to reclassify potassium acid tartrate and change its listing from §205.605(b) to §205.606

Motion by: SE

Seconded by: AS

Additional discussion: none

Yes: 8 No: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 0 Recuse: 0

- **BPA discussion document (AB).** The discussion was deferred to a later call. The HS will bring forth a document to the Spring 2018 meeting.
- **SDBS (SR).** The group verified a pending question that was posed on the last call: that the listing on the Safer Choice Ingredients List (SCIL) is indeed for the same substance. The proposal for SDBS will be deferred to the Spring 2018 meeting.
- **Marine materials update from Crops (SR).** Both the Handling and Crops Subcommittees are reviewing marine materials and will submit documents for the Spring 2018 meeting.
- **Other Items**
 - A member asked for some clarification or guidance on navigating the International standards, which the Board members typically include in the review of substances.
- **The meeting was adjourned**

[Previous HS Notes](#)

Future Call Schedule (1st and 3rd Tuesdays 1:00 ET)

August 1, 2017

Sodium dodecylbenzene sulfonate (SDBS) (SR). TR sufficiency

BPA (LD/AB) - Discuss TR/determine sufficiency

Casings (AB) - Discuss proposal/vote

Sodium phosphates (TC/LD) - Discuss proposal/vote

August 15, 2017 -

Konjac Flour (SR) - Discuss proposal/vote

Sodium phosphates (TC/LD) - Discuss proposal/vote

September 5, 2017

Japones Pepper (ARB) - Discuss proposal/vote (pending response from petitioner)

Ethiopian pepper (ARB) - Discuss proposal/vote (pending response from petitioner)

September 19, 2017

October 3, 2017

October 17, 2017

November 7, 2017

November 21, 2017

December 5, 2017

December 19, 2017

January 2, 2018

January 16, 2018

Fall 2017 Milestones	Target dates (tentative)
NOP - Publish FRN, Open public comment	May 30, 2017
NOSB Request for TRs for 2020 sunset materials	July 19, 2017
NOP - Draft Fall 2017 NOSB meeting tentative agenda	Aug 11, 2017
NOSB public web conference	Aug 14, 2017
NOSB - Fall 2017 proposals due to NOP	Aug 29, 2017
NOP - Post proposals	On or before Sep 12, 2017
Public comment closes	Oct 11, 2017
Discuss/finalize work agendas on ES call	Oct 13, 2017
NOP - Send compiled public comments to NOSB	Oct 16, 2017
Two Public comment webinars	Oct 24, and if needed 26, 2017
Fall 2017 NOSB meeting - Jacksonville, FL	Oct 31- Nov 2, 2017

2020 Sunsets

TR Requests: July 2017, Summary: Spr 2018, Review: Fall 2018

Name	National List §	Contact	TAP/TR	Notes	Scheduled, Discussed	Review Meeting
Calcium carbonate	205.605(a)	SR	N	1995 TAP . TR requested 07 28 17. Low priority		Summary: Spr 2018 Review: Fall 2018
Flavors	205.605(a)	TC	N	2005 TR		“
Gellan Gum	205.605(a)	JM	N	2006 TAP		“
Oxygen	205.605(a)	LD	N	1995 TAP . TR requested 07 28 17. Low priority		“
Potassium chloride	205.605(a)	AS	N	1995 TAP ; 2015 TR for Nutrient vitamins and minerals		“
Alginates	205.605(b)	SE	N	1995 TAP ; 2015 TR		“
Calcium hydroxide	205.605(b)	AS	N	1995 TAP . TR requested 07 28 17. Low priority		“
Ethylene	205.605(b)	AB	N	1995 TAP ; 1999 TAP - Processing . TR requested 07 28		“

				17. Contingent on request from other Subcomms		
Glycerides: mono and di	205.605(b)	LD	N	1995 TAP ; 2015 TR		“
Magnesium stearate	205.605(b)	AB	N	1995 TAP . TR requested 07 28 17. Low priority		“
Phosphoric acid	205.605(b)	AS	N	2003 TAP . TR requested 07 28 17. Contingent on request from other Subcomms		“
Potassium carbonate	205.605(b)	SR	N	1995 TAP . TR requested 07 28 17. Low priority.		“
Sulfur dioxide	205.605(b)	SE	N	1995 TAP ; 2011 TR		“
Xanthan gum	205.605(b)	JM	N	1995 TAP ; 2016 TR		“
Fructooligosaccharides (FOS)	205.606	TC	N	2006 TAP ; 2015 TR		“
Gums: Arabic, Carob bean, Guar, Locust bean	205.606(k)	JM	Y	1995 TAP . TR requested 07 28 17. TR in contracting.		“
Lecithin - de-oiled	205.606	AB	N	1995 TAP ; 2009 TR		“
Tragacanth gum	205.606	JM	Y	None. TR requested 07 28 17. TR in contracting.		“

Note: Subcommittee notes may include preliminary discussions regarding substances considered for addition to or removal from the National List. They do not represent official National Organic Program (NOP) policy or regulations. Please see the NOP website for official NOP policy, regulations, and status of substances used in organic production and handling.

**National Organic Standards Board (NOSB)
Handling Subcommittee (HS) Meeting Notes
Tuesday, September 5, 2017 1:00 pm ET**

Present: Lisa de Lima (LD), Chair; Steve Ela (SE); Joelle Mosso (JM); Asa Bradman (AB); Scott Rice, Vice Chair (SR); A-dae Briones (ARB)

Absent: Tom Chapman (TC); Ashley Swaffar (AS)

Staff: Michelle Arsenault (MA); Devon Pattillo (DP)

Work Agenda

Petitioned Substances						
Substance	National List §	Contact	TR rqst?	Notes*	Scheduled, Discussed, Voted	Meeting
Sodium dodecylbenzene sulfonate (SDBS) Petition Addendum #1, SDBS (PDF)	205.605(b)	SR	Y	Petition sent to HS on 11 02 15. Response/request for TR due 01 04 16. Petition found suff 12 01 15. No new TR will be requested. Referred back to HS at Apr 2016 NOSB meeting. TR request sent 05 18 16. TR in development - Expected late Dec 2016/early Jan. TR delayed until Spring 2017. TR sent to HS 05 30 17. Response due 08 01 17. Petition addendum sent to HS 07 12 17. The HS found the petition addendum suff 08 01 17	Aug 1, Aug 15	Spr 2018
Sodium Chlorite for the generation of chlorine dioxide gas Petition, Addendum	205.605	SR	Y	Petition for chlorine dioxide dry gas sent to HS on 12 02 15. Response/request for TR due 02 02 16. HS sent request 03 17 16 for additional info from petitioner. Sodium chlorite addendum received 05 05 16. Suff due 07 05 16. Petition found sufficient 06 07 16. Sent back to Subcomm at Fall 2016 meeting. HS requested a TR 06 06 17.	May 16, Jun 6,	Spr 2018
Silver Dihydrogen Citrate Petition Addendum #1	205.605(b)	JM	Y	Petition sent to HS 01 24 17. Response/request for TR due 03 28 17. Petition found sufficient 03 07 17. HS requested TR 03 07 14. TR in development. Petition addendum sent to HS 08 03 17	Mar 7	Spr 2018

Petitioned Substances						
Substance	National List §	Contact	TR rqst?	Notes*	Scheduled, Discussed, Voted	Meeting
Japones pepper	205.606	ARB	N	Petition sent to HS 02 09 17. Response/request for TR due 04 11 17. Petition found suff 04 04 17. No TR. HS requested additional info from petitioner 07 19 17	Apr 4, Jul 18 Oct 3	Spr 2018
Ethiopian pepper	205.606	ARB	N	Petition sent to HS 02 09 17. Response/request for TR due 04 11 17. Petition found suff 04 04 17. No TR. HS requested additional info from petitioner 07 19 17	Apr 4 Jul 18 Oct 3	Spr 2018
Tamarind Seed Gum Petition Addendum, August 22, 2017	205.606	SE		Petition sent to HS 02 15 17. Response/request for TR due 04 17 17. HS requested additional info from the petitioner 04 04 17. Petition addendum Rcvd 08 10 17. Response due 10 10 17. Updated petition addendum rcvd 08 22 17.	Apr 4 Sep 5	Spr 2018

2019 Sunsets §205.605(a), §205.605(b) and 205.606 Summary: Spr 2017 Review: Fall 2017						
Name	National List §	Contact	TAP/TR	Notes	Scheduled, Discussed	Review Meeting
Attapulgitte	205.605(a)	JM	N		Jun 6	Fall 2017
Bentonite	205.605(a)	JM	N		Jun 6	"
Diatomaceous earth	205.605(a)	JM	N		Jun 6	"
Nitrogen	205.605(a)	LD	N		May 16	"
Sodium carbonate	205.605(a)	LD	N		Jun 6	"
Acidified sodium chlorite	205.605(b)	AS	N		May 16	"
Chlorine Materials (Calcium hypochlorite,	205.605(b)	AS	N		May 16	"

Chlorine dioxide, Sodium hypochlorite)						
Carbon dioxide	205.605(b)	LD	N		May 16	“
Magnesium chloride	205.605(b)	LD	Y	TR in development; expected December 2016. TR sent to HS 12 12 16. Suff due 02 14 17. TR found sufficient 01 17 17	May 16	“
Potassium acid tartrate	205.605(b)	SE	Y	TR in development; expected December 2016. TR sent to HS 01 11 17. TR suff due 03 15 17. TR found sufficient 01 17 17	May 16	“
Sodium phosphates	205.605(b)	TC/LD	2016	Phosphates - TR Request rec'd 07 28 15; TR sent to HS on 02 10 2016; TR found sufficient on 03 15 2016	Aug 15	“
Casings	205.606	AB	N		Aug 1	“
Konjac flour	205.606	SR	N		Aug 15	“
Pectin (non-amidated forms only)	205.606	TC	N		June 6	“

Other projects

Name	Contact	Notes*	Meeting
Packaging substances used in organic food handling - including BPA	LD/AB	Submitted briefing paper to NOP 01 12 14. Response memo from NOP sent to HS 11 19 14. TR in development, expected mid-Sep - delayed. TR received 9/30/16. In review by the program. TR sent to HS 10 19 16. TR sufficiency due 12 20 16. TR found insufficient 12 20 16. Vote: 02 21 17. New TR in development. Expected July 2017, TR received 07 10 17. Response due 09 08 17. TR found sufficient 08 01 17.	Discussion doc Spr 2018
Tocopherols Reclassification	TC	Review scheduled 9/6/16. Voted 09 06 16. Sent back to Subcomm at fall 2016 meeting. Scheduled for discussion. Vote: 01 17 17. Referred back to HS at Spr 2017 NOSB meeting	Verbal update Fall 2017
Tocopherols. Additional Listing @ 205.605(a)	TC	Voted 09 06 16. Sent back to Subcomm at Fall 2016 meeting. Deferred to Fall 2017 meeting.	Verbal update Fall 2017
Nutrient Vitamins and Minerals - annotation change	TC	Pending NOP Approval. Approved 01 12 16. Proposal. On hold.	Spr 2018?

Marine materials (marine algae and extracts). Proposal	SR	Pending NOP approval. NOP approved request 01 12 16. TR request sent to NOP 02 05 16. TR expected Jul 2016. TR sent to HS 08 10 16. TR suff due 10 11 16. TR found sufficient 09 06 16. Voted 09 06 16. Proposal in development 12 06 16. Voted 01 17 17. Referred back to HS at Spr 2017 NOSB meeting	TBD
Magnesium chloride Reclassification 205.605(b)	LD	HS requested addition of this. NOP approved 01 12 16, but delayed until after classification guidance is published and TR is available.	Spr 2018
Ancillary substances used in cellulose	LD	Voted: 01 03 17. Referred back to HS at Spr 2017 NOSB meeting	Update Fall 2017, then remove
Potassium acid tartrate reclassification 205.605(b)	SE	NOP approved work agenda item 06 16 17. 2017 TR . Vote: 08 15 17	Fall 2017
Research Priorities	TC/ALL	RPs due to MS Aug 2017	Fall 2017
NOP operating plan suggestions	ALL		NA

***Highlight** indicates committee action needed. ***Highlight** indicates review completion and/or vote

Agenda

- Approve August 15, 2017 notes
- Tamarind Seed petition and addendum sufficiency (SE)
- Whey protein concentrate discuss suggestion to annotate listing (LD/TC)
- Other Items
- Adjourn

Discussion

- **HS Notes from August 15, 2017** were approved with no changes
- **Tamarind seed petition and addendum - sufficiency (SE).** The group felt the petitioners addressed the HS questions in their petition addendum. Members discussed the substance and are considering whether to request a technical review, given that a TR for all the other gums on the National List is in development. The group will consider specific questions that they might want a TR to address.
- **Whey protein concentrate (LD/TC).** The NOSB voted to remove whey protein concentrate during the 2017 sunset review, but the NOP renewed the listing based on comments received during rulemaking. A member suggested that the HS consider specific forms of whey protein concentrate and consider a recommendation for an annotation. The HS will schedule this discussion for a future call.
- **Other Items.** The HS cancelled the September 19 call. The NOP noted that the petitioner of Japonese Peppers and Ethiopian Peppers submitted their response to the HS request for additional information. The NOP will forward this information to the HS.
- **ABS note (added 09/05/17):** The HS developed a discussion document for Marine Materials for the fall meeting. This discussion document is the same one that was posted for the last meeting, and the HS is posting it to garner additional feedback.
- **The meeting was adjourned**

[Previous HS Notes](#)

Future Call Schedule (1st and 3rd Tuesdays 1:00 ET)

August 15, 2017 -

Konjac Flour (SR) - Discuss proposal/vote

Sodium phosphates (TC/LD) - Discuss proposal/vote

September 5, 2017

September 19, 2017 - cancelled

October 3, 2017

Tamarind seed (SE). Petition/addendum sufficiency

Whey protein concentrate (HB) - Discuss

Japones Pepper (ARB) - Discuss proposal/vote (pending response from petitioner)

Ethiopian pepper (ARB) - Discuss proposal/vote (pending response from petitioner)

October 17, 2017

Discuss public comments

November 7, 2017

November 21, 2017

December 5, 2017

December 19, 2017

January 2, 2018

January 16, 2018

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2020 Sunsets

TR Requests: July 2017, Summary: Spr 2018, Review: Fall 2018

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Flavors	205.605(a)	TC	N	2005 TR		“
Gellan Gum	205.605(a)	JM	N	2006 TAP		“
Oxygen	205.605(a)	LD	N	1995 TAP . TR requested 07 28 17. Low priority		“
Potassium chloride	205.605(a)	AS	N	1995 TAP ; 2015 TR for Nutrient vitamins and minerals		“
Alginates	205.605(b)	SE	N	1995 TAP ; 2015 TR		“
Calcium hydroxide	205.605(b)	AS	N	1995 TAP . TR requested 07 28 17. Low priority		“
Ethylene	205.605(b)	AB	N	1995 TAP ; 1999 TAP - Processing . TR requested 07 28 17. Contingent on request from other Subcomms		“
Glycerides: mono and di	205.605(b)	LD	N	1995 TAP ; 2015 TR		“
Magnesium stearate	205.605(b)	AB	Y	1995 TAP . TR requested 07 28 17. Low priority		“
Phosphoric acid	205.605(b)	AS	N	2003 TAP . TR requested 07 28 17. Contingent on request from other Subcomms		“
Potassium carbonate	205.605(b)	SR	N	1995 TAP . TR requested 07 28 17. Low priority.		“
Sulfur dioxide	205.605(b)	SE	N	1995 TAP ; 2011 TR		“
Xanthan gum	205.605(b)	JM	N	1995 TAP ; 2016 TR		“
Fructooligosaccharides (FOS)	205.606	TC	N	2006 TAP ; 2015 TR		“
Gums: Arabic, Carob bean, Guar, Locust bean	205.606(k)	JM	Y	1995 TAP . TR requested 07 28 17. TR in contracting.		“
Lecithin - de-oiled	205.606	AB	N	1995 TAP ; 2009 TR		“
Tragacanth gum	205.606	JM	Y	None. TR requested 07 28 17. TR in contracting.		“

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**National Organic Standards Board (NOSB)
Handling Subcommittee (HS) Meeting Notes
Tuesday, October 3, 2017 1:00 pm ET**

Present: Lisa de Lima (LD), Chair; Steve Ela (SE); Joelle Mosso (JM); Asa Bradman (AB); Scott Rice, Vice Chair (SR); A-dae Briones (ARB)

Absent: Ashley Swaffar (AS); Tom Chapman (TC)

Staff: Michelle Arsenault (MA); Devon Pattillo (DP)

Work Agenda

Petitioned Substances						
Substance	National List §	Contact	TR rqst?	Notes*	Scheduled, Discussed, Voted	Meeting
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Sodium Chlorite for the generation of chlorine dioxide gas Petition, Addendum	205.605	SR	Y	Petition for chlorine dioxide dry gas sent to HS on 12 02 15. Response/request for TR due 02 02 16. HS sent request 03 17 16 for additional info from petitioner. Sodium chlorite addendum received 05 05 16. Suff due 07 05 16. Petition found sufficient 06 07 16. Sent back to Subcomm at Fall 2016 meeting. HS requested a TR 06 06 17.	May 16, Jun 6,	Spr 2018
Silver Dihydrogen Citrate Petition Addendum #1	205.605(b)	JM	Y	Petition sent to HS 01 24 17. Response/request for TR due 03 28 17. Petition found sufficient 03 07 17. HS requested TR 03 07 14. TR in development. Petition addendum sent to HS 08 03 17	Mar 7	Spr 2018

Petitioned Substances						
Substance	National List §	Contact	TR rqst?	Notes*	Scheduled, Discussed, Voted	Meeting
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2019 Sunsets §205.605(a), §205.605(b) and 205.606 Summary: Spr 2017 Review: Fall 2017						
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Bentonite	205.605(a)	JM	N		Jun 6	"
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Sodium carbonate	205.605(a)	LD	N		Jun 6	"
Acidified sodium chlorite	205.605(b)	AS	N		May 16	"
Chlorine Materials (Calcium hypochlorite,	205.605(b)	AS	N		May 16	"

Chlorine dioxide, Sodium hypochlorite)						
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Sodium phosphates	205.605(b)	TC/LD	2016	Phosphates - TR Request rec'd 07 28 15; TR sent to HS on 02 10 2016; TR found sufficient on 03 15 2016	Aug 15	“
Casings	205.606	AB	N		Aug 1	“
Konjac flour	205.606	SR	N		Aug 15	“
Pectin (non-amidated forms only)	205.606	TC	N		June 6	“

Other projects

Name	Contact	Notes*	Meeting
Packaging substances used in organic food handling - including BPA	LD/AB	Submitted briefing paper to NOP 01 12 14. Response memo from NOP sent to HS 11 19 14. TR in development, expected mid-Sep - delayed. TR received 9/30/16. In review by the program. TR sent to HS 10 19 16. TR sufficiency due 12 20 16. TR found insufficient 12 20 16. Vote: 02 21 17. New TR in development. Expected July 2017, TR received 07 10 17. Response due 09 08 17. TR found sufficient 08 01 17.	Discussion doc Spr 2018
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NOP operating plan suggestions	ALL		NA

***Highlight** indicates committee action needed. ***Highlight** indicates review completion and/or vote

Agenda

- Approve September 5, 2017 notes
- Tamarind Seed Limited scope TR questions (SE)
- Whey protein concentrate discuss suggestion to annotate listing (LD/TC)
- Japonese Pepper (ARB) - Discuss proposal/vote
- Ethiopian pepper (ARB) - Discuss proposal/vote
- Other Items
- Adjourn

Discussion

- **HS Notes from September 5, 2017** were approved with one minor change to the action item for tamarind seed.
- **Tamarind Seed (SE)**. The lead stated the questions proposed for the limited scope TR and asked for feedback. There is a TR in development for the other gums on the National List, but it does not include tamarind seed gum. After discussion, the group decided to request a full TR as opposed to a limited scope TR, with some additional specific questions.
- **Whey protein concentrate (LD/TC)**. Deferred to next call.
- **Japonese Pepper (ARB)**. The lead summarized the petition and the previous discussion by the HS. The HS sent the petitioner additional questions about alternatives and supply, and the response has been incorporated into the draft proposal. The petitioner indicated that supply is not adequate and the alternatives are not sufficient for their recipes. The HS will seek additional information from the petitioner, as their initial response was brief.
- **Ethiopian pepper (ARB)**. The group discussed supply issues and characteristics of the Ethiopian pepper. Members acknowledged that this pepper grows in a specific climate and that this may present additional sourcing challenges. Members were not clear if growers/collectors of this pepper (the petition indicates the pepper may be wild harvested) had sought organic certification.

The HS will seek additional information from the petitioner and will proceed with its review upon receipt of that information.

- **Other Items.** None
- **The meeting was adjourned**

[Previous HS Notes](#)

Future Call Schedule (1st and 3rd Tuesdays 1:00 ET)

September 5, 2017

September 19, 2017 - cancelled

October 3, 2017

Tamarind seed (SE). Petition/addendum sufficiency

Whey protein concentrate (HB) - Discuss

Japones Pepper (ARB) - Discuss proposal/vote (pending response from petitioner)

Ethiopian pepper (ARB) - Discuss proposal/vote (pending response from petitioner)

October 17, 2017

Discuss public comments

Whey protein concentrate (HB) - Discuss

November 7, 2017

November 21, 2017

December 5, 2017

December 19, 2017

January 2, 2018

January 16, 2018

February 6, 2018

February 20, 2018

March 6, 2018

March 20, 2018

April 3, 2018

April 17, 2018

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2020 Sunsets

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Oxygen	205.605(a)	LD	N	1995 TAP . TR requested 07 28 17. Low priority		"
Potassium chloride	205.605(a)	AS	N	1995 TAP ; 2015 TR for Nutrient vitamins and minerals		"
Alginates	205.605(b)	SE	N	1995 TAP ; 2015 TR		"
Calcium hydroxide	205.605(b)	AS	N	1995 TAP . TR requested 07 28 17. Low priority		"
Ethylene	205.605(b)	AB	N	1995 TAP ; 1999 TAP - Processing . TR requested 07 28 17. Contingent on request from other Subcomms		"
Glycerides: mono and di	205.605(b)	LD	N	1995 TAP ; 2015 TR		"
Magnesium stearate	205.605(b)	AB	Y	1995 TAP . TR requested 07 28 17. Low priority		"
Phosphoric acid	205.605(b)	AS	N	2003 TAP . TR requested 07 28 17. Contingent on request from other Subcomms		"
Potassium carbonate	205.605(b)	SR	N	1995 TAP . TR requested 07 28 17. Low priority.		"
Sulfur dioxide	205.605(b)	SE	N	1995 TAP ; 2011 TR		"
Xanthan gum	205.605(b)	JM	N	1995 TAP ; 2016 TR		"
Fructooligosaccharides (FOS)	205.606	TC	N	2006 TAP ; 2015 TR		"

Gums: Arabic, Carob bean, Guar, Locust bean	205.606(k)	JM	Y	1995 TAP . TR requested 07 28 17. TR in contracting.		“
Lecithin - de-oiled	205.606	AB	N	1995 TAP ; 2009 TR		“
Tragacanth gum	205.606	JM	Y	None. TR requested 07 28 17. TR in contracting.		“

Note: Subcommittee notes may include preliminary discussions regarding substances considered for addition to or removal from the National List. They do not represent official National Organic Program (NOP) policy or regulations. Please see the NOP website for official NOP policy, regulations, and status of substances used in organic production and handling.

**National Organic Standards Board (NOSB)
Handling Subcommittee (HS) Meeting Notes
Tuesday, October 17, 2017 1:00 pm ET**

Present: Lisa de Lima (LD), Chair; Steve Ela (SE); Joelle Mosso (JM); Asa Bradman (AB); Scott Rice, Vice Chair (SR); A-dae Briones (ARB); Ashley Swaffar (AS); Tom Chapman (TC)

Absent: none

Staff: Michelle Arsenault (MA); Devon Pattillo (DP)

Work Agenda

Petitioned Substances						
Substance	National List §	Contact	TR rqst?	Notes*	Scheduled, Discussed, Voted	Meeting
Sodium dodecylbenzene sulfonate (SDBS) Petition Addendum #1, SDBS (PDF)	205.605(b)	SR	Y	Petition sent to HS on 11 02 15. Response/request for TR due 01 04 16. Petition found suff 12 01 15. No new TR will be requested. Referred back to HS at Apr 2016 NOSB meeting. TR request sent 05 18 16. TR in development - Expected late Dec 2016/early Jan. TR delayed until Spring 2017. TR sent to HS 05 30 17. Response due 08 01 17. Petition addendum sent to HS 07 12 17. The HS found the petition addendum suff 08 01 17	Aug 1, Aug 15	Spr 2018
Sodium Chlorite for the generation of chlorine dioxide gas Petition, Addendum	205.605	SR	Y	Petition for chlorine dioxide dry gas sent to HS on 12 02 15. Response/request for TR due 02 02 16. HS sent request 03 17 16 for additional info from petitioner. Sodium chlorite addendum received 05 05 16. Suff due 07 05 16. Petition found sufficient 06 07 16. Sent back to Subcomm at Fall 2016 meeting. HS requested a TR 06 06 17.	May 16, Jun 6,	Spr 2018
Silver Dihydrogen Citrate Petition Addendum #1	205.605(b)	JM	Y	Petition sent to HS 01 24 17. Response/request for TR due 03 28 17. Petition found sufficient 03 07 17. HS requested TR 03 07 14. TR in development. Petition addendum sent to HS 08 03 17	Mar 7	Spr 2018

Petitioned Substances						
Substance	National List §	Contact	TR rqst?	Notes*	Scheduled, Discussed, Voted	Meeting
Japones pepper	205.606	ARB	N	Petition sent to HS 02 09 17. Response/request for TR due 04 11 17. Petition found suff 04 04 17. No TR. HS requested additional info from petitioner 07 19 17	Apr 4, Jul 18, Oct 3, Oct 17	Spr 2018
Ethiopian pepper	205.606	ARB	N	Petition sent to HS 02 09 17. Response/request for TR due 04 11 17. Petition found suff 04 04 17. No TR. HS requested additional info from petitioner 07 19 17	Apr 4, Jul 18, Oct 3, Oct 17	Spr 2018
Tamarind Seed Gum Petition Addendum, August 22, 2017	205.606	SE		Petition sent to HS 02 15 17. Response/request for TR due 04 17 17. HS requested additional info from the petitioner 04 04 17. Petition addendum Rcvd 08 10 17. Response due 10 10 17. Updated petition addendum rcvd 08 22 17. TR requested 10 03 17. TR in contracting.	Apr 4, Sep 5, Oct 3	Spr 2018/Fall 2018

2019 Sunsets §205.605(a), §205.605(b) and 205.606 Summary: Spr 2017 Review: Fall 2017						
Name	National List §	Contact	TAP/TR	Notes	Scheduled, Discussed	Review Meeting
Attapulgitte	205.605(a)	JM	N		Jun 6	Fall 2017
Bentonite	205.605(a)	JM	N		Jun 6	"
Diatomaceous earth	205.605(a)	JM	N		Jun 6	"
Nitrogen	205.605(a)	LD	N		May 16	"
Sodium carbonate	205.605(a)	LD	N		Jun 6	"
Acidified sodium chlorite	205.605(b)	AS	N		May 16	"
Chlorine Materials (Calcium	205.605(b)	AS	N		May 16	"

hypochlorite, Chlorine dioxide, Sodium hypochlorite)						
Carbon dioxide	205.605(b)	LD	N		May 16	“
Magnesium chloride	205.605(b)	LD	Y	TR in development; expected December 2016. TR sent to HS 12 12 16. Suff due 02 14 17. TR found sufficient 01 17 17	May 16	“
Potassium acid tartrate	205.605(b)	SE	Y	TR in development; expected December 2016. TR sent to HS 01 11 17. TR suff due 03 15 17. TR found sufficient 01 17 17	May 16	“
Sodium phosphates	205.605(b)	TC/LD	2016	Phosphates - TR Request rec'd 07 28 15; TR sent to HS on 02 10 2016; TR found sufficient on 03 15 2016	Aug 15	“
Casings	205.606	AB	N		Aug 1	“
Konjac flour	205.606	SR	N		Aug 15	“
Pectin (non-amidated forms only)	205.606	TC	N		June 6	“

Other projects

Name	Contact	Notes*	Meeting
Packaging substances used in organic food handling - including BPA	LD/AB	Submitted briefing paper to NOP 01 12 14. Response memo from NOP sent to HS 11 19 14. TR in development, expected mid-Sep - delayed. TR received 9/30/16. In review by the program. TR sent to HS 10 19 16. TR sufficiency due 12 20 16. TR found insufficient 12 20 16. Vote: 02 21 17. New TR in development. Expected July 2017, TR received 07 10 17. Response due 09 08 17. TR found sufficient 08 01 17.	Discussion doc Spr 2018
Tocopherols Reclassification	TC	Review scheduled 9/6/16. Voted 09 06 16. Sent back to Subcomm at fall 2016 meeting. Scheduled for discussion. Vote: 01 17 17. Referred back to HS at Spr 2017 NOSB meeting	Verbal update Fall 2017
Tocopherols. Additional Listing @ 205.605(a)	TC	Voted 09 06 16. Sent back to Subcomm at Fall 2016 meeting. Deferred to Fall 2017 meeting.	Verbal update Fall 2017
Nutrient Vitamins and Minerals - annotation change	TC	Pending NOP Approval. Approved 01 12 16. Proposal. On hold.	Spr 2018?

Marine materials (marine algae and extracts). Proposal	SR	Pending NOP approval. NOP approved request 01 12 16. TR request sent to NOP 02 05 16. TR expected Jul 2016. TR sent to HS 08 10 16. TR suff due 10 11 16. TR found sufficient 09 06 16. Voted 09 06 16. Proposal in development 12 06 16. Voted 01 17 17. Referred back to HS at Spr 2017 NOSB meeting	TBD
Magnesium chloride Reclassification 205.605(b)	LD	HS requested addition of this. NOP approved 01 12 16, but delayed until after classification guidance is published and TR is available.	Spr 2018
Ancillary substances used in cellulose	LD	Voted: 01 03 17. Referred back to HS at Spr 2017 NOSB meeting	Update Fall 2017, then remove
Potassium acid tartrate reclassification 205.605(b)	SE	NOP approved work agenda item 06 16 17. 2017 TR . Vote: 08 15 17	Fall 2017
Research Priorities	TC/ALL	RPs due to MS Aug 2017	Fall 2017
NOP operating plan suggestions	ALL		NA

***Highlight** indicates committee action needed. ***Highlight** indicates review completion and/or vote

Agenda

- Approve October 3, 2017 notes
- Whey protein concentrate (WPC) discuss suggestion to annotate listing (LD/TC)
- Japonese Pepper (ARB). Finalize questions for petitioner (ALL).
- Ethiopian pepper (ARB). Finalize questions for petitioner (ALL).
- Discuss public comment – (ALL)
- Other Items
- Adjourn

Discussion

- **HS Notes from October 3, 2017** were approved with no changes
- **Whey protein concentrate (WPC) discuss suggestion to annotate listing (LD/TC)**. The HS is seeking to understand the NOP justification for not accepting the NOSB recommendation to remove WPC from the National List. The Subcommittee would like to invite the NOP to join the November 7 call to explain the reasoning for the decision, which may have bearing on future reviews, and may inform the way the NOSB writes its proposals.
- **Japonese Pepper (ARB). Finalize questions for petitioner (ALL)**. The lead circulated the questions for the petitioner about the two peppers and the group reviewed them and made some additions. The question regarding japonese peppers is about quantity and barriers to growing and processing the peppers organically. The lead will recirculate the questions and the HS Chair will submit them to the NOP.
- **Ethiopian pepper (ARB). Finalize questions for petitioner (ALL)**. The lead circulated the questions for the petitioner about the two peppers and the group reviewed them and made some additions. The question regarding Ethiopian peppers is about wild crafting. A member suggested providing background information for the petitioners regarding wild-crafting. The lead will recirculate the questions and the HS Chair will submit them to the NOP.

- **Discuss public comment (ALL).** The lead reviewed the process for presenting materials at the meeting, and the group briefly discussed public comments.
- **Other Items.**
 - The Chair noted a prior comment regarding an annotation for sodium carbonate and posed a question to the NOP about who should address this (the NOP or NOSB) and in what format (guidance, rulemaking, etc.)
 - The November 7 call will include scheduling of the discussions for the sunset reviews for the Spring 2018 meeting.
- **The meeting was adjourned**

[Previous HS Notes](#)

Future Call Schedule (1st and 3rd Tuesdays 1:00 ET)

October 3, 2017

Tamarind seed (SE). Petition/addendum sufficiency

Whey protein concentrate (HB) - Discuss

Japones Pepper (ARB) - Discuss proposal/vote (pending response from petitioner)

Ethiopian pepper (ARB) - Discuss proposal/vote (pending response from petitioner)

October 17, 2017

Discuss public comments

Whey protein concentrate (HB) - Discuss

November 7, 2017

Whey protein concentrate (SNY)

Schedule dates for sunset reviews

November 21, 2017

December 5, 2017

December 19, 2017

January 2, 2018

January 16, 2018

February 6, 2018

February 20, 2018

March 6, 2018

March 20, 2018

April 3, 2018

April 17, 2018

May 1, 2018

May 15, 2018

June 5, 2018

June 19, 2018

July 3, 2018

July 17, 2018

August 7, 2018

August 21, 2018

September 4, 2018

September 18, 2018

October 2, 2018

October 16, 2018

November 6, 2018

November 20, 2018

December 4, 2018
 December 18, 2018

Fall 2017 Milestones	Target dates (tentative)
NOP - Publish FRN, Open public comment	May 30, 2017
NOSB Request for TRs for 2020 sunset materials	July 19, 2017
NOP - Draft Fall 2017 NOSB meeting tentative agenda	Aug 11, 2017
NOSB public web conference	Aug 14, 2017
NOSB - Fall 2017 proposals due to NOP	Aug 29, 2017
NOP - Post proposals	On or before Sep 12, 2017
Public comment closes	Oct 11, 2017
Discuss/finalize work agendas on ES call	Oct 13, 2017
NOP - Send compiled public comments to NOSB	Oct 16, 2017
Two Public comment webinars	Oct 24, and if needed 26, 2017
Fall 2017 NOSB meeting - Jacksonville, FL	Oct 31- Nov 2, 2017

Spring 2018 Milestones	Target dates (tentative)
New NOSB member orientation	TBD
NOSB - Spring 2018 proposals due to NOP	Feb 21, 2018
NOP - Complete Spring 2018 NOSB meeting tentative agenda	Mar 6, 2018
NOP - Post proposals, Open public comment	Mar 6, 2018
Discuss work agendas on ES call	Mar 9, 2018
Public comment closes	Apr 4, 2018
NOP - Send compiled public comments to NOSB	Apr 9, 2018
Work agendas finalized on ES call (last call before fall meeting)	Apr 13, 2018
Public comment webinar(s)	Apr 17 & 19, 2018
Spring 2018 NOSB meeting – Tucson, AZ	Apr 25-27, 2018

2020 Sunsets

TR Requests: July 2017, Summary: Spr 2018, Review: Fall 2018

Name	National List §	Contact	TAP/TR	Notes	Scheduled, Discussed	Review Meeting
Calcium carbonate	205.605(a)	SR	Y	1995 TAP . TR requested 07 28 17. Low priority		Summary: Spr 2018 Review: Fall 2018
Flavors	205.605(a)	TC	N	2005 TR		"
Gellan Gum	205.605(a)	JM	N	2006 TAP		"
Oxygen	205.605(a)	LD	N	1995 TAP . TR requested 07 28 17. Low priority		"
Potassium chloride	205.605(a)	AS	N	1995 TAP ; 2015 TR for Nutrient vitamins and minerals		"
Alginates	205.605(b)	SE	N	1995 TAP ; 2015 TR		"
Calcium hydroxide	205.605(b)	AS	N	1995 TAP . TR requested 07 28 17. Low priority		"
Ethylene	205.605(b)	AB	N	1995 TAP ; 1999 TAP - Processing . TR requested 07 28 17. Contingent on request from other Subcomms		"
Glycerides: mono and di	205.605(b)	LD	N	1995 TAP ; 2015 TR		"
Magnesium stearate	205.605(b)	AB	Y	1995 TAP . TR requested 07 28 17. Low priority		"
Phosphoric acid	205.605(b)	AS	N	2003 TAP . TR requested 07 28 17. Contingent on request from other Subcomms		"
Potassium carbonate	205.605(b)	SR	N	1995 TAP . TR requested 07 28 17. Low priority.		"
Sulfur dioxide	205.605(b)	SE	N	1995 TAP ; 2011 TR		"
Xanthan gum	205.605(b)	JM	N	1995 TAP ; 2016 TR		"
Fructooligosaccharides (FOS)	205.606	TC	N	2006 TAP ; 2015 TR		"
Gums: Arabic, Carob bean, Guar, Locust bean	205.606(k)	JM	Y	1995 TAP . TR requested 07 28 17. TR in contracting.		"
Lecithin - de-oiled	205.606	AB	N	1995 TAP ; 2009 TR		"

Tragacanth gum	205.606	JM	Y	None. TR requested 07 28 17. TR in contracting.		"
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Note: Subcommittee notes may include preliminary discussions regarding substances considered for addition to or removal from the National List. They do not represent official National Organic Program (NOP) policy or regulations. Please see the NOP website for official NOP policy, regulations, and status of substances used in organic production and handling.

**National Organic Standards Board (NOSB)
Handling Subcommittee (HS) Meeting Notes
Tuesday, November 7, 2017 1:00 pm ET**

Present: Lisa de Lima (LD), Chair; Steve Ela (SE); A-dae Briones (ARB); Ashley Swaffar (AS)
Absent: Asa Bradman (AB); Scott Rice, Vice Chair (SR); Tom Chapman (TC); Joelle Mosso (JM)
Staff: Michelle Arsenault (MA); Devon Pattillo (DP), Shannon Nally Yanessa

Work Agenda

Petitioned Substances						
Substance	National List §	Contact	TR reqst?	Notes*	Scheduled, Discussed, Voted	Meeting
Sodium dodecylbenzene sulfonate (SDBS) Petition Addendum #1, SDBS (PDF)	205.605(b)	SR	Y	Petition sent to HS on 11 02 15. Response/request for TR due 01 04 16. Petition found suff 12 01 15. No new TR will be requested. Referred back to HS at Apr 2016 NOSB meeting. TR request sent 05 18 16. TR in development - Expected late Dec 2016/early Jan. TR delayed until Spring 2017. TR sent to HS 05 30 17. Response due 08 01 17. Petition addendum sent to HS 07 12 17. The HS found the petition addendum suff 08 01 17	Aug 1, Aug 15, Jan 2	Spr 2018
Sodium Chlorite for the generation of chlorine dioxide gas Petition, Addendum	205.605	SR	Y	Petition for chlorine dioxide dry gas sent to HS on 12 02 15. Response/request for TR due 02 02 16. HS sent request 03 17 16 for additional info from petitioner. Sodium chlorite addendum received 05 05 16. Suff due 07 05 16. Petition found sufficient 06 07 16. Sent back to Subcomm at Fall 2016 meeting. HS requested a TR 06 06 17.	May 16, Jun 6, Jan 2	Spr 2018
Silver Dihydrogen Citrate Petition Addendum #1	205.605(b)	JM	Y	Petition sent to HS 01 24 17. Response/request for TR due 03 28 17. Petition found sufficient 03 07 17. HS requested TR 03 07 14. TR in development. Petition addendum sent to HS 08 03 17. TR sent to HS 10 19 17/ Suff due 12 19 17	Mar 7, Dec 5	Spr 2018

Petitioned Substances						
Substance	National List §	Contact	TR rqst?	Notes*	Scheduled, Discussed, Voted	Meeting
Japones pepper	205.606	ARB	N	Petition sent to HS 02 09 17. Response/request for TR due 04 11 17. Petition found suff 04 04 17. No TR. HS requested additional info from petitioner 07 19 17 & 11 07 19	Apr 4, Jul 18, Oct 3, Nov 7	Spr 2018
Ethiopian pepper	205.606	ARB	N	Petition sent to HS 02 09 17. Response/request for TR due 04 11 17. Petition found suff 04 04 17. No TR. HS requested additional info from petitioner 07 19 17 & 11 07 19	Apr 4, Jul 18, Oct 3, Nov 7	Spr 2018
Tamarind Seed Gum Petition Addendum, August 22, 2017	205.606	SE		Petition sent to HS 02 15 17. Response/request for TR due 04 17 17. HS requested additional info from the petitioner 04 04 17. Petition addendum Rcvd 08 10 17. Response due 10 10 17. Updated petition addendum rcvd 08 22 17. TR requested 10 03 17. TR in contracting.	Apr 4, Sep 5, Oct 3, Feb 20	Spr 2018/Fall 2018

2020 Sunsets						
TR Requests: July 2017, Summary: Spr 2018, Review: Fall 2018						
Name	National List §	Contact	TAP/TR	Notes	Scheduled, Discussed	Review Meeting
Calcium carbonate	205.605(a)	SR	Y	1995 TAP . TR requested 07 28 17. Low priority	Feb 20	Summary: Spr 2018 Review: Fall 2018
Flavors	205.605(a)	TC	N	2005 TR	Jan 16	"
Gellan Gum	205.605(a)	JM	N	2006 TAP	Feb 20	"
Oxygen	205.605(a)	LD	N	1995 TAP . TR requested 07 28 17. Low priority	Dec 5	"
Potassium chloride	205.605(a)	AS	N	1995 TAP ; 2015 TR for Nutrient vitamins and minerals	Dec 5	"
Alginates	205.605(b)	SE	N	1995 TAP ; 2015 TR	Dec 19	"
Calcium hydroxide	205.605(b)	AS	N	1995 TAP . TR requested 07 28 17. Low priority	Dec 5	"

Ethylene	205.605(b)	AB	N	1995 TAP ; 1999 TAP - Processing . TR requested 07 28 17. Contingent on request from other Subcomms	Dec 19	“
Glycerides: mono and di	205.605(b)	LD	N	1995 TAP ; 2015 TR	Dec 5	“
Magnesium stearate	205.605(b)	AB	Y	1995 TAP . TR requested 07 28 17. Low priority	Feb 20	“
Phosphoric acid	205.605(b)	AS	N	2003 TAP . TR requested 07 28 17. Contingent on request from other Subcomms	Dec 5	“
Potassium carbonate	205.605(b)	SR	N	1995 TAP . TR requested 07 28 17. Low priority.	Feb 6	“
Sulfur dioxide	205.605(b)	SE	N	1995 TAP ; 2011 TR	Dec 19	“
Xanthan gum	205.605(b)	JM	N	1995 TAP ; 2016 TR	Feb 20	“
Fructooligosaccharides (FOS)	205.606	TC	N	2006 TAP ; 2015 TR	Jan 16	“
Gums: Arabic, Carob bean, Guar, Locust bean	205.606(k)	JM	Y	1995 TAP . TR requested 07 28 17. TR in contracting.	Feb 20	“
Lecithin - de-oiled	205.606	AB	N	1995 TAP ; 2009 TR	Jan 16	“
Tragacanth gum	205.606	JM	Y	None. TR requested 07 28 17. TR in contracting.	Feb 20	“

Other projects

Name	Contact	Notes*	Meeting
Packaging substances used in organic food handling - including BPA	LD/AB	Submitted briefing paper to NOP 01 12 14. Response memo from NOP sent to HS 11 19 14. TR in development, expected mid-Sep - delayed. TR received 9/30/16. In review by the program. TR sent to HS 10 19 16. TR sufficiency due 12 20 16. TR found insufficient 12 20 16. Vote: 02 21 17. New TR in development. Expected July 2017, TR received 07 10 17. Response due 09 08 17. TR found sufficient 08 01 17.	Discussion doc Spr 2018
Nutrient Vitamins and Minerals - annotation change	TC	Pending NOP Approval. Approved 01 12 16. Proposal. On hold.	Spr 2018
Marine materials (marine algae and extracts). Proposal	SR	Pending NOP approval. NOP approved request 01 12 16. TR request sent to NOP 02 05 16. TR expected Jul 2016. TR sent to HS 08 10 16. TR suff due 10 11 16. TR found sufficient 09 06 16. Voted 09 06 16. Proposal in development 12 06 16. Voted 01 17 17. Referred back to HS at Spr 2017 NOSB meeting	TBD

Magnesium chloride Reclassification 205.605(b)	LD	HS requested addition of this. NOP approved 01 12 16, but delayed until after classification guidance is published and TR is available.	Spr 2018
Research Priorities	TC/ALL	RPs due to MS Aug 2018	Fall 2018

*Highlight indicates committee action needed. *Highlight indicates review completion and/or vote

Agenda

- Approve October 17, 2017 notes
- Whey protein concentrate (WPC) discussion with NOP
- Japonese Pepper (ARB). Finalize questions for petitioner (ALL).
- Ethiopian pepper (ARB). Finalize questions for petitioner (ALL).
- Debrief from Jacksonville, any additional potential work plan items to explore
- Schedule petitions/proposals/sunset materials 1st posting (due by 2/21) (ALL)
- Schedule date to review TR sufficiency for Silver Dihydrogen Citrate, due 12/19
- Other Items
- Adjourn

Discussion

- **HS Notes from October 17, 2017** were approved with no changes.
- **Whey protein concentrate (WPC).** The HS requested more information from the program regarding the three 2017 sunset materials that the NOSB recommended for removal from the National List but the NOP did not remove. The group discussed best practices for future reviews to take into consideration the factors that the NOP must consider when conducting rulemaking. Members asked about various forms of whey protein concentrate and the potential for an annotation on the listing on the National List. The NOP emphasized that it's important for the NOSB to discuss public comments during the public meetings so that the NOSB's rationale to remove a substance is clearly captured in the public record for later reference.
- **Japones Peppers, Ethiopian peppers (ARB).** The lead circulated some updated questions for the petitioner about both peppers, and the group discussed them. The HS Chair will submit them and may have further conversations with NOP about whether or not the questions are aligned with OFPA criteria.
- **Debrief from Jacksonville.** Deferred to next call.
- **Schedule petitions/proposals/sunset materials.** See table above
- **Silver Dihydrogen Citrate TR sufficiency.** Deferred to next call
- **Other Items.** None
- **The meeting was adjourned**

[Previous HS Notes](#)

Future Call Schedule (1st and 3rd Tuesdays 1:00 ET)

October 17, 2017

Discuss public comments

Whey protein concentrate (HB) - Discuss

November 7, 2017

Whey protein concentrate (SNY)

Schedule dates for sunset reviews

November 21, 2017 - cancelled

December 5, 2017

- Debrief from Jacksonville meeting (ALL)
- Silver Dihydrogen Citrate (JM) - TR sufficiency
- 2020 sunset: Oxygen (LD) - Discuss review
- 2020 sunset: Potassium chloride (AS) - Discuss review
- 2020 sunset: Calcium hydroxide (AS) - Discuss review
- 2020 sunset: Glycerides: mono and di (LD) - Discuss review
- 2020 sunset: Phosphoric acid (AS) - Discuss review

December 19, 2017

- Magnesium chloride reclassification (LD) - Discuss
- 2020 sunset: Alginates (SE) - Discuss review
- 2020 sunset: Ethylene (AB) - Discuss review
- 2020 sunset: Sulfur dioxide (SE) - Discuss review

January 2, 2018

- SDBS (SR) - Discuss proposal
- Sodium Chlorite for the generation of chlorine dioxide gas (SR) - discuss proposal

January 16, 2018

- 2020 sunset: Fructooligosaccharides (FOS) (TC) - Discuss review
- 2020 sunset: Lecithin - de-oiled (AB) - Discuss review

February 6, 2018

- BPA (AB) - Discuss
- Marine Materials (SR) - Discuss proposal
- 2020 sunset: Flavors (TC) - Discuss review
- 2020 sunset: Potassium carbonate (SR) - Discuss review

February 20, 2018

- Tamarind seed gum (SE) - TR sufficiency (if available)
- 2020 sunset: Calcium carbonate (SR) - Discuss review
- 2020 sunset: Gellan Gum (JM) - Discuss review
- 2020 sunset: Gums: Arabic, Carob bean, Guar, Locust bean (JM) - Discuss review
- 2020 sunset: Tragacanth gum (JM) - Discuss review
- 2020 sunset: Xanthan gum (JM) - Discuss review
- 2020 sunset: Magnesium stearate (AB) - Discuss review

March 6, 2018

March 20, 2018

April 3, 2018

April 17, 2018

May 1, 2018

May 15, 2018

June 5, 2018

June 19, 2018

July 3, 2018

July 17, 2018

August 7, 2018

August 21, 2018

September 4, 2018

September 18, 2018

October 2, 2018

October 16, 2018

November 6, 2018

November 20, 2018
December 4, 2018
December 18, 2018

Spring 2018 Milestones	Target dates (tentative)
New NOSB member orientation	TBD
NOSB - Spring 2018 proposals due to NOP	Feb 21, 2018
NOP - Complete Spring 2018 NOSB meeting tentative agenda	Mar 6, 2018
NOP - Post proposals, Open public comment	Mar 6, 2018
Discuss work agendas on ES call	Mar 9, 2018
Public comment closes	Apr 4, 2018
NOP - Send compiled public comments to NOSB	Apr 9, 2018
Work agendas finalized on ES call (last call before fall meeting)	Apr 13, 2018
Public comment webinar(s)	Apr 17 & 19, 2018
Spring 2018 NOSB meeting – Tucson, AZ	Apr 25-27, 2018

Note: Subcommittee notes may include preliminary discussions regarding substances considered for addition to or removal from the National List. They do not represent official National Organic Program (NOP) policy or regulations. Please see the NOP website for official NOP policy, regulations, and status of substances used in organic production and handling.

**National Organic Standards Board (NOSB)
Handling Subcommittee (HS) Meeting Notes
Tuesday, December 5, 2017 1:00 pm ET**

Present: Lisa de Lima (LD), Chair; Steve Ela (SE); Ashley Swaffar (AS); Asa Bradman (AB); Joelle Mosso (JM); Tom Chapman (TC); Harriet Behar (HB) - observer
Absent: Scott Rice, Vice Chair (SR); A-dae Briones (ARB)
Staff: Michelle Arsenault (MA); Devon Pattillo (DP)

Work Agenda

Petitioned Substances						
Substance	National List §	Contact	TR rqst?	Notes*	Scheduled, Discussed, Voted	Meeting
Sodium dodecylbenzene sulfonate (SDBS) Petition Addendum #1, SDBS (PDF)	205.605(b)	SR	Y	Petition sent to HS on 11 02 15. Response/request for TR due 01 04 16. Petition found suff 12 01 15. No new TR will be requested. Referred back to HS at Apr 2016 NOSB meeting. TR request sent 05 18 16. TR in development - Expected late Dec 2016/early Jan. TR delayed until Spring 2017. TR sent to HS 05 30 17. Response due 08 01 17. Petition addendum sent to HS 07 12 17. The HS found the petition addendum suff 08 01 17	Aug 1, Aug 15, Jan 2	Spr 2018
Sodium Chlorite for the generation of chlorine dioxide gas Petition, Addendum	205.605	SR	Y	Petition for chlorine dioxide dry gas sent to HS on 12 02 15. Response/request for TR due 02 02 16. HS sent request 03 17 16 for additional info from petitioner. Sodium chlorite addendum received 05 05 16. Suff due 07 05 16. Petition found sufficient 06 07 16. Sent back to Subcomm at Fall 2016 meeting. HS requested a TR 06 06 17.	May 16, Jun 6, Jan 2	Spr 2018
Silver Dihydrogen Citrate Petition Addendum #1	205.605(b)	JM	Y	Petition sent to HS 01 24 17. Response/request for TR due 03 28 17. Petition found sufficient 03 07 17. HS requested TR 03 07 14. TR in development. Petition addendum sent to HS 08 03 17. TR sent to HS 10 19 17/ Suff due 12 19 17. HS sent additional questions to TR contractor 12 05 17	Mar 7, Dec 5	Spr 2018

Petitioned Substances						
Substance	National List §	Contact	TR rqst?	Notes*	Scheduled, Discussed, Voted	Meeting
Japones pepper	205.606	ARB	N	Petition sent to HS 02 09 17. Response/request for TR due 04 11 17. Petition found suff 04 04 17. No TR. HS requested additional info from petitioner 07 19 17 & 11 07 19	Apr 4, Jul 18, Oct 3, Nov 7	Spr 2018
Ethiopian pepper	205.606	ARB	N	Petition sent to HS 02 09 17. Response/request for TR due 04 11 17. Petition found suff 04 04 17. No TR. HS requested additional info from petitioner 07 19 17 & 11 07 19	Apr 4, Jul 18, Oct 3, Nov 7	Spr 2018
Tamarind Seed Gum Petition Addendum, August 22, 2017	205.606	SE		Petition sent to HS 02 15 17. Response/request for TR due 04 17 17. HS requested additional info from the petitioner 04 04 17. Petition addendum Rcvd 08 10 17. Response due 10 10 17. Updated petition addendum rcvd 08 22 17. TR requested 10 03 17. TR in contracting.	Apr 4, Sep 5, Oct 3, Feb 20	Spr 2018/Fall 2018

2020 Sunsets						
TR Requests: July 2017, Summary: Spr 2018, Review: Fall 2018						
Name	National List §	Contact	TAP/TR	Notes	Scheduled, Discussed	Review Meeting
Calcium carbonate	205.605(a)	SR	Y	1995 TAP . TR requested 07 28 17. Low priority	Feb 20	Summary: Spr 2018 Review: Fall 2018
Flavors	205.605(a)	TC	N	2005 TR	Jan 16	"
Gellan Gum	205.605(a)	JM	N	2006 TAP	Feb 20	"
Oxygen	205.605(a)	LD	N	1995 TAP . TR requested 07 28 17. Low priority	Dec 5	"
Potassium chloride	205.605(a)	AS	N	1995 TAP ; 2015 TR for Nutrient vitamins and minerals	Dec 5	"
Alginates	205.605(b)	SE	N	1995 TAP ; 2015 TR	Dec 19	"
Calcium hydroxide	205.605(b)	AS	N	1995 TAP . TR requested 07 28 17. Low priority	Dec 5	"

Ethylene	205.605(b)	AB	N	1995 TAP ; 1999 TAP - Processing . TR requested 07 28 17. Contingent on request from other Subcomms	Dec 19	“
Glycerides: mono and di	205.605(b)	LD	N	1995 TAP ; 2015 TR	Dec 5	“
Magnesium stearate	205.605(b)	AB	Y	1995 TAP . TR requested 07 28 17. Low priority	Feb 20	“
Phosphoric acid	205.605(b)	AS	N	2003 TAP . TR requested 07 28 17. Contingent on request from other Subcomms	Dec 5	“
Potassium carbonate	205.605(b)	SR	N	1995 TAP . TR requested 07 28 17. Low priority.	Feb 6	“
Sulfur dioxide	205.605(b)	SE	N	1995 TAP ; 2011 TR	Dec 19	“
Xanthan gum	205.605(b)	JM	N	1995 TAP ; 2016 TR	Feb 20	“
Fructooligosaccharides (FOS)	205.606	TC	N	2006 TAP ; 2015 TR	Jan 16	“
Gums: Arabic, Carob bean, Guar, Locust bean	205.606(k)	JM	Y	1995 TAP . TR requested 07 28 17. TR in contracting.	Feb 20	“
Lecithin - de-oiled	205.606	AB	N	1995 TAP ; 2009 TR	Jan 16	“
Tragacanth gum	205.606	JM	Y	None. TR requested 07 28 17. TR in contracting.	Feb 20	“

Other projects

Name	Contact	Notes*	Meeting
Packaging substances used in organic food handling - including BPA	LD/AB	Submitted briefing paper to NOP 01 12 14. Response memo from NOP sent to HS 11 19 14. TR in development, expected mid-Sep - delayed. TR received 9/30/16. In review by the program. TR sent to HS 10 19 16. TR sufficiency due 12 20 16. TR found insufficient 12 20 16. Vote: 02 21 17. New TR in development. Expected July 2017, TR received 07 10 17. Response due 09 08 17. TR found sufficient 08 01 17.	Discussion doc Spr 2018
Nutrient Vitamins and Minerals - annotation change	TC	Pending NOP Approval. Approved 01 12 16. Proposal. On hold.	Spr 2018
Marine materials (marine algae and extracts). Proposal	SR	Pending NOP approval. NOP approved request 01 12 16. TR request sent to NOP 02 05 16. TR expected Jul 2016. TR sent to HS 08 10 16. TR suff due 10 11 16. TR found sufficient 09 06 16. Voted 09 06 16. Proposal in development 12 06 16. Voted 01 17 17. Referred back to HS at Spr 2017 NOSB meeting	TBD

Magnesium chloride Reclassification 205.605(b)	LD	HS requested addition of this. NOP approved 01 12 16, but delayed until after classification guidance is published and TR is available.	Spr 2018
Research Priorities	TC/ALL	RPs due to MS Aug 2018	Fall 2018

*Highlight indicates committee action needed. *Highlight indicates review completion and/or vote

Agenda

- Approve November 7, 2017 notes
- Debrief from Jacksonville meeting - any potential work plan items to consider? (ALL)
- Silver Dihydrogen Citrate (JM) - TR sufficiency
- 2020 sunset: Oxygen (LD) - Discuss review/vote
- 2020 sunset: Potassium chloride (AS) - Discuss review/vote
- 2020 sunset: Calcium hydroxide (AS) - Discuss review/vote
- 2020 sunset: Glycerides: mono and di (LD) - Discuss review/vote
- 2020 sunset: Phosphoric acid (AS) - Discuss review/vote
- Other Items
- Adjourn

Discussion

- **HS Notes from November 7, 2017** were approved with no changes.
- **Silver Dihydrogen Citrate (JM)**. Petitioned for addition to 205.605(b) as an antimicrobial. The lead summarized information from the petition and TR, noting that it is used without requiring a final rinse and used at a lower concentration than other antimicrobials. The HS has two additional questions for the contractor, including one on nanoparticles, and will determine sufficiency at a later date.
- **2020 sunset: Potassium chloride (AS)**. The lead summarized the use of the material and the questions that are included for public comment.
- **2020 sunset: Calcium hydroxide (AS)**. The lead noted that the previous TAP was lacking, and it would have been beneficial to have a new TR. A TR was not contracted for this material, as it was considered a lower priority at that time. The group discussed the addition of language to solicit feedback regarding any new information.
- **2020 sunset: Phosphoric acid (AS)**. The lead summarized the use of phosphoric acid. The HS will post the review with no additional questions.
- **2020 sunset: Glycerides: mono and di (LD)**. The lead described the use and manufacture of glycerides, which are used in drum drying of food (including potato flakes). She also noted that there was a 2015 TR. The group discussed what to include in the review for the first posting.
- **2020 sunset: Oxygen (LD)**. The lead summarized the use of oxygen, noting the previous review and comments.
- **Debrief from Jacksonville meeting. (ALL)**. Postponed from prior call. The HS discussed public comments they received at the Fall 2017 meeting. A member asked about the issue of food sanitizers, which is a topic the community has asked the NOSB and NOP to address. The Materials Subcommittee has requested to add it to the work agenda, and is awaiting a response from the NOP.
- **Review of substances on §205.606**. The HS extended an invitation to the National List manager to join the next HS call, to talk about how better to gather information and ask questions about commercial availability of ingredients listed at §205.606 (nonorganic agricultural ingredients) or petitioned for listing at §205.606.

- **Other Items.** None.
- **The meeting was adjourned**

[Previous HS Notes](#)

Future Call Schedule (1st and 3rd Tuesdays 1:00 ET)

November 7, 2017

Whey protein concentrate (SNY)
Schedule dates for sunset reviews

November 21, 2017 - cancelled

December 5, 2017

Debrief from Jacksonville meeting (ALL)
Silver Dihydrogen Citrate (JM) - TR sufficiency
2020 sunset: Oxygen (LD) - Discuss review
2020 sunset: Potassium chloride (AS) - Discuss review
2020 sunset: Calcium hydroxide (AS) - Discuss review
2020 sunset: Glycerides: mono and di (LD) - Discuss review
2020 sunset: Phosphoric acid (AS) - Discuss review

December 19, 2017

Magnesium chloride reclassification (LD) - Discuss
2020 sunset: Alginates (SE) - Discuss review
2020 sunset: Sulfur dioxide (SE) - Discuss review
2020 sunset: Ethylene (AB) - Discuss review

January 2, 2018

SDBS (SR) - Discuss proposal
Sodium Chlorite for the generation of chlorine dioxide gas (SR) - discuss proposal

January 16, 2018

2020 sunset: Fructooligosaccharides (FOS) (TC) - Discuss review
2020 sunset: Lecithin - de-oiled (AB) - Discuss review

February 6, 2018

BPA (AB) - Discuss
Marine Materials (SR) - Discuss proposal
2020 sunset: Flavors (TC) - Discuss review
2020 sunset: Potassium carbonate (SR) - Discuss review

February 20, 2018

Tamarind seed gum (SE) - TR sufficiency (if available)
2020 sunset: Calcium carbonate (SR) - Discuss review
2020 sunset: Gellan Gum (JM) - Discuss review
2020 sunset: Gums: Arabic, Carob bean, Guar, Locust bean (JM) - Discuss review
2020 sunset: Tragacanth gum (JM) - Discuss review
2020 sunset: Xanthan gum (JM) - Discuss review
2020 sunset: Magnesium stearate (AB) - Discuss review

March 6, 2018

March 20, 2018

April 3, 2018

April 17, 2018

May 1, 2018

May 15, 2018

June 5, 2018

June 19, 2018
 July 3, 2018
 July 17, 2018
 August 7, 2018
 August 21, 2018
 September 4, 2018
 September 18, 2018
 October 2, 2018
 October 16, 2018
 November 6, 2018
 November 20, 2018
 December 4, 2018
 December 18, 2018

Spring 2018 Milestones	Target dates (tentative)
New NOSB member orientation	TBD
NOSB - Spring 2018 proposals due to NOP	Feb 21, 2018
NOP - Complete Spring 2018 NOSB meeting tentative agenda	Mar 6, 2018
NOP - Post proposals, Open public comment	Mar 6, 2018
Discuss work agendas on ES call	Mar 9, 2018
Public comment closes	Apr 4, 2018
NOP - Send compiled public comments to NOSB	Apr 9, 2018
Work agendas finalized on ES call (last call before fall meeting)	Apr 13, 2018
Public comment webinar(s)	Apr 17 & 19, 2018
Spring 2018 NOSB meeting – Tucson, AZ	Apr 25-27, 2018

Note: Subcommittee notes may include preliminary discussions regarding substances considered for addition to or removal from the National List. They do not represent official National Organic Program (NOP) policy or regulations. Please see the NOP website for official NOP policy, regulations, and status of substances used in organic production and handling.

**National Organic Standards Board (NOSB)
Handling Subcommittee (HS) Meeting Notes
Tuesday, December 19, 2017 1:00 pm ET**

Present: Lisa de Lima (LD), Chair; Scott Rice, Vice Chair (SR); Steve Ela (SE); Asa Bradman (AB); Joelle Mosso (JM); Tom Chapman (TC); A-dae Briones (ARB); Harriet Behar (HB) – observer; Ashley Swaffer – observer

Absent: Michelle Arsenault (MA)

Staff: Devon Pattillo (DP), Lisa Brines (LB)

Work Agenda

Petitioned Substances						
Substance	National List §	Contact	TR rqst?	Notes*	Scheduled, Discussed, Voted	Meeting
Sodium dodecylbenzene sulfonate (SDBS) Petition Addendum #1, SDBS (PDF)	205.605(b)	SR	Y	Petition sent to HS on 11 02 15. Response/request for TR due 01 04 16. Petition found suff 12 01 15. No new TR will be requested. Referred back to HS at Apr 2016 NOSB meeting. TR request sent 05 18 16. TR in development - Expected late Dec 2016/early Jan. TR delayed until Spring 2017. TR sent to HS 05 30 17. Response due 08 01 17. Petition addendum sent to HS 07 12 17. The HS found the petition addendum suff 08 01 17	Aug 1, Aug 15, Jan 2	Spr 2018
Sodium Chlorite for the generation of chlorine dioxide gas Petition, Addendum	205.605	SR	Y	Petition for chlorine dioxide dry gas sent to HS on 12 02 15. Response/request for TR due 02 02 16. HS sent request 03 17 16 for additional info from petitioner. Sodium chlorite addendum received 05 05 16. Suff due 07 05 16. Petition found sufficient 06 07 16. Sent back to Subcomm at Fall 2016 meeting. HS requested a TR 06 06 17.	May 16, Jun 6, Jan 2	Spr 2018
Silver Dihydrogen Citrate Petition Addendum #1	205.605(b)	JM	Y	Petition sent to HS 01 24 17. Response/request for TR due 03 28 17. Petition found sufficient 03 07 17. HS requested TR 03 07 14. TR in development. Petition addendum sent to HS 08 03 17. TR sent to HS 10 19 17/ Suff due 12 19 17. HS sent additional questions to TR contractor 12 05 17	Mar 7, Dec 5	Spr 2018

Petitioned Substances						
Substance	National List §	Contact	TR rqst?	Notes*	Scheduled, Discussed, Voted	Meeting
Japones pepper	205.606	ARB	N	Petition sent to HS 02 09 17. Response/request for TR due 04 11 17. Petition found suff 04 04 17. No TR. HS requested additional info from petitioner 07 19 17 & 11 07 19	Apr 4, Jul 18, Oct 3, Nov 7	Spr 2018
Ethiopian pepper	205.606	ARB	N	Petition sent to HS 02 09 17. Response/request for TR due 04 11 17. Petition found suff 04 04 17. No TR. HS requested additional info from petitioner 07 19 17 & 11 07 19	Apr 4, Jul 18, Oct 3, Nov 7	Spr 2018
Tamarind Seed Gum Petition Addendum, August 22, 2017	205.606	SE		Petition sent to HS 02 15 17. Response/request for TR due 04 17 17. HS requested additional info from the petitioner 04 04 17. Petition addendum Rcvd 08 10 17. Response due 10 10 17. Updated petition addendum rcvd 08 22 17. TR requested 10 03 17. TR in contracting.	Apr 4, Sep 5, Oct 3, Feb 20	Spr 2018/Fall 2018

2020 Sunsets						
TR Requests: July 2017, Summary: Spr 2018, Review: Fall 2018						
Name	National List §	Contact	TAP/TR	Notes	Scheduled, Discussed	Review Meeting
Calcium carbonate	205.605(a)	SR	Y	1995 TAP . TR requested 07 28 17. Low priority	Feb 20	Summary: Spr 2018 Review: Fall 2018
Flavors	205.605(a)	TC	N	2005 TR	Jan 16	"
Gellan Gum	205.605(a)	JM	N	2006 TAP	Feb 20	"
Oxygen	205.605(a)	LD	N	1995 TAP . TR requested 07 28 17. Low priority	Dec 5	"
Potassium chloride	205.605(a)	AS	N	1995 TAP ; 2015 TR for Nutrient vitamins and minerals	Dec 5	"
Alginates	205.605(b)	SE	N	1995 TAP ; 2015 TR	Dec 19	"
Calcium hydroxide	205.605(b)	AS	N	1995 TAP . TR requested 07 28 17. Low priority	Dec 5	"

Ethylene	205.605(b)	AB	N	1995 TAP ; 1999 TAP - Processing . TR requested 07 28 17. Contingent on request from other Subcomms	Dec 19, Jan 2	“
Glycerides: mono and di	205.605(b)	LD	N	1995 TAP ; 2015 TR	Dec 5	“
Magnesium stearate	205.605(b)	AB	Y	1995 TAP . TR requested 07 28 17. Low priority	Feb 20	“
Phosphoric acid	205.605(b)	AS	N	2003 TAP . TR requested 07 28 17. Contingent on request from other Subcomms	Dec 5	“
Potassium carbonate	205.605(b)	SR	N	1995 TAP . TR requested 07 28 17. Low priority.	Feb 6	“
Sulfur dioxide	205.605(b)	SE	N	1995 TAP ; 2011 TR	Dec 19	“
Xanthan gum	205.605(b)	JM	N	1995 TAP ; 2016 TR	Feb 20	“
Fructooligosaccharides (FOS)	205.606	TC	N	2006 TAP ; 2015 TR	Jan 16	“
Gums: Arabic, Carob bean, Guar, Locust bean	205.606(k)	JM	Y	1995 TAP . TR requested 07 28 17. TR in contracting.	Feb 20	“
Lecithin - de-oiled	205.606	AB	N	1995 TAP ; 2009 TR	Jan 16	“
Tragacanth gum	205.606	JM	Y	None. TR requested 07 28 17. TR in contracting.	Feb 20	“

Other projects

Name	Contact	Notes*	Meeting
Packaging substances used in organic food handling - including BPA	LD/AB	Submitted briefing paper to NOP 01 12 14. Response memo from NOP sent to HS 11 19 14. TR in development, expected mid-Sep - delayed. TR received 9/30/16. In review by the program. TR sent to HS 10 19 16. TR sufficiency due 12 20 16. TR found insufficient 12 20 16. Vote: 02 21 17. New TR in development. Expected July 2017, TR received 07 10 17. Response due 09 08 17. TR found sufficient 08 01 17.	Discussion doc Spr 2018
Nutrient Vitamins and Minerals - annotation change	TC	Pending NOP Approval. Approved 01 12 16. Proposal. On hold.	Spr 2018
Marine materials (marine algae and extracts). Proposal	SR	Pending NOP approval. NOP approved request 01 12 16. TR request sent to NOP 02 05 16. TR expected Jul 2016. TR sent to HS 08 10 16. TR suff due 10 11 16. TR found sufficient 09 06 16. Voted 09 06 16. Proposal in development 12 06 16. Voted 01 17 17. Referred back to HS at Spr 2017 NOSB meeting	TBD

Magnesium chloride Reclassification 205.605(b)	LD	HS requested addition of this item and NOP approved 01 12 16; TR completed 11/30/16.	Spr 2018
Research Priorities	TC/ALL	RPs due to MS Aug 2018	Fall 2018

*Highlight indicates committee action needed. *Highlight indicates review completion and/or vote

Agenda

- Approve December 5, 2017 notes
- Magnesium chloride reclassification (LD) - Discuss
- 2020 sunset: Alginates (SE) - Discuss review
- 2020 sunset: Sulfur dioxide (SE) - Discuss review
- 2020 sunset: Ethylene (AB) - Discuss review
- Other items
- Adjourn

Discussion

- **HS Notes from** December 5, 2017 were approved with one edit to the notes on glycerides.
- **Petitions for 205.606 Ingredients.** The HS asked the Program for some clarification and information about evaluating petitions that request to add non-organic agricultural ingredients to the National List (§ 205.606), including how to evaluate commercial availability. The Program noted that NOP 3011 includes criteria for these petitions but acknowledged it can be difficult for petitioners to demonstrate that the ingredient is not available as organic. The Program noted that the burden to justify the addition of the ingredient to the National List is on the petitioner and encouraged the HS to limit repeated requests to petitioners that repeat the same or similar questions. Members discussed best practices for reviewing petitions, such as asking questions of petitioners before determining that a petition is sufficient.
- **Magnesium chloride reclassification (LD).** The lead described the reasons for the work to consider reclassifying this substance. The lead wrote the proposal to leave the annotation the same (after moving to new section of the National List). It was noted that the CS has separately considered a wider range of sources as nonsynthetic and the lead asked if the HS annotation should better align with CS's determination. Members discussed the relative availability of nonsynthetic vs. synthetic sources of the substance and discussed various methods and sources used to produce nonsynthetic forms of the substance. Members concluded that if it were moved to 605(a), an annotation would not be necessary to further restrict its use to a subset of nonsynthetic forms. The lead will rework the proposal to recommend removal of the annotation and will discuss on the next call.
- **2020 sunset: Alginates (SE).** The lead described the substance, its sources, and current uses. Members discussed whether new alternatives have become available since the 2015 TR. The lead noted that many of the alternatives to alginates are gums, and members also noted carrageenan could be an alternative. A member noted that some gums are better than other gums for specific products, and the lead noted that alginates have characteristics that may be best suited for some products.
- **2020 sunset: Sulfur dioxide (SE).** The lead discussed the substance, current use in "made with organic" wines, health concerns, and international status. The Program noted they have received questions about its use in other types of fruit wine and cider (not permitted with current annotation). Members discussed that a petition was previously received to remove the annotation but did not pass.

- **2020 sunset: Ethylene (AB).** The lead briefly discussed the historical reviews of this substance and questioned if a TR was needed. The Program noted that no TR is currently being developed for the current sunset cycle. Members will continue the discussion on the next call.
- **The meeting was adjourned**

[Previous HS Notes](#)

Future Call Schedule (1st and 3rd Tuesdays 1:00 ET)

December 5, 2017

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 2020 sunset: Calcium hydroxide (AS) - Discuss review
 2020 sunset: Glycerides: mono and di (LD) - Discuss review
 2020 sunset: Phosphoric acid (AS) - Discuss review

December 19, 2017

Petitions for 205.606 Ingredients
 Magnesium chloride reclassification (LD) – Discuss
 2020 sunset: Alginates (SE) - Discuss review
 2020 sunset: Sulfur dioxide (SE) - Discuss review
 2020 sunset: Ethylene (AB) - Discuss review

January 2, 2018

SDBS (SR) - Discuss proposal
 2020 sunset: Ethylene (AB) - Discuss review
 Sodium Chlorite for the generation of chlorine dioxide gas (SR) - discuss proposal

January 16, 2018

2020 sunset: Fructooligosaccharides (FOS) (TC) - Discuss review
 2020 sunset: Lecithin - de-oiled (AB) - Discuss review

February 6, 2018

BPA (AB) - Discuss
 Marine Materials (SR) - Discuss proposal
 2020 sunset: Flavors (TC) - Discuss review
 2020 sunset: Potassium carbonate (SR) - Discuss review

February 20, 2018

Tamarind seed gum (SE) - TR sufficiency (if available)
 2020 sunset: Calcium carbonate (SR) - Discuss review
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 2020 sunset: Gums: Arabic, Carob bean, Guar, Locust bean (JM) - Discuss review
 2020 sunset: Tragacanth gum (JM) - Discuss review
 2020 sunset: Xanthan gum (JM) - Discuss review
 2020 sunset: Magnesium stearate (AB) - Discuss review

March 6, 2018

March 20, 2018

April 3, 2018

April 17, 2018

May 1, 2018

May 15, 2018

June 5, 2018
 June 19, 2018
 July 3, 2018
 July 17, 2018
 August 7, 2018
 August 21, 2018
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 November 6, 2018
 November 20, 2018
 December 4, 2018
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