FORMAL RECOMMENDATION BY THE
NATIONAL ORGANIC STANDARDS BOARD (NOSB)
TO THE NATIONAL ORGANIC PROGRAM (NOP)

Date: __6-08-06____________________

Subject: Sunset Vote Not to Renew Lecithin, bleached under 205.605b synthetics allowed.

Chair: Kevin O'Rell

Recommendation

The NOSB hereby recommends to the NOP the following:

Rulemaking Action: ________
Guidance Statement: ________
Other: ________

Statement of the Recommendation (including Recount of Vote):
Recommendation NOT to Renew Lecithin, bleached, 205.605b synthetics allowed.

Moved: Julie Weisman Second: Nancy Ostiguy
Yes – 12
No – 0
Abstain – 0
Absent – 2

Rationale Supporting Recommendation (including consistency with OFPA and NOP):
Sunset Material Vote

Response by the NOP:
National Organic Standards Board
Handling Committee
Final Recommendation for Lecithin, bleached

April 20, 2006

I. List: 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.”

   (b) Synthetics allowed

II. Committee Summary: Many comments were received recommending the continued allowance of lecithin-bleached. There were also comments opposed to the continuation of this substance. During the November NOSB meeting a manufacturer of organic lecithin announced that they could produce an organic bleached lecithin to meet the current organic market needs. As part of its due diligence, the Handling Committee contacted this manufacturer to verify the organic commercial availability of this substance. The manufacturer confirmed its availability as organic. Based on public comment that there is an organic alternative available to replace a synthetic on the National List, the HC is recommending not to renew: lecithin-bleached.

III. NOSB Recommendation(s): The handling committee recommends not renewing the following substances in this use category based on the submitted evaluation forms:

   Lecithin-bleached

   Moved: Julie Weisman   Second: Nancy Ostiguy
   Board vote: Yes – 12   No – 0   Abstain – 0   Absent - 2