Application procedure for decontamination substances

Decontamination substances can constitute a useful tool in further reducing microbial surface contamination from products of animal origin. However, the use of those substances should only be permitted if a fully integrated control programme is applied throughout the entire food chain. Decontamination substances shall be assessed thoroughly before their use is authorised. Article 3 (2) of Regulation EC 853/2004 provides the legal basis to approve the use of substances other than potable water to remove surface contamination from products of animal origin. Applications should be submitted to the European Commission (EC), which will make the application available to EFSA.

Legend:

- Applicant
- EC
- EFSA

Regulation EC 853/2004

Pre-submission phase

Potential applicant requests for general pre-submission advice (optional)

Potential applicant notifies studies commissioned or carried out as of 27 March 2021

Submission phase & completeness check

Applicant submits application via e-submission system to the EC

The EC tasks (mandate) EFSA and makes the application available to EFSA

Receipt of the application by EFSA and completeness check

30 working days*

Risk assessment phase

EFSA validates# the application

EFSA launches public consultation on the application dossier

Negotiated deadline + Request of additional information**

EFSA performs thorough risk assessment

Confidentiality decision-making and proactive disclosure

EFSA Panel adopts the scientific output

Post-adoption phase

EFSA publishes the scientific output

Based on EFSA's opinion the EC prepares a draft specific measure

*EFSA aims at providing its 1st feedback on Completeness check within 30 working days after receipt of the application. In case certain parts of the application need modification or completion in order to be considered valid, EFSA requests the missing information to the applicant.

#In certain cases, the application might be declared as non-valid (see EFSA administrative guidance for further information).

**In case of a request of additional information, the scientific risk assessment process is put on hold until the requested additional information is supplied by the applicant.

efsa European Food Safety Authority