

ITEM 5
MANAGER'S REPORT NO. 30
COUNCIL MEETING 88/04/25

RE: LABELLING REQUIREMENTS FOR IRRADIATED FOOD IN CANADA

MUNICIPAL MANAGER'S RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT the recommendation of the Chief Public Health Inspector be adopted.

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TO: MUNICIPAL MANAGER 1988 April 19
FROM: CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
SUBJECT: LABELLING REQUIREMENTS FOR IRRADIATED FOOD IN CANADA

RECOMMENDATION:

1. THAT this report be received for the information of Council.

REPORT

During the 1988 March 28 meeting of Municipal Council, correspondence was received from Mr. A.J. Parker concerning irradiation of food products. The following report is a response to a request from Municipal Council for information on labelling requirements for irradiated food in Canada.

One of the main concerns expressed by the public relates to the right to know if food has been irradiated and whether labelling will occur and to what extent. The Burnaby Environmental Health Division has been advised by the Federal Health Protection Branch that the final draft of regulations for the control of food irradiation in Canada is expected in the near future. Labelling requirements will be detailed in these regulations that will address public concerns on identification of irradiated foods.

At present no food is being sold in Canada which has been treated with ionizing radiation. The only processing facility in Canada was constructed in the Municipality of Richmond for experimental work and has never gone into operation. Should food be sold in Canada that has been treated with ionizing radiation the source of the radiation must be listed in the ingredients.

Copies of the new regulations have been requested from the Federal Health Protection Branch as soon as they are available.

KCJ/gj


G.V. Harvie, C.P.H.I.(C)
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

cc: Medical Health Officer
Director Administrative &
Community Services

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