
End of scrutiny period on European Commission's proposal to remove approval for E171 in food in the EU

On 29th December 2021, the two-month scrutiny period concerning the European Commission's [proposal](#) to ban titanium dioxide (TiO₂) as the additive E171 in food elapsed with no objections being raised by either the European Parliament or the Council of the EU. The Commission's proposal is now expected to be published in the EU official journal in January 2022 and enter into force shortly after.

The act includes a 6-months transition period from its entry into force in which food products containing E171 may still be placed on the EU market and marketed until their 'use by' date. Products containing E171 can continue to be used safely during the transition period as no immediate risk has been identified.

The Titanium Dioxide Manufacturers Association (TDMA) does not agree with the Commission's proposal and continues to stand behind the safety of TiO₂ in all intended applications. The TDMA is engaging with all relevant stakeholders and will invest in new science to generate further data to confirm the safety of E171.

Background on the European Commission's proposal to ban E171 in food

The European Commission's proposal follows the EFSA [opinion](#) published 6 May 2021. The EFSA opinion itself concluded that there was no general toxicity, no organ toxicity, and no effects on reproductive and developmental toxicity. The EFSA assessment did not conclude that E171 is genotoxic but identified uncertainties with a need to further investigate the effects of the substance.

The TDMA is addressing the uncertainties raised by the EFSA's opinion by updating its science program to generate further data to confirm the safety of E171. It [made available](#) its preliminary observations regarding the EFSA opinion on 17 September 2021.

The TDMA will continue to engage with all relevant stakeholders to ensure that a full and transparent review is conducted using all available data and best practices.

About TDMA

The Titanium Dioxide Manufacturers Association (TDMA) is a sector group of the European Chemical Industry Council (Cefic) and represents the leading producers of titanium dioxide (TiO₂). TDMA is a non-profit organisation established in 1974 and dedicated to promoting the safe use and benefits of TiO₂ to society

