

EU Protected Food Names Scheme objections to applications

For UK products

In compliance with Article 5.5 of Council Regulation (EC) 510/2006, for PDO/PGIs, and Article 7.5 of Council Regulation (EC) 509/2006 for TSG products once an application has been completed and submitted to the relevant department, it is necessary to consult interested parties within the UK providing them with an opportunity to comment or object to the application.

A national objection procedure is initiated where the application is made public, and anyone with a legitimate interest may lodge an objection to the application within the given timescale. Any objections must be admissible. The criteria for admissible objections is specified under Article 7.3 of Regulation 510/2006 (PDO/PGIs) and Article 9.3 of Regulation 509/2006 (TSG). The length of this objection period is 12 weeks.

For PDO/PGI applications, once any objections have been considered, Defra officials decide whether the application should be submitted to the Commission. If so, in the case of PDOs and PGIs this decision will be made public, the final version of the application will be published, and a further opportunity for appeal provided. Comments must be received within 14 working days of publication.

Appeals should be addressed in writing to the relevant government departments (Defra/ADAS, SEERAD, Welsh Assembly Government, DARDNI):

- Article 5.5 of Council Regulation (EC) 510/2006
- Article 7.3 of Regulation 510/2006
- Article 7.5 and 9.3 of Council Regulation (EC)

Objections to applications made by other member states or third countries

For objections from a natural or legal person based in a Member State the objection to an application must be submitted via the competent authority in the Member State. Where the natural or legal person is based in a third country the objection may be submitted to the Commission or via the authorities of the third country the objection may be submitted to the Commission or via the authorities of the third country concerned.

You are advised to consult the Official Journal of the European Communities for the authoritative text of those registered names published therein. For products originating from a Member State other than the UK, you are advised to consult the competent authority of the Member State referred to in the summary sheet for an authoritative interpretation of the text of that summary sheet.

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

If you require further information that is unavailable from the European Commission website, then please contact:

Defra, EU Food Policy Team

Email: protectedfoodnames@defra.gsi.gov.uk

Telephone: 020 7238 6623 or 020 7238 6075

Inspection procedures - verification of compliance with specifications

Once a product is registered, it is necessary to ensure that verification of compliance with the product specification is being complied with.

The applicant is required to nominate an independent (private or public) inspection body which will undertake inspections for their product annually. The costs for such inspections are covered by the producer. The product certification bodies must be accredited in accordance with European standard EN 45011 or ISO/IEC guide 65.