



## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

---

Food and Drug Administration  
Rockville, MD 20857

May 15, 2020

Varun Varada

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

Sent via email to: (b) (6)

Dear Petitioner:

Your petition to the Commissioner of Food and Drug Administration requesting to amend all parts of 21 CFR which mention and stipulate to use the “calorie” as the unit of food energy to use the official SI unit of energy, the joule (specifically, the kilojoule for food energy).

Consequently, the petitioner requests that the Nutrition Facts and Supplement Facts labels be redesigned to have the “Calories” field changed to “Energy” with the measurement written as “<n> kJ”, where “<n>” is the number of kilojoules contained in the food or supplement item.

For cases of backwards compatibility, the petitioner requests that the food energy mentioned on the Nutrition Facts and Supplement Facts labels could be allowed to optionally include “calories” written below the kilojoules measurement as “<n> kcal”, where “<n>” is the number of “calories” contained in the food item.

This petition was received by our office on 05/14/2020. It was assigned docket number FDA-2020-P-1390. Please refer to this docket number in future correspondence on this subject with the Agency.

Please note that the acceptance of the petition for filing is a procedural matter in that it in no way reflects an agency decision on the substantive merits of the petition.

Sincerely,

Dynna Bigby  
Supervisory Administrative Proceedings Officer  
Dockets Management Staff  
FDA/Office of Operations (OO)