



Food Safety
AUTHORITY OF IRELAND

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Ursula Donnellan,
Senior Staff Officer,
Corporate Services Department,
South Dublin County Council,
County Hall Town Centre,
Tallaght,
Dublin 24.

2nd December, 2005

Dear Ursula,

Thank you for your letter to the Food Safety Authority of Ireland (FSAI) regarding a declaration of "GM free zone" by South Dublin County Council.

The FSAI is responsible for the regulation of all food in Ireland including GM food, but not the cultivation of crops, GM or otherwise. Therefore I would suggest that you discuss this issue with the Department of Agriculture and Food, along with the Environmental Protection Agency, both of which have competence in this area.

As far as I am aware, EU legislation allows the prohibition of authorised GM food, feed or crops only where there is credible evidence that there is a risk to the health of humans or animals or to the environment. A few similar regional declarations in other EU Member States have been successfully challenged in the recent past.

I hope this is of some use.

Regards,

Dr. Pat O'Mahony
Chief Specialist, Biotechnology

