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News Alert

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ABOUT B&D

Beveridge & Diamond's 100 lawyers in seven U.S. offices focus on environmental and natural resource law, litigation and dispute resolution. We help clients around the world resolve critical environmental and sustainability issues, relating to their products and facilities.

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FDA Requests Comments on Genome-Edited Plants

On January 19, 2017, FDA established a docket to receive comments on the use of genome-editing techniques to produce new plant varieties that are used for human or animal food. Explaining that producers of foods from plant varieties developed using genome-editing techniques (like all food products) must ensure that the foods they offer are safe and in compliance with applicable legal requirements, FDA intends to clarify its policy for the regulation of products derived from genome-editing techniques (including new technologies that use targeted nucleases or targeted oligonucleotides to modify a plant's DNA sequence by insertion, deletion, or substitution of nucleotides at a specific site in a plant's genome).

FDA's existing policy, which provides for voluntary consultation on the safety and legality of new plant varieties derived by rDNA methods, was issued in 1992. Noting its intent to continue offering consultations for developers of new plant varieties, including those produced using genome editing, FDA is inviting comments by April 19, 2017 from developers, researchers, and other stakeholders to help inform its thinking for these products.

Beveridge & Diamond's reputation for excellence in agricultural biotechnology law and regulation is based on forty years of working with U.S. and international clients who research, develop, obtain government approvals for, manufacture, promote, and use conventional pesticides, pesticides produced through biotechnology, and other chemical and biotechnology products. We represent both large and small companies, as well as task forces of companies, with an emphasis on entities that invest in research to discover, develop, and defend new technology. We work with each client to identify its business objectives, and then to establish and implement the most effective regulatory, commercial, litigation, and legislative strategies to achieve or exceed those objectives. To learn more, please contact Kathy Szmuszkovicz (kes@bdlaw.com, (202) 789-6037), Alan Sachs (asachs@bdlaw.com, (212) 702-5445), or any member of our Pesticides and Biotechnology practice groups.