Summary of the application: Proteins from corn (*Zea mays*).

Applicant: Cargill R&D Centre Europe BV, Havenstraat 84, 1800 Vilvoorde, Belgium.

The application is submitted pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2015/2283 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 November 2015 on novel foods, for the authorisation of corn proteins.

Cargill's corn proteins are functional food ingredients with a minimum protein content of 65%. The ingredient is produced from corn gluten slurry produced from non-genetically modified varieties of *Zea mays* cultivated in the EU and outside EU. The corn gluten slurry is then washed with ethanol to remove ethanol-soluble non-protein components and the ethanol is removed by evaporation.

The corn protein is meant to be used in a wide range of products similarly to soy protein isolate. The source of the raw material, *Zea mays*, is a plant species that has been traditionally consumed in the EU long before 15 May 1997 and that has been a pillar of the human diet in different parts of the world over more than 3,000 years. Corn gluten slurry is a common by-product of the wet-milling corn processes that has a long-recorded history of use in animal farming after dewatering. It mainly consists of zeins and glutelins and is used to supplement the diet of farm animals in proteins.

Cargill's corn protein will be commercialised in two forms only differing in the minimum protein and starch content: the corn protein concentrate or CPC (min. 65% protein, starch ~25%) and the corn protein isolate or CPI (min. 85% protein, starch ~2%).

CPC and CPI do not a have previous history of consumption in the EU and are classified as "*food consisting of, isolated from or produced from plants or their parts, except when the food has a history of safe food use within the Union and is consisting of, isolated from or produced from a plant or a variety of the same species obtained […]".* These products are intended to be used in a wide range of food categories similarly to other protein concentrates and isolates, excluding infant formulas. No specific restrictions or labelling requirements are proposed for these products, but individuals allergic to corn proteins should avoid consuming products containing CPC or CPI.

The source (corn) has been widely consumed around the world and is safe for consumption. Nutrients in Cargill's corn proteins are expected to be absorbed, digested, metabolised and excreted identically to corn and its nutrients. The safety of CPC and CPI was studied in a battery of genotoxicity assays that showed that these products are not genotoxic. The literature also supports the safety of these products and their source.

Based on the evidence above, CPC and CPI are concluded to be safe for human consumption.