

## STATE OF WASHINGTON

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

P.O. Box 42560 • Olympia, Washington 98504-2560 • fttp://agr.wa.gov • (360) 902-1876

March 19, 2018

Re: New WSDA MIE Licensing Required by April 30, 2018

Dear Marijuana Infused Edible Processor:

Beginning April 1, the Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) Food Safety Program has regulatory authority over Marijuana Infused Edible (MIE) Processors. All marijuana processors currently licensed with the Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board (WSLCB) to process MIE products must apply through the Department of Revenue Business Licensing Service (DOR/BLS) for a WSDA Marijuana Infused Edible Processor license endorsement under their business license. Processors must also maintain their current Marijuana Processor license and meet all WSLCB licensing requirements.

Beginning March 29, processors can apply online at DOR/BLS (<a href="http://bls.dor.wa.gov/">http://bls.dor.wa.gov/</a>). Try to complete your application by April 1, if possible. However, during this transition, you will have until April 30 to complete the licensing process.

You must have a WSLCB Marijuana Processor license to apply for and receive a WSDA MIE Processor endorsement. The fee is \$895 per year, to be paid in full at the time of application. After the first year, DOR/BLS will align the business license and all endorsement renewal dates.

WSDA's Food Safety Program has been inspecting MIE operations under contract with and authority of WSLCB. As WSDA takes over direct regulatory authority, you can expect inspections to be similar to what MIE processors have previously received. You may experience more frequent inspections, as well as more outreach efforts and industry engagement. WSLCB retains their regular authority over marijuana activities, including MIE license requirements, packaging, labeling, and so forth.

Upon receiving an application through DOR/BLS and payment of the annual fee, WSDA will review the information and approve MIE Processor endorsements for currently licensed processors. WSDA is available to assist processors with this new endorsement process.

We do not intend to disrupt normal business practices during this transition. Current MIE firms will not be required to re-submit food safety information (floor plan, sanitation procedures, etc.). WSDA will inspect within 12 months of the endorsement, and may collect additional information at that time.

Any changes to your MIE Processors license -- including ownership, location, or products – require review by both WSDA and WSLCB. Please contact WSDA directly to discuss plans for these types of MIE changes.

Visit <u>WSDA's Marijuana Infused Edibles Processors</u> webpage for more information. If you have questions or requests for technical assistance, contact the WSDA Food Safety Program:

Email: foodsafety@agr.wa.gov

Phone: (360) 902-1876

Sincerely,

lucy Severs

Lucy Severs Program Manager WSDA Food Safety Program

CC: Steve Fuller, Assistant Director, WSDA FS&CS
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