

### Albertsons Companies Chemical Policy

At Albertsons Companies, we understand that consumers want products that they can feel good about. That's why we're committed to quality products, product safety, environmental stewardship and sound chemical management, including limiting the use of certain ingredients of consumer concern. We strive for greater transparency and work with our supplier community to maintain and continually improve brand-specific guidelines for our products. Examples include the following:

1. Our *O* Organics™ products are United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) certified organic (95%+ organic ingredients), and must meet USDA's standards to receive the certified organic seal. By definition, *USDA organic* products are free of synthetic additives like pesticides, fertilizers, and dyes, and must not be processed using industrial solvents. They are also non-GMO.
2. As with all our products, we require our suppliers to comply with legal and regulatory guidelines. For our Open Nature™ line of products, we also maintain a Restricted Substances List that includes more than 100 ingredients of consumer concern, including parabens, artificial colors and flavors, certain preservatives and certain packaging materials. This list goes above and beyond legal and regulatory requirements.
3. Our OWN Brands Safer Choice-certified products must adhere to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) Safer Chemical Ingredients List. This list has been evaluated by the EPA and determined to be safer than traditional ingredients. We have twice received the EPA's Safer Choice Partner of the Year Award which recognizes our commitment to increasing awareness of the Safer Choice Program.
4. All OWN Brand baby products are paraben, phthalate and triclosan free. Our infant formulas will also be third party certified as non-GMO in early 2018.

In addition to the above, as the result of a multi-year BPA initiative, more than 300 OWN Brands canned goods are now packaged in non-BPA lined cans. This represents more than 80% of our OWN Brands canned offerings. The process of transitioning to non-BPA lined cans will continue until the conversion reaches 100%. In a move toward greater transparency, by the end of 2018, converted cans will be identifiable by "BPA Free" and "Non-BPA Lining" disclosure logos.

As advancements are made in the scientific community, we will continue to modify our policy as needed. Consistent with this policy, we have developed position statements that provide additional information as it relates to BPA and GMOs.

### **Position Statement on Bisphenol A (BPA)**

Bisphenol A, more commonly known as BPA, is an industrial chemical that has been used for more than 40 years in the manufacture of many hard plastic items and in the linings of metal cans. It is used in some packaging and utensils for food and beverages such as plastic water bottles and infant bottles, children’s drinking cups, and hard plastic dishes. In January 2010, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) found that: “... studies employing standardized toxicity tests have thus far supported the safety of current low levels of human exposure to BPA...” The FDA and the National Toxicology Program at the National Institutes of Health continue to conduct studies on the effects of BPA on the health of infants and young children. The FDA continues to conduct in-depth studies regarding risks related to BPA.

While our private label products are compliant with FDA regulations, we understand that BPA in food containers, and other packaging and products, poses a concern for some consumers. In response to these concerns, our product development team continues to monitor third-party research on BPA and its effects. We have asked industry trade associations such as the Food Marketing Institute and the Grocery Manufacturers of America to do the same. The Company continues to look for ways to limit the presence of BPA in these areas.

For example, an early priority was the removal of BPA from products that commonly are used by small children, including baby bottles, sippy cups, pacifiers and utensils. We notified our suppliers that we would no longer accept products such as these. That transition happened in all stores, not just those where specific BPA-free packaging is mandated by law.

In addition to the children’s products, we have eliminated the use of register paper containing BPA. We now utilize alternative packaging including aseptic pour cartons on some products, including *O Organics* soups.

We worked with private label product suppliers to identify acceptable alternatives to packaging containing BPA. Many canned goods have a thin lining containing a small amount of BPA to ensure the safety of the product until use. However, using alternatives that are currently available, we have made notable packaging and product changes. As the result of a multi-year BPA initiative, more than 300 OWN Brands canned goods products are now packaged in non-BPA lined cans. This represents more than 80% of our OWN Brands canned offerings. The process will continue until the transition reaches 100%.

These cans will be identifiable by “BPA Free” and “Non-BPA Lining” disclosure logos. In a move towards greater transparency, the logo will be on all applicable products by the end of 2018.



\*Can lining produced without the additional intention of BPA.



BPA-Free

The process of identifying BPA-free packaging alternatives is neither brief nor uncomplicated. We must do our due diligence to ensure that our decisions are based on sound scientific data and that all packaging alternatives are safe and viable. Food safety is a company priority of the highest level that is being managed by senior-level executives. BPA-free packaging alternatives are being researched by the most knowledgeable authorities within our company and the retail food industry.

For customers who have additional concerns and are looking for ways to reduce their exposure to BPA, we suggest they visit the FDA's website on BPA. The site contains helpful links to scientific information and tips on reducing exposure.