

PROTEIN TRENDS &
TECHNOLOGIES SEMINAR

**The Food Industry's Current and Future
Regulatory Environment**

Jessica P. O'Connell
jpoconnell@cov.com
May 23, 2017

COVINGTON

BEIJING BRUSSELS LONDON LOS ANGELES NEW YORK SAN FRANCISCO
SEOUL SHANGHAI SILICON VALLEY WASHINGTON

www.cov.com

Overview



Key Question: How will they interact to effect regulatory change?

Agenda

- Key Trump Administration Orders
- FDA Expectations and Impact
- USDA Expectations and Impact
- Questions?

Major Food Regulatory Developments Since May 2016

- FDA final rule updating the Nutrition Facts label
- Federal bioengineering disclosure law enacted, preempts VT & others
- FDA draft guidance on the FSMA preventive controls rule (first 5 chapters released)
- FDA final rule on GRAS substances and notifications
- FDA draft guidance on NFL final rule – added sugars, etc.
- FDA NDI updated draft guidance

****Nothing broadly relevant issued since January 2017**

Key Trump Administration Orders

- **Regulatory Freeze Pending Review – 1/20/17**
 - directed all federal agencies to implement a freeze on “new or pending” federal regulations to provide the administration an opportunity for review
 - “regulation” includes “any substantive action by an agency (normally published in the Federal Register) that promulgates or is expected to lead to the promulgation of a final rule or regulation, including notices of inquiry, advance notices of proposed rulemaking, and notices of proposed rulemaking,” *and* guidance documents and any other agency statement “that sets forth a policy on a statutory, regulatory, or technical issue or an interpretation of a statutory or regulatory issue”
 - USDA GE ANPRM – withdrawn from OMB review post-freeze (even though statutory deadline)

Key Trump Administration Orders

- **Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs – 1/30/17 [“2 for 1” order]**
 - states, in relevant part: “[I]t is important that for every one new regulation issued, at least two prior regulations be identified for elimination. . . .”
 - OIRA guidance: in Fiscal Year 2017 the order will only apply to new “significant regulatory actions”
- **Enforcing the Regulatory Reform Agenda – 2/24/17 [implementing “2 for 1” order]**
 - each agency must evaluate existing regulations and make recommendations to the agency head regarding their repeal, replacement, or modification, consistent with applicable law
 - stakeholders should have the opportunity to interact with these agencies and offer input concerning potential “regulations” for repeal, replacement, or modification

Key Trump Administration Orders

- **Enforcing the Regulatory Reform Agenda – 2/24/17 [implementing “2 for 1” order]**
 - focus on regulations that:
 - **eliminate jobs, or inhibit job creation;**
 - **are outdated, unnecessary, or ineffective;**
 - **impose costs that exceed benefits;**
 - create a serious inconsistency or otherwise interfere with regulatory reform initiatives and policies;
 - are inconsistent with the requirements of section 515 of the Treasury and General Government Appropriations Act, 2001 (44 U.S.C. 3516 note), or the guidance issued pursuant to that provision; or
 - derive from or implement Executive Orders or other Presidential directives that have been subsequently rescinded or substantially modified

Key Trump Administration Orders

What does this mean in practice?

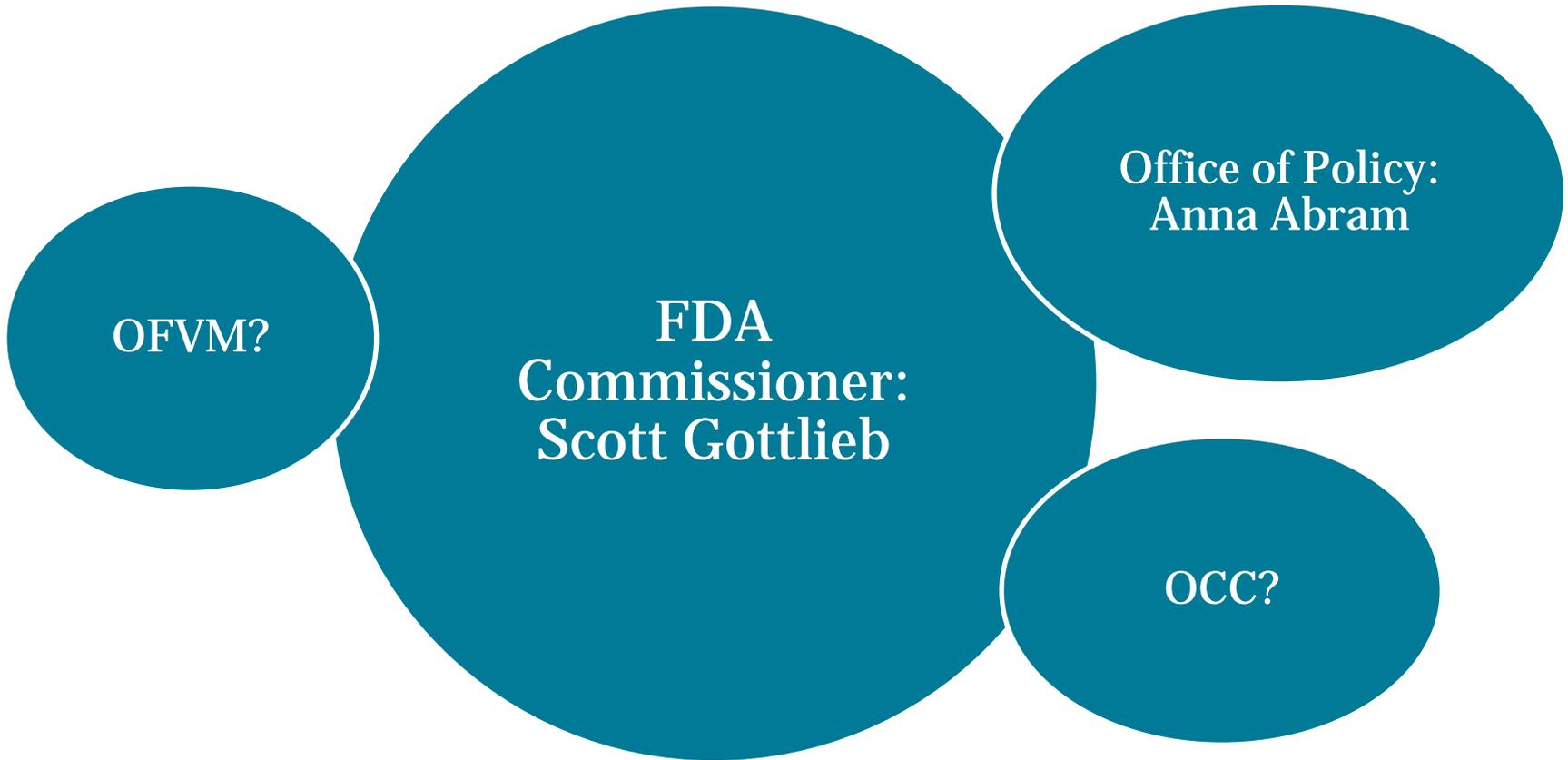
- Agencies must consider executive orders when undertaking rulemaking and other regulatory action
- What will be eliminated?
- What is a “regulation”? Does it include guidance?
- What about new rules or actions that reduce costs?

FDA Expectations and Impact

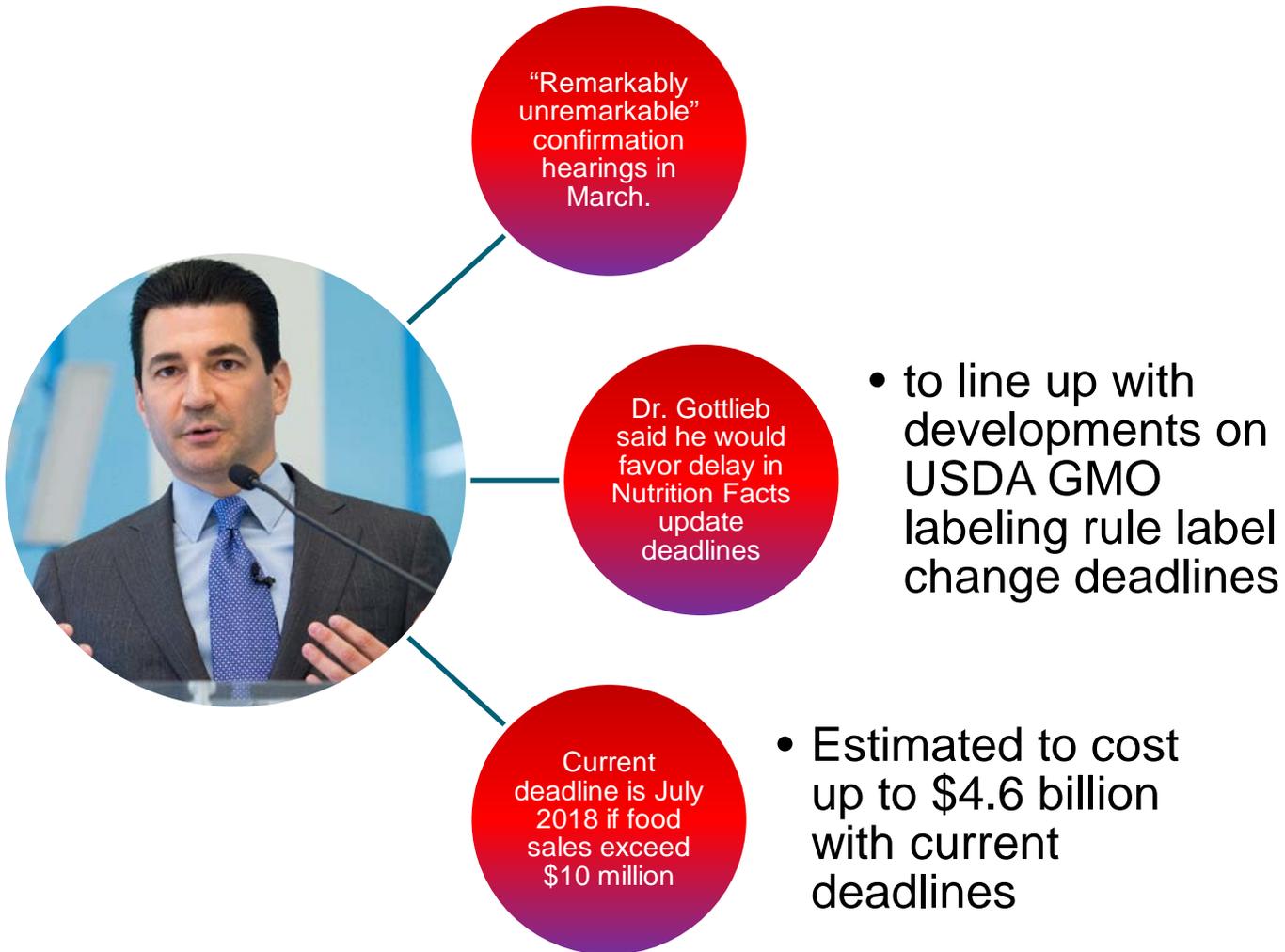
- New Commissioner
- Nutrition Labeling Final Rule
- “Follow on” nutrition labeling updates
- Dietary ingredients
- FSMA implementation



FDA Expectations and Impact



FDA Expectations and Impact



FDA Expectations and Impact

Nutrition Labeling Final Rule

- Current compliance date: July 26, 2018 [non-small business]
- Critical issues: Dietary fiber; Added sugar; Recordkeeping
 - Lack of final guidance?
 - Business considerations – contracting timelines
 - Potential for change?

Nutrition Facts	
8 servings per container	
Serving size	2/3 cup (55g)
Amount per serving	
Calories	230
% Daily Value*	
Total Fat 8g	10%
Saturated Fat 1g	5%
<i>Trans Fat</i> 0g	
Cholesterol 0mg	0%
Sodium 160mg	7%
Total Carbohydrate 37g	13%
Dietary Fiber 4g	14%
Total Sugars 12g	
Includes 10g Added Sugars	20%
Protein 3g	
Vitamin D 2mcg	10%
Calcium 260mg	20%
Iron 8mg	45%
Potassium 235mg	6%
<small>* The % Daily Value (DV) tells you how much a nutrient in a serving of food contributes to a daily diet. 2,000 calories a day is used for general nutrition advice.</small>	

FDA Expectations and Impact

“Follow on” Nutrition Labeling Updates

- Nutrient Content Claim updates
- Health Claim updates
- “Natural”
- “Healthy”



Dietary Ingredients

- Revised NDI Draft Guidance – August 2016
 - Reiterated most principles from prior version
 - Key issues:
 - When is notification required?
 - What is modification?
 - Who must notify?
 - Expectations for next 4 years?



FDA Expectations and Impact

FSMA Implementation

- All foundational final rules published
- Staggered compliance dates for each rule
- Limited guidance in place
- Implementation beyond “foundational” rules?
- Resources?



USDA Expectations and Impact

GE Labeling Implementation

- Law enacted July 29, 2016; **deadline** of 2 years after enactment
- Directs USDA to establish a national mandatory bioengineered food disclosure standard within two years of enactment
Requires USDA to issue regulations, but does not set a date by which the regulations must be finalized
- Preempts the “produced with genetic engineering” labeling provisions of Vermont Act 120 and the enactment or enforcement of similar provisions in other states
- ANPRM sent to OMB early 2017 – withdrawn under “regulatory freeze”

USDA Expectations and Impact

GE Labeling Implementation

- Bioengineered food: A food is considered to be bioengineered if:
 - it ***contains*** genetic material that has been modified through in vitro recombinant deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) techniques; and
 - the modification could not otherwise be obtained through conventional breeding or found in nature
- Does not appear to apply explicitly to foods such as highly refined oils/starches that were made from a GE source but in which there is no GE protein present in the oil/starch
- The statute expressly exempts animal-derived products where the animal was fed bioengineered feed but was not bioengineered

USDA Expectations and Impact

GE Labeling Implementation

- USDA must “establish a process for requesting and granting a determination by [USDA] regarding other factors and conditions under which a food is considered a bioengineered food”
- Does not define “non-GMO” or equivalent *but* exemption for “organic”
- Food manufacturers may select from the following on-package disclosure options:
 - Text;
 - A symbol; or
 - An electronic or digital link

Questions?

Jessica P. O'Connell
Covington & Burling LLP
(202) 662-5180
jpoconnell@cov.com

