



30th April, 2009

To whom it may concern,

Dr Ajay Shah is an active member of the organic food, farming and processing industry via his membership of the BFA, while in particular being actively involved in two key technical committees. These two groups are the Processor Advisory Group and the Organic Standards Advisory Group. These directly advise the Board of the BFA, while the latter manages the Australian Organic Standard, the document by which the majority of the industry in Australia is regulated to.

Dr Ajay has been both active and of immense value to the industry and in particular the BFA over the past 18 months as it moves to update its Australian Organic Standard, while also ensuring that detailed and complex technical matters facing the sector are balanced between international requirements for organic regulation, food safety and related issues, as well as Australian realities and industry context.

This has ensured in turn that BFA's organic certification subsidiary, Australian Certified Organic Pty Ltd, delivers confidence to the organic marketplace, while also being of practical value to the industry that is regulated via the Australian Organic Standard.

I have no hesitation in both commending Dr Ajay for his work and dedication as well as the professionalism and integrity in these domains that we work with him on.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require further information or assistance.

Sincerely,

Dr Andrew Monk
BFA Director and BFA Standards Advisory Group Convenor

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