

(via outlook e-mail)

14 June, 2021

**To whom it may concern or
For the attention of:**

Dear,

Reference is made to your earlier enquiry into NIGRA 2002 / NIGRA 2005 prepared bodies and advice on the products' safe use and to our recent correspondence.

We would like to provide you with further information that could be of interest.

As mentioned before, Sibelco is a trusted supplier to some of the world's most prestigious tableware manufacturers. We have processes in place to monitor global trends in product regulation and standards.

We recently submitted samples of our NIGRA prepared bodies for analysis at an external laboratory in the Westerwald, which specialises in ceramics testing. We periodically test our products to ensure that they continue to satisfy the legal requirements for use in ceramic articles intended for contact with foodstuffs.

The testing methods were in accordance with the relevant standards DIN EN ISO 17294, to check compliance with Directive 84/500/EEC, as amended by Commission Directive 2005/31/EC. Testing was performed on samples of NIGRA prepared body, which had been fired at different temperatures (but not glazed). The testing measured the concentrations of different substances released, by volume and by surface area, from the fired pieces when subjected to a solution of acetic acid over periods of 24, 48 and 72 hours.

The test results confirmed the following:

- The quantities of Lead (Pb) and Cadmium (Cd) released from the fired pieces (not glazed) were below the limits as prescribed in the applicable legislation;
- Firing at temperatures in excess of 1200°C minimises the amounts of Pb and Cd released;
- Even if the firing is at 1140°C, the amount of Pb and Cd released is still below the prescribed limits.

Regarding the Manganese content:

- There is currently no reference to Manganese (Mn) in Directive 84/500/EEC, as amended;
- Testing on the fired pieces (not glazed) showed that the amount of Mn released, when subjected to a solution of acetic acid, was below 0.4%;
- Again, firing at temperatures in excess of 1200°C minimises the amount of Mn released.



On the basis of all of the above and according to our understanding, our NIGRA prepared bodies satisfy the requirements of the applicable European legislation for ceramic articles intended for contact with foodstuffs.

We would like to re-iterate the advice given in our earlier response regarding the safe handling and use of the unfired prepared body (attached for your convenience).

I hope this reassures you in the continued use of Sibelco's clay products. If you require any other information, or a safety data sheet, please contact us.

With kind regards

Sincerely,

Michael Große
Area Sales Manager

Antje Allmann
Mineral Manager

Olaf Müller
Sales Manager