



**THANASI Foods LLC**

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**Josh Pearson**  
**Vice President, Operations**

May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2010

Subject: Ryt-way Recalls Select BIGS Original Sunflower Seeds

Dear Valued Customer:

Regrettably, one of our suppliers, Ryt-way, has issued a voluntary recall that affects our BIGS Original Salted & Roasted Sunflower Seeds. Tests of the product in question indicate that some pouches may contain dairy that was not declared on the packaging. The pouch expiration dates that are included in this recall are BEST BY 30MAY2011, and BEST BY 31MAY2011. No other products or pouch dates are affected.

A company named RQA will be contacting wholesalers and retailers who may have received these products. RQA will make arrangements to pickup the affected products and arrange for reimbursement. RQA has deep experience managing and facilitating recalls for manufacturers, and will make the process as quick and smooth as possible.

Please see the enclosed press release issued by Ryt-way, and enclosed letter from RQA that will be sent to distributors and retailers in the very near future.

THANASI Foods is dedicated to the quality and safety of our products. We will be working diligently with RQA to recover the recalled product so we can get back to business as usual. We have ample new product on hand to ship to you immediately to keep supply issues to an absolute minimum.

RQA has setup a dedicated hotline (877-722-7556) to help answer any of your questions. Additionally, you may contact me with additional questions or information you require.

We appreciate your steadfast support of THANASI Foods and our BIGS Sunflower Seeds, and regret any inconvenience this has caused you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "JP", written over a horizontal line.

Josh Pearson  
THANASI Foods LLC  
Vice President, Operations

Enclosures: Ryt-way Press Release, Recall Notification Form from RQA



21850 Grenada Avenue  
Lakeville, MN 55044-9076  
(952) 469-1417  
Fax (952) 469-9517

## **Press Release**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 12, 2010

Larry Muma

952-469-9583

### **MINNESOTA FIRM ISSUES RECALL DUE TO UNDECLARED DAIRY ALLERGEN IN CERTAIN SUNFLOWER SEEDS**

Ryt-way Industries LLC of Lakeville, MN is voluntarily recalling select BIGS® Original Salted & Roasted Sunflower Seeds because they may contain dairy ingredients that were not declared on the packaging. The product is packaged in 5.35oz plastic bags with BEST BY Dates of 30MAY2011 and 31MAY2011 with an individual bag UPC code 896887002196. People who have an allergy or severe sensitivity to dairy run the risk of serious or life-threatening allergic reaction if they consume these products.

The product was distributed nationwide through supermarkets, convenience stores and U.S. military commissaries.

No illnesses have been reported to date.

The recall was initiated after it was discovered that product containing dairy was distributed in packaging that did not reveal the presence of dairy.

Consumers who are allergic to dairy and who have purchased the recalled products are advised not to consume the product and are urged to return it to the place of purchase for a full refund. Consumers with questions may contact 1-877-722-7556



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**Distribution Center/Warehouse Recall Notification Form  
 (Fax/Letter/Email)**

**URGENT: RECALL OF CERTAIN SUNFLOWER SEEDS  
 Manufactured By Ryt-way Industries.**

**PRODUCT BEING RECALLED:** Certain BIGS ® Original Salted & Roasted Sunflower Seeds

Date: May 12, 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

This is to inform you of a product recall involving the specific product (s) listed below.

Individual Unit UPC #	Product/Brand Name	Package	Size	Bag Code Date
896887002196	BIGS® Original Salted & Roasted Sunflower Seeds	Plastic bag	5.35oz	BEST BY 30MAY2011 and 31MAY2011

The pouches listed above are contained in the case configurations below.

Case SKU	Case UPC	Product/Brand Name	Case Code Date
55001	10896887002193	BIGS® Original Salted & Roasted Sunflower Seeds 12ct/5.35oz	BEST BY 30MAY2011 and BEST BY 31MAY2011
55011	00896887002301	BIGS® Original Salted & Roasted Sunflower Seeds Assorted Sunflower Seeds Shipper 72Ct/5.35 oz	BEST BY 15APR2011 BEST BY 17APR2011 BEST BY 18MAY2011 BEST BY 30MAY2011
55012	00896887002318	BIGS® Original Salted & Roasted Sunflower Seeds 72 Ct/5.35 oz BIGS Assorted Sunflower Seeds Dump Bin	BEST BY 22MAY2011
55013	00896887002325	BIGS® Original Salted & Roasted Sunflower Seeds 36 Ct/5.35 oz BIGS Assorted Sunflower Seeds Power Wing	BEST BY 18MAY2011 BEST BY 22MAY2011 BEST BY 30MAY2011
55028	50896887002191	BIGS® Original Salted & Roasted Sunflower Seeds Club Pack	BEST BY 30MAY2011

Ryt-way Industries is voluntarily recalling select BIGS® Original Salted & Roasted Sunflower Seeds listed above due to an undeclared dairy allergen. The recalled product may represent a serious health or safety threat to the consumers who are allergic to dairy products.

The recall was initiated after it was discovered that sunflower seeds containing dairy were distributed in packaging that did not reveal the presence of dairy.

Our records show that one or more of the case SKUS/case codes of this affected product listed above may have been shipped to you by Thanasi Foods, LLC.

To fulfill our responsibility to the consumer to provide a safe food product, we request your assistance in the removal of this product from distribution.

We request that you immediately evaluate products in your inventory, and segregate and physically hold all products meeting the description in this notice until a representative of RQA, Inc., a product retrieval firm engaged by Ryt-way to physically retrieve the recalled product, arrives at your location to pick-up the product. A representative will contact you to arrange for retrieval of the merchandise and to issue a credit to you. Replacement product is available to you right away.

**If you have further distributed this product, please identify your customers and notify them at once of this product recall.** Your notification to your customers may be enhanced by including a copy of this recall notification letter.

Please complete and return the enclosed preaddressed Business Reply Card to Stericycle Inc. Please note that the postage is paid on this card.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact 1-877-722-7556.

This recall is being made with the knowledge of the Food and Drug Administration.

Thank you for your cooperation.