

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOOD SAFETY AND INSPECTION SERVICE
WASHINGTON, DC

FSIS NOTICE	29-09	4/16/09
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**DISCUSS REQUIREMENTS AT THE NEXT WEEKLY MEETING FOR THE
DISPOSITION OF CATTLE THAT BECOME NON-AMBULATORY DISABLED
FOLLOWING ANTE-MORTEM INSPECTION**

I. PURPOSE

This notice provides direction to Inspectors-In-Charge (IICs) at establishments that slaughter cattle to discuss the Final Rule, "Requirements for the Disposition of Cattle that Become Non-Ambulatory Disabled Following Ante-mortem Inspection" at the next weekly meeting after the issuance of this notice but, if at all possible, before April 17, 2009.

II. BACKGROUND

On March 18, 2009, FSIS published a final rule, "Requirements for the Disposition of Cattle that Become Non-Ambulatory Disabled Following Ante-mortem Inspection," (74 FR 1146, available on the Internet at [http://www.fsis.usda.gov/regulations & policies/2009 Interim & Final Rules Index/index.asp](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/regulations_and_policies/2009_Interim_&_Final_Rules_Index/index.asp)). The final rule requires that all non-ambulatory cattle, including those that passed ante-mortem inspection, be condemned and properly disposed of, and that establishment personnel notify FSIS when cattle become non-ambulatory disabled after passing ante-mortem inspection.

III. DISCUSS FINAL RULE AT WEEKLY MEETING

At the next weekly meeting following issuance of this notice but, if at all possible before April 17, 2009, IICs in establishments that slaughter cattle are to have an awareness meeting with establishment management to discuss that the 2009 final rule requires that all non-ambulatory disabled cattle, including those that become non-ambulatory after passing ante-mortem inspection, be condemned and disposed of appropriately. Include in the discussion that the establishment is to notify the PHV or other off-line inspection personnel when cattle become non-ambulatory disabled after passing ante-mortem inspection, and that the effective date for the final rule is April 17, 2009. Follow the instructions in FSIS Directive 5000.1, Verifying an Establishment's

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Food Safety System, for documenting the weekly meeting.

In addition, the IICs at all establishments that slaughter cattle are to send an e-mail to the Awareness Meeting Mailbox in Outlook that they held an awareness meeting with establishment management to discuss the changes from the final rule. Include the establishment name and number in the e-mail. The Policy Analysis Division of the Office of Policy and Program Development is to collect the e-mails and review them.

Refer questions regarding this notice to the Policy Development Division through askFSIS at <http://askfsis.custhelp.com> or by telephone at 1-800-233-3935.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Amy S. Duffin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Assistant Administrator
Office of Policy and Program Development