



United States Department of Agriculture

Food Safety and
Inspection Service

1400 Independence
Avenue, SW,
Washington, D.C.
20250

SEP 11 2019

Deborah M. Shelton, Esq.
Arent Fox, LLP
1717 K Street, NW
Washington, DC 20006

Dear Ms. Shelton:

The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) has received the petition you submitted on behalf of The Lamb Company dated September 5, 2019. The petition requests that FSIS initiate rulemaking to repeal the definition of “spring lamb” in 9 CFR 317.8(b)(4). The petition also requests that FSIS exercise enforcement discretion to permit lamb products to be marketed on a year-round basis with labeling that includes the term “spring lamb,” provided that the labels are otherwise in compliance with all other regulatory requirements.

Your request is being considered as a rulemaking petition under the Administrative Procedure Act (5 U.S.C. 553(e)), USDA’s administrative regulations (7 CFR 1.28), and FSIS’s regulations on petitions (9 CFR part 392). Your petition has been referred to the Office of Policy and Program Development for review and has been assigned petition number 19-04. As provided in 9 CFR 392.6, your petition will be made available to the public in the FSIS docket room and will be posted on the FSIS Website at:

<http://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/portal/fsis/topics/regulations/petitions>

You may contact Mary Porretta, Petitions Manager, Issuances Staff at (202) 720-5627 if you have any questions regarding the status of your petition.

Sincerely,

Melissa Hammar
Deputy Director
Issuances Staff
Office of Policy and Program Development