



United States Department of Agriculture

Food Safety and
Inspection Service

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

Andrea Graves
Business Planning and Marketing Specialist
Robert M. Kerr Food and Agricultural Products Center
Oklahoma State University
Andrea.graves@okstate.edu

November 18, 2021

Dear Ms. Graves:

The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) has received the petition you submitted on behalf of the Robert M. Kerr Food and Agricultural Products Center (FAPC) on the campus of Oklahoma State University. The petition requests that FSIS amend 9 CFR 325.19(e) to remove “hides” from the articles considered naturally inedible by humans that are not subject to the Federal meat inspection transportation requirements. As stated in your petition, FAPC has been working with an entrepreneur to develop a process for an edible beef hide product using the hides from on-site beef harvest as the raw material. The petition states that the current regulation that prohibit the transportation of inedible products for further processing prevents full use of the hide. According to the petition, removing hides from 9 CFR 325.19(e) is needed to remove a barrier to product development.

Your request is being considered as a petition for rulemaking under the Administrative Procedure Act (5 U.S.C. 553(e)), USDA’s administrative regulations (7 CFR 1.28), and FSIS’ 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 21-03. 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:

<https://www.fsis.usda.gov/policy/petitions>

You may contact Mary Porretta, Petitions Manager, Regulations Development Staff at mary.porretta@usda.gov if you have any questions regarding the status of your petition.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Matthew Michael".

Matthew Michael
Director
Regulations Development Staff