



ROBERT M. KERR

**FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL  
PRODUCTS CENTER**

Division of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources



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January 7, 2022

Mary Porretta, Petitions Manager  
Department of Agriculture  
Food Safety and Inspection Service  
1400 Independence Ave., SW.  
Washington, DC 20250-3700

Reference: Petition #21-03, to Allow the Transportation of Beef Hides for Further Processing

The Robert M. Kerr Food and Agricultural Products Center (FAPC) on the campus of Oklahoma State University has submitted a petition for review by the Office of Policy and Program Development. The petition specifically requests the amendment of current policy prohibiting beef hide transportation because of inedible status.

Since posting the petition on the FSIS petitions webpage, FAPC has received feedback from an organization involved in the hide shipping industry. After discussing the intentions of the submitted petition, we would like to clarify the request to avoid future repercussions in the existing hide export industry.

We propose the amendment to create a channel for transportation of hides to be processed into an edible food product. The existing channel for exporting and further processing of hides into inedible products should continue to exist as established. Working with our client at FAPC, we have generated a considerable demand for USDA inspected product, and anticipate future growth of this market in the United States.

Reference for additional information, photos, and HACCP Plans: askFSIS # 00405780

Sincerely,

Andrea Graves  
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