LETTER OF DEFERRAL (LOD)

Dear Mr. Dillon,

On December 21, 2021, the Food Safety Inspection Service (FSIS) issued the establishment, IDA-Beef, LLC, Est. M45948, a Notice of Intended Enforcement (NOIE) in accordance with FSIS Rules of Practice, Title 9 CFR 500.3(b), based on the establishment’s failure to meet regulatory requirements regarding livestock humane slaughter.

On December 20, 2021 the Denver District Office received a written response from your firm. After reviewing your initial response, FSIS requested clarification on December 21 and 22, 2021. On December 21, 22 and 29, 2021, the Denver District Office received your firm’s clarifications. FSIS has carefully reviewed your responses and determined that, based on your proposed modifications and plan of action, FSIS will defer a decision on an enforcement action pending verification by FSIS inspection personnel that IDA-Beef, LLC, Est. M45948, has effectively implemented its proposed measures. The decision pertaining to this enforcement action will be based upon the plant’s validation, verification, and execution of these actions. Plant personnel should continue to monitor operations to prevent additional inhumane failures from occurring.

Please be advised that as a federally inspected establishment, you are expected to comply with the Federal Meat Inspection Act (FMIA) and all applicable FSIS regulations. Your failure to comply with the regulatory requirements, or to effectively implement the measures addressed in your written response, may result in FSIS initiating further enforcement actions, and/or other appropriate administrative or legal actions.

At a later date, an FSIS representative will review the Verification Plan with you, to assist you in understanding the nature and importance of the Agency’s verification activities. The FSIS Verification Plan is designed to ensure that your establishment fully implements the revisions to your humane handling program and other corrective
actions stated in your submissions, including all monitoring activities at your establishment and that these revisions and actions are effective in assuring future regulatory compliance.

The FSIS Verification Plan identifies your proposed corrective actions, the relevant regulation, and PHIS code under which FSIS officials will verify implementation and effectiveness along with any timeframes you identified in your proposed action plan.

If you have questions regarding this matter, please contact the Denver District Office at (303) 236-9800.

Sincerely,

DAVID JAMES

Dr. Robert Reeder
District Manager
USDA FSIS OFO
Denver District Office

cc: F/O QER
Est. File
D. James, DDM
J. Monteverde, DDM
J. VanHook, DDM

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S. Baucher, RD/OIEA