



United States Department of Agriculture

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Food Safety and  
Inspection Service

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

VIA EMAIL

Elissa C. Norden  
Northern Goose Processors Ltd.  
103 First Street SW  
Box 103  
Teulon, Manitoba  
[elissa@northerngoose.ca](mailto:elissa@northerngoose.ca)

April 20, 2022

Dear Ms. Norden:

The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) has received the petition you submitted on behalf of the Northern Goose Processors Ltd. The petition requests that FSIS amend 9 CFR 381.1 to change the Ready to Cook Poultry definition to include partial dressing of a carcass as authorized by the Secretary if the producer shows that there is a market for the product and that the carcass can pass a post-mortem inspection. As stated in your petition, FSIS does not recognize a poultry product with the head remaining intact as a product eligible to bear the mark of inspection. Because the head remains intact, the product is defaulted to the exempt product category. The petition states that the Chinese Young Goose with Head product produced by your company meets the physical description of certain religious exempt products but that labeling the product as religious exempt would be false and would not accurately reflect the actual product in the package. According to the petition, keeping the head intact by changing the 9 CFR 381.1 definition 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 22-01. 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](mailto:mary.porretta@usda.gov) if you have any questions regarding the status of your petition.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Melissa Hammar".

Melissa Hammar  
Acting Director,  
Regulations Development Staff