



United States Department of Agriculture

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Food Safety and  
Inspection Service

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

Dena Jones  
Director, Farm Animal Program  
Animal Welfare Institute  
900 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC, 20003

January 20, 2023

Dear Ms. Jones:

The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) has received your petition requesting that FSIS revise Directive 8160.1, *Custom-Exempt Review Process*.

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 23-02. 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". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Melissa Hammar  
Acting Director  
Regulations Development Staff