



United States Department of Agriculture

Food Safety and
Inspection Service

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

Herb Frerichs
General Counsel
Perdue Farms, LLC

March 23, 2023

Dear Mr. Frerichs:

The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) has received the petition you submitted on behalf of Perdue Farms, LLC on March 16, 2023. The petition requests that FSIS conduct rulemaking to define separate “free range” and “pasture raised” claims for meat and poultry products. The petition also requests that FSIS update its guidance on claims related to living/raising conditions to ensure that the claims align with consumer expectations.

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 23-03. 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 black ink, which appears to read "Melissa Hammar". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Melissa Hammar
Director
Regulations Development Staff