



United States Department of Agriculture

Food Safety and
Inspection Service

Office of Field
Operations
Des Moines
District Office

Neal Smith
Federal Building
210 Walnut Street
Room 985
Des Moines, IA
50309-2123

Voice
515.727.8960
Fax 515.727.8991

January 10, 2025

ELECTRONIC MAIL on January 10, 2025

Amanda Isaacson, Owner
Backroads Meats Inc., Est. M2379
16849 110th Avenue
Milaca, MN 56353
backroadmeats@gmail.com
320-982-0285

NOTICE OF SUSPENSION HELD IN ABEYANCE

To: Amanda and Robbie Isaacson, Owners

This letter serves as official notification by the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) of our decision to place the Notice of Suspension (NOS), initiated on January 7, 2025, at Est. M2379, Backroads Meats Inc., Est. M2379, 16849 110th Ave., Milaca, MN into abeyance. This letter follows verbal notification provided by (b) (6), Public Health Veterinarian (PHV), to Robbie Isaacson, Owner at approximately 12:21pm on January 9, 2025.

On January 8 and 9, 2025, you provided FSIS, via emails, written corrective actions and preventive measures, in response to the regulatory noncompliance detailed in the NOS. The response outlined actions adequate to address the noncompliance regarding humane handling of livestock requirements, including a plan to maintain compliance with the *Federal Meat Inspection Act* (FMIA) Title 21 of the United States Code (21 U.S.C. 603), the *Humane Methods of Slaughter Act* of 1978 (HMSA) (7 U.S.C. 1901 *et seq*), and federal regulations {Title 9 of the Code of Federal Regulations (9 CFR) Part 313}. The following documents were included, detailing actions immediately implemented and further proposed at your establishment:

Specifically:

- NOS email response, January 8, 2025, 9:19AM
 - NOS response letter
- NOS email response, January 9, 2025, 8:21am
 - NOS response letter (updated)
 - Employee training and log
- NOS email response, January 9, 2025, 11:14am
 - Monitoring activity

- NOS email response, January 9, 2025, 11:17am
 - Stunning Effectiveness Log

Based on your written response, the suspension of the assignment of IPP, for slaughter operations, at your establishment is held in abeyance. The suspension will remain in abeyance pending verification by FSIS personnel that your proposed corrective actions and preventive measures have been effectively implemented and are adequate to maintain compliance. Establishment personnel should monitor operations to prevent violations of humane handling and slaughter from reoccurring. It is also important for you to understand the responsibility of FSIS to initiate action when there is a failure to operate in accordance with 9 CFR Part 313 of the regulations.

During the abeyance period verification activities will be conducted by IPP and results will be reported to the Des Moines District Office on a weekly basis. The decision to hold the suspension action in abeyance is based on the proffered actions. Any modifications to your submitted corrective actions and preventive measures made during the abeyance period need to be submitted, in writing, to the Des Moines District Office for review prior to implementation by your establishment.

Please be advised that, as a federally inspected establishment, you are expected to comply with FSIS regulations and to take appropriate corrective action to prevent inhumane handling of livestock at your establishment. Your failure to comply with these requirements or to implement the measures in your action plan could result in reinstatement of the suspension of inspection program personnel at your establishment or other appropriate administrative or legal action.

If you have questions regarding this matter, please feel free to contact the Des Moines District Office at 515-727-8960 or District Veterinary Medical Specialist (b) (6) at (b) (6) (b) (6)

Sincerely,

(b) (6)

Digitally signed by TODD
GERWIG
Date: 2025.01.10 10:53:43
-06'00'

(for)

Mr. Jeffery Jacobsen
District Manager
USDA FSIS OFO
Des Moines District