



United States Department of Agriculture

August 8, 2022

Food Safety and
Inspection Service

Office of Field
Operations
Denver District Office

1 Denver Federal
Center, Bldg. 45
P.O. Box 25387
Denver, CO 80225

Voice (303) 236-9800
Fax (303) 236-9794

**SENT VIA FED EX &
ELECTRONIC MAIL**

Todd Elsberry, Owner
Chris Miller, Plant Manager
Alaska Meat Packers Inc.,
Establishment 20891 M/P/V
385 E. Outer Springer Loop
Palmer, AK 99645
(b) (6) [@alaskameatpackers.com](mailto:(b) (6)@alaskameatpackers.com)

RESUMPTION OF VOLUNTARY SERVICES

Dear Mr. Elsberry,

This letter serves as official notification and confirms the verbal notification of resumption of voluntary inspection service at your establishment, Alaska Meat Packers Inc., Est. M/P/V 20891, located in Palmer, Alaska.

On June 3, 2022, the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) issued you official notification of the denial of voluntary inspection service due to an inhumane handling noncompliance, whereby your establishment employee needed multiple stunning attempts to render a yak unconscious.

Several correspondences were received via email between June 13, 2022, and August 8, 2022. Your responses included information on training, installation of a head catch, information regarding the ammunition being used as well as proffering that you will not slaughter any yak bulls over the age of 10 years.

After reviewing the responses, FSIS has determined that your written assurances have adequately addressed the concerns outlined in the denial of voluntary service and will allow the resumption of inspection of voluntary species. You were notified via telephone on August 8, 2022.

As an establishment receiving voluntary inspection, you are expected to comply with the *Agricultural Marketing Act* (AMA) and all regulations promulgated there under. The regulations require an establishment to take appropriate action(s) when either management of the establishment or FSIS determines that the plant's procedures for handling and slaughtering animals in a humane manner may not be effective.

Failure to comply with the regulatory requirements may result in our initiating further enforcement action, which could include a recommendation to deny inspection services, or other appropriate administrative or legal action. It is important for you to understand that FSIS has responsibility to initiate action if your establishment fails to operate in accordance with the regulatory requirements.

At a later date, FSIS will provide you a copy of the Verification Plan and go over it with you. The FSIS Verification Plan is designed to ensure that your establishment fully implements the corrective actions stated in your responses received, and that these revisions and actions are effective in assuring regulatory compliance.

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

Sincerely,

JENIFER
MONTEVERDE

Digitally signed by
JENIFER MONTEVERDE
Date: 2022.08.08 15:18:52
-06'00'

for

Dr. Robert Reeder
District Manager
USDA FSIS OFO
Denver District Office
Robert.Reeder@usda.gov

cc: FO/QER
Est. File
D. James, DDM
J. Monteverde, DDM
J. Van Hook, DDM
(b) (6), FLS
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A. Neidig, DCS
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