



United States Department of Agriculture

Food Safety and
Inspection Service

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

DEC 7 2016

Dr. Michael F. Jacobson
President
David Plunkett
Senior Staff Attorney
Center for Science in the Public Interest
1200 L Street NW, Suite 300
Washington DC 20005-0453

Dear Dr. Jacobson and Mr. Plunkett:

The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) has received the petition submitted by you on behalf of the Center for Science in the Public Interest (CSPI) dated December 1, 2016. The petition requests that FSIS initiate rulemaking to require that the labels of processed meat and processed poultry products include a statement warning that frequent consumption of these products may increase the risk of colon and rectal cancer. In addition to the petition, you submitted a letter signed by scientists who study diet and health expressing support for the petition.

Your request is being considered as a rulemaking petition under the Administrative Procedure Act (5 U.S.C. 553(e)), USDA's administrative regulations (7 CFR 1.28), and FSIS's regulations on petitions (9 CFR part 392). Your petition has been referred to the Office of Policy and Program Development for review, and it has been assigned petition number 16-07. As provided in 9 CFR 392.6, your petition and the letter of support will be made available to the public in the FSIS docket room and will be posted on the FSIS Website at:

<http://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/portal/fsis/topics/regulations/petitions>

You may contact Mary Porretta, Petitions Manager, Issuances Staff at (202) 720-5627 if you have any questions regarding the status of your petition.

Sincerely,

Matthew Michael
Director
Issuances Staff
Office of Policy and Program Development