



United States Department of Agriculture

Food Safety and  
Inspection Service

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

Mr. Michael J. Brown  
President  
National Chicken Council  
1152 Fifteenth Street, NW, Suite 430  
Washington, DC 20005

SEP 08 2017

Dear Mr. Brown:

The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) has received the petition you submitted on behalf of the National Chicken Council (NCC) dated September 1, 2017. The petition requests that FSIS establish a program for granting waivers to 9 CFR 381.69(a), the regulation that prescribes the maximum line speed for poultry slaughter establishments operating under the New Poultry Inspection System (NPIS). Specifically, the petition requests that FSIS grant waivers to allow establishments operating under NPIS to operate without line speed limits provided they maintain process control. As conditions for the waivers, the petition suggests that FSIS require that establishments opt into NPIS, participate in the *Salmonella* Initiative Program (SIP), and develop a system for monitoring and responding to loss of process control.

Your request is being considered as a petition for policy change under 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 17-05. 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: [http://www.fsis.usda.gov/regulations\\_&\\_policies/Petitions/index.asp](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/regulations_&_policies/Petitions/index.asp).

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