



January 30, 2020

ABF Packing, Inc.
Establishment 19478
8758 S. US HWY 377
Dublin, TX 76446

SENT VIA EMAIL
CERTIFIED - RETURN
RECEIPT REQUESTED
7014 1820 0001 5965 1141

Attention: Mr. Jason Beyer, Owner

NOTICE OF SUSPENSION HELD IN ABEYANCE

On January 29, 2020, your establishment was provided verbal notification by Dr. Gary Davis, Deputy District Manager, that the Food Safety Inspection Service (FSIS) was, effective immediately, suspending the assignment of inspectors related to the Slaughter Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) plan(s) at ABF Packing, Inc., Establishment 19478, Dublin, Texas. The suspension action was based on an egregious inhumane handling practice, in violation of Title 9 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Part 313.16(a)(1) & (3). A Notice of Suspension (NOS) for a similar incident was issued to your establishment on January 23, 2020.

On January 30, 2020, your establishment provided corrective actions and preventive measures to assure regulatory compliance to ensure that animals would be humanely handled and slaughtered at your facility. Your written proffered corrective actions and preventive measures included the following:

- Suspension of the slaughter of mature bulls (over approximately 1,600 lbs.), and halting the use of the recently purchased 410 lever-action shotgun on any animal until your establishment can determine proper restraint for these animals.
- When the knocking of mature bulls resumes, this 410 shotgun will be the primary weapon used. It can hold up to five bullets at a time, allowing the employee to have instant access to an additional shot, if needed.
- Your establishment trained the employees responsible for knocking mature bulls. During the training, the following topics were reviewed: proper restraint of the animal, how to use the stunning weapon, having three bullets loaded for knocking, proper aim and target on the head for proper knocking, and how to determine sensibility. This training will be conducted on a quarterly basis.
- Your establishment updated its procedures for handling mature bulls, including a security knock on the poll area of the head for each mature bull.

Food Safety and Inspection Service
Office of Field Operations
Dallas District Office
1100 Commerce Street, Room 516
Dallas, TX 75242
Voice 214-767-9116 Fax 844-622-0080
An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer

- The Systematic Approach to Animal Handling Program will be reassessed no later than February 7, 2020.

After a thorough review of your responses, it was determined that your proffered corrective actions, if adequately implemented, would address the failures as outlined in the Notice of Reinstatement Suspension. On January 30, 2020, Dr. Kinsey Naylor-Byles, Deputy District Manager, verbally informed you of the decision to hold the suspension in abeyance. She also explained the verification process.

The suspension will remain in abeyance pending verification by FSIS that your proposed preventive and corrective measures have been effectively implemented. A copy of FSIS's Verification Plan is enclosed to assist you in understanding the nature and importance of the Agency's verification activities. This Verification Plan is designed to verify that your establishment fully implements the corrective and further planned actions in all your responses and that these actions are effective in assuring on-going regulatory compliance. It identifies the corrective action elements, the relevant regulatory requirements, and the Public Health Information System (PHIS) tasks under which each corrective action element will be verified.

You are reminded that as an operator of a federally inspected facility, you are expected to comply with FSIS Regulations and to take appropriate corrective action at your establishment. Failure to comply with regulatory requirements could result in the reinstatement of suspension of inspection for your Slaughter HACCP plan(s), or other appropriate administrative or legal action. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact (b) (6)

Sincerely,



Jennifer Beasley-McKean, DVM
District Manager

cc:

(b) (6)

Inspector in Charge, Establishment 19478, Dublin, TX

VERIFICATION PLAN

ABF Packing, Inc.

Establishment 19478

January 30, 2020

On January 30, 2020, ABF Packing, Inc., Establishment 19478, Dublin, Texas, was issued a Notice of Reinstatement of Suspension (NROS) for an egregious incident of inhumane handling. This verification plan is designed to verify the written corrective actions and preventive measures proffered by the establishment on January 23, 2020, for the Notice of Suspension (NOS), and January 30, 2020, for the NROS, are effectively implemented.

Livestock Humane Handling

9 CFR 313.15, and 320.1(a)

Verify on Each Day of Slaughter

Verify the establishment performs any stunning outside the knocking box in the triangle pen, located in the holding area just outside the shackling door, and properly restrains the animal to be stunned. At least two employees will be present.

Verify that there is a container constructed at the triangle pen to hold to at least (2) captive bolt devices.

Verify that twice daily, bolt stunning devices are test fired and monitored to be present in the container throughout the slaughter activity. This monitoring to be recorded on the daily log.

Verify the establishment monitors daily stunning procedures performed outside the knocking box and document the finding on the Knocking Log.

Livestock Humane Handling

9 CFR 320.1(a)

Verify Once Upon Completion

Verify the establishment has reassessed its Robust Systematic Approach to Animal Handling program again, this reassessment to be completed no later than February 7, 2020.

Verify the establishment has retrained, and documented names of employees and dates of retraining for proper handling of animals which have entered the official premises by January 31, 2020.

Verify the establishment has conducted training with employees responsible for knocking mature bulls. During the training, the following topics were reviewed: proper restraint of the animal, how to use the stunning weapon, having 3 bullets loaded in 410-lever action shotgun for knocking, proper aim and target on the head for proper knocking, and how to determine sensibility. This training will be conducted quarterly, and will be documented on the training log.

Verify the establishment has updated its procedures for handling mature bulls, including a security knock on the poll area of the head for each mature bull.

Verify the establishment will not slaughter mature bulls over approximately 1600 lbs., and will not use the 410-lever action gun on any animal until proper restraint has been determined, and the methodology reviewed by the District Office.