

JAN 5 2011

Ms. Erica Meir  
Executive Director  
Compassion Over Killing, Inc.  
P.O. Box 9773  
Washington, DC 20013

Dear Ms Meir:

The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) has received your petition requesting that the Agency take regulatory action to revise the labeling requirements for eggs sold in the United States. According to the petition, the labeling of shell eggs in the United States today fails to reveal to consumers certain material facts that substantially influence their purchasing decisions. The petition requests that FSIS require that all eggs that enter interstate commerce for sale at retail bear one of the following designations on their labels: 1) "Free Range Eggs;" 2) "Cage-Free Eggs;" or 3) "Eggs from Caged Hens." The petition also defines these terms.

Your request is being considered as a rulemaking petition under the Administrative Procedure Act (5 U.S.C. 553(e)), USDA's administrative regulations (9 CFR 1.28), and FSIS's regulations on petitions (9 CFR part 392). Your petition has been referred to the FSIS Office of Policy and Program Development for review and has been assigned petition number 11-01. 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.

Sincerely,



Rachel Edelstein  
Director  
Policy Issuances Division  
Office of Policy and Program Development