



United States Department of Agriculture

Food Safety and
Inspection Service

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

FEB 20 2018

Mr. Kenny Graner
President
U.S. Cattlemen's Association
5355 Highway 1806
Mandan, ND 58554

Dear Mr. Graner:

The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) has received the petition you submitted on behalf of the U.S. Cattlemen's Association dated February 9, 2018. The petition requests that FSIS limit the definition of "beef" to product from cattle born, raised, and harvested in the traditional manner. The petition also requests that FSIS prohibit product derived from alternative sources, such as synthetic product from plants, insects, or non-animal components and any product grown in the lab from animal cells from being labeled as "beef." The petition further requests that FSIS limit the definition of "meat" to the tissue or flesh of animals that have been harvested in the traditional manner. The petition requests that FSIS prohibit product derived from alternative sources, such as synthetic product from plants, insects, or non-animal components and any product grown in the lab from animal cells from being labeled as "meat." The petition states that the requested definitions should apply to all products that use, or that might use, the designation "beef" or "meat," regardless of country of origin. The petition requests that FSIS add these suggested definitions to FSIS's Food Standards and Labeling Policy Book.

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 18-01. 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 at:

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

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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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Matthew Michael".

Matthew Michael
Director
Issuances Staff
Office of Policy and Program Development