



United States Department of Agriculture

Food Safety and
Inspection Service

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

JUL 21 2016

Mr. Gary Jay Kushner
Counsel to the American Veal Association
Hogan Lovells US LLP
555 Thirteenth Street, NW
Washington, DC 20004

Dear Mr. Kushner:

The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) has received the petition that you submitted on behalf of the American Veal Association (AVA) dated July 14, 2016. The petition requests that FSIS initiate rulemaking to establish codified definitions for veal and other immature cattle. The petition requests that FSIS define a general category of "veal" based primarily on dressed carcass weight with the optional subcategories "milk/formula-fed veal," "grain/grass-fed veal, and "bob veal" to identify more specific characteristics about the product. The petition states that the general "veal" definition should state that veal are administered only United States Food and Drug Administration approved medication and feed, formula, nutritional and herbal supplements. The petition also requests that any immature bovine not meeting one of the defined veal classes be defined as "calf."

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 16-06. 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>.

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,

Charles E. Williams
Director
Issuances Staff
Office of Policy and Program Development