



January 23, 2020

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

SENT VIA EMAIL
CERTIFIED - RETURN
RECEIPT REQUESTED
7017 2680 0000 3276 5536

Attention: Mr. Jason Beyer, Owner

NOTICE OF SUSPENSION HELD IN ABEYANCE

On January 23, 2020, your establishment was provided verbal notification by Dr. Gary Davis, Deputy District Manager (DDM), 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, a violation of Title 9 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Part 313.15(a)(1). A Notice of Suspension (NOS) was issued to your establishment on January 23, 2020.

On January 23, 2020, you submitted corrective actions and further preventive measures to be implemented to ensure that animals would be humanely handled and slaughtered at your facility. Your written proffered corrective actions and preventive measures included the following:

- Cattle knocked outside the knocking box will be restrained prior to knocking in the triangle pen, located within the holding pen area. This will assist in proper placement of the knocking gun to render the animal unconscious with the first knock.
- Stunning outside the knocking box will only occur when two knocking guns and two employees are present. Each knocking gun will be tested at least twice daily, or more if needed. A knocking gun holding container will be permanently placed in the triangle pen area to hold two knocking guns. This container will be monitored daily to ensure two knocking guns are always present.
- Documentation of cattle knocked outside the knocking box will be recorded daily on the Knocking Log.
- Your Robust Systematic Approach for Animal Handling Program will be revised and reassessed to include these new measures. Additionally, employees will be retrained on proper handling procedures of animals to remain on official premises following antemortem inspection, as to prevent recurrence of this incident.

After a thorough review of your responses, it was determined that your proffered corrective actions, if adequately implemented, would ensure compliance with the regulatory requirements for humane handling of livestock at your facility. You were contacted on January 23, 2020, by Dr. Samuel Dragoi, DDM, who verbally informed you of the decision to hold the suspension in abeyance. He also explained the verification process.

The suspension will remain in abeyance pending verification by FSIS that your proffered 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 actions in your response and that these actions are effective in assuring ongoing 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 HACCP plan(s), or other appropriate administrative or legal action.

If you have any questions, please contact (b) (6) or
(b) (6) 214-773-5493.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Beasley-McKean, DVM
District Manager

cc:

(b) (6)
Inspector in Charge, Est.19478, Dublin, TX

VERIFICATION PLAN

ABF Packing, Inc.
Establishment 19478
January 23, 2020

On January 23, 2020, ABF Packing, Establishment 19478, Dublin, Texas, was issued a Notice of Suspension 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, 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 at least two (2) to captive bolt devices.

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

Verify the establishment monitors daily stunning procedures performed outside the knocking box and documents the findings 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 for Animal Handling program to include all these new measures by January 31, 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.