



United States Department of Agriculture

Food Safety and  
Inspection Service

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

Mr. Michael J. Brown  
President  
National Chicken Council  
1152 Fifteenth Street, NW, Suite 430  
Washington, DC 20005

MAY 26 2016

Dear Mr. Brown:

The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) has received the petition submitted by you on behalf of the National Chicken Council dated May 24, 2016. The petition requests that FSIS initiate rulemaking to establish labeling requirements for not-ready-to-eat (NRTE) stuffed chicken products that may appear ready-to-eat (RTE). The petition also requests that FSIS issue a Compliance Guideline for developing and communicating validated cooking instructions for such products. The petition states that some consumers may be uncertain of the proper handling and cooking methods for NRTE stuffed chicken breast products that may appear RTE, and that the measures requested in the petition are necessary to ensure proper handling and cooking of these products.

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 16-03. 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