



United States Department of Agriculture

Food Safety and
Inspection Service

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

JUN 25 2019

Mr. Leonard Lang
Import Export Associates Inc.
103 Potomac Hills Drive
Stafford, VA 22554

Dear Mr. Lang:

The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) has completed its review of the February 23, 2016, petition you submitted on behalf of CKF Foods. The petition asserts that FSIS subjects imported chitterlings to more stringent inspection standards for fecal and ingesta defects than domestic chitterlings. The petition requests that FSIS review and modify its procedures to ensure that imported and domestic chitterlings are subject to equivalent standards.

[FSIS Directive 9900.2](#) provides inspection program personnel with instructions on how to conduct import reinspection on shipments of imported meat, poultry, and egg products at Official Import Inspection Establishments. On May 16, 2017, FSIS reissued Directive 9900.2 to clarify that FSIS does not enforce a zero tolerance standard for ingesta and fecal defects found in unscalded enteric offal products, including chitterlings. We believe this change addresses the issues raised in your petition.

In accordance with FSIS regulations, we have posted this petition and supplemental information to the FSIS website (9 CFR 392.6). We intend to post this response as well.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Roberta Wagner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Roberta Wagner
Assistant Administrator
Office of Policy and Program Development