United States
Department of
Agriculture

Food Safety
and Inspection
Service

Washington, D.C.
20250

DEC 23 2013

Ms. Dena M. Jones
Farm Animal Program Manager
Animal Welfare Institute
900 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE
Washington DC 20003

Dear Ms. Jones:

The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) has received the petition submitted by you on behalf of the Animal Welfare Institute (AWI) and Farm Sanctuary dated December 17, 2013. The petition requests that FSIS use its authority under the Poultry Products Inspection Act (PPIA)(21 U.S.C. 451 *et seq.*) to promulgate regulations for the humane handling of poultry. Specifically, the petition asks that FSIS adopt poultry handling regulations that identify and prohibit practices that lead to adulteration, and require that all poultry establishments comply with such requirements.

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 13-08. 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

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