

Midwest Coalition for Human Rights

Advocating for fairness and human dignity

April 27, 2012

Mary Porretta
Policy Issuances Division
Food Inspection Safety Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20250-3700

RE: Petition Number 11-13

Dear Ms. Porretta,

Thank you for responding to the Midwest Coalition of Human Rights' letter regarding the important issue of ensuring worker safety and health by reducing line speed in meatpacking and poultry processing plants.

Your recent correspondence stated that FSIS has designated our letter as a rulemaking petition. Our letter, however, was not meant to serve as a rulemaking petition under the Administrative Procedure Act or the FSIS' regulations. Instead, its purpose was to demonstrate public interest in addressing the unsafe working conditions that are caused by dangerously high line speeds in meatpacking and poultry processing plants. As such, in accordance with 9 CFR 392.5(d), we respectfully request FSIS withdraw Petition 11-13 from being considered as a rulemaking petition.

Sincerely,

Claire Leslie
Coordinator, Midwest Coalition for Human Rights