



Food Safety and
Inspection Service

August 11, 2021

Office of Field Operations

**ORIGINAL VIA FED EX NEXT DAY AIR –
DELIVERY CONFIRMATION REQUESTED**

Philadelphia District
Mellon Independence
Center,
701 Market Street Suite
4100-A
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Mr. John Young, President
Abattoir Associates Inc. (Est 44910)
119 Cooper Street
Spring Mills, PA 16875

NOTICE OF SUSPENSION HELD IN ABEYANCE

Dear Mr. Young,

This letter confirms verbal notification to Mr. John Young, President, at approximately 1200 hours on August 11, 2021, by Mr. Joseph Schein, Deputy District Manager (DDM), Philadelphia District Office, of our decision to place the Notice of Suspension (NOS), issued to you on August 9, 2021, into abeyance. FSIS is providing you with this Notice of Suspension Held in Abeyance (NOSHIA) based on your proposed corrective actions and preventive measures. FSIS determined that the suspension action will be placed in abeyance and the assignment of Inspection Program Personnel (IPP) will resume, pending FSIS verification of the adequacy of your humane handling program in achieving regulatory compliance.

FSIS will be verifying your actions to ensure that you effectively implement the proffered corrective actions and preventive measures. This letter provides you with the chronology of events and conclusions, including your responsibilities as a federally inspected establishment.

In response to the suspension, you submitted written corrective actions and preventive measures on August 9, 2021. FSIS requested clarification of your response and you submitted further corrective actions on August 10 and August 11, 2021. Final clarifications were requested and received on August 11, 2021.

Your Corrective and Preventive Measures are:

1. All relevant employees, to include Mr. John Young, President (Abattoir Associates Inc.) will be trained in the effective use of the appropriate firearm (Rifle, pistol, captive bolt) and ammunition. The training utilized is Temple Grandin's "Recommended Animal Handling Guideline's & Audit Guide" 2nd edition, 2019. This includes employees hired and trained for stunning during the abeyance period.

Employees currently listed include: Those employees are:

- (b) (6)
- (b) (6)

(b) (6)

2. Documentation of training will be submitted and will also be kept available for FSIS review. Documentation will include who was trained, the training information itself and/or a link to it and a listing of who performed it, and trainee signatures and dates on which the training occurred.
3. An Updated Kill Log showing a column added to record effective or ineffective stun as well as the firearm used for each animal slaughtered has been provided.
4. Removal of the .22 caliber handgun with CCI Mini-MAG .22LR, 40 grain 1235 FPS as primary stunning implement
5. Captive Bolt (Cash Special HD.25) will be used as the primary stunning implement for hogs going forward
6. A .22 magnum caliber handgun/long gun with CCI MAXIMAG .22 WMR 40 grain, 1875 FPS, or equivalent manufacturer, ammunition will be used as the backup stunning implement for hogs to assure penetration
7. Sows will be stunned using at minimum a .38, or possibly a .410 slug as backup.
8. The backup stunning implement will be immediately available in the stunning area
9. The updated kill log will be utilized each slaughter day for all inspected animals slaughtered and will be kept available for FSIS review.

FSIS inspection personnel have designed a Verification Plan (VP) and will use it to monitor and verify that you have effectively implemented your proposed actions. The VP identifies your corrective actions from your responses submitted to FSIS, the relevant regulatory requirements, the tasks FSIS will use to conduct verification activities, and the time frames that you identified. While these verification activities are targeted to your plant's animal handling, FSIS personnel will continue to ensure all humane handling/stunning regulatory requirements of 9 CFR Part 313 are in regulatory compliance. A copy of the VP is attached as a reference to assist you in understanding Agency verification activities.


As an operator of a federally inspected facility, we expect you to comply with FSIS regulations and to take appropriate corrective action when either the establishment or FSIS identifies regulatory noncompliance. FSIS has the responsibility to initiate regulatory control or other appropriate action if your establishment fails either to operate in accordance with the regulations or to operate under sanitary conditions.

A final decision relative to this enforcement action will be determined based on your establishment's ability to execute and comply with your proffered corrective actions and all applicable regulatory requirements. Your establishment's failure to meet the conditions of this abeyance may result in additional regulatory and/or administrative actions in accordance with the Rules of Practice 9 CFR Part 500.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please feel free to contact Mr. Joseph Schein, Deputy District Manager (DDM) at joseph.schein@usda.gov or by phone at (215) 430-6219.

Sincerely,

**JOSEPH
SCHEIN**

 Digitally signed by JOSEPH
SCHEIN
Date: 2021.08.11 12:51:12
-04'00'

Dr. Lynda Lilyestrom
District Manager
Philadelphia District Office

**Abattoir Associates Inc (Est. 44910) Verification Plan
August 11, 2021**

ESTABLISHMENT ACTION PLAN	REGULATION	HUMANE HANDLING VERIFICATION CATEGORY	FREQUENCY
<p>All relevant employees will be trained in the effective usage of the appropriate firearm (rifle, pistol, captive bolt) and ammunition. Training material: Temple Grandin's "Recommended Animal Handling Guideline's & Audit Guide" 2nd edition, 2019.</p> <p>Those employees are:</p> <div style="background-color: black; color: red; text-align: center; padding: 20px; font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">(b) (6)</div> <p>*This documentation will be available for IPP to review.</p>	<p>9 CFR 313.15, 313.16</p>	<p>Category VIII – Stunning Effectiveness.</p>	<p>Upon implementation, August 11, 2021, and once prior to resuming slaughter and as new employees are trained in stunning.</p>
<p>Training will be documented with names, signatures, and dates, the training info itself or a link to it, and any names of who performed the training submitted, and kept available for FSIS review.</p> <p>*This documentation will be available for IPP to review.</p>	<p>9 CFR 313.15, 313.16</p>	<p>Category VIII – Stunning Effectiveness.</p>	<p>Upon implementation, August 11, 2021, and once prior to resuming slaughter and as new employees are trained in stunning.</p>
<p>Documentation will be submitted of the new Kill Log with column added for noting effective and ineffective stuns as well as which stunning implement was used for each animal slaughtered.</p>	<p>9 CFR 313.15, 313.16</p>	<p>Category VIII – Stunning Effectiveness</p>	<p>Upon implementation, August 11, 2021, and once prior to resuming slaughter.</p>
<p>Removal of the .22 caliber handgun with CCI-Mini-MAG .22LR, 40 grain 1235 FPS ammunition as primary stunning implement for swine.</p>	<p>9 CFR 313.16</p>	<p>Category VIII – Stunning Effectiveness.</p>	<p>Upon implementation, August 11, 2021, and once upon resumption of</p>

			slaughtering swine.
Captive Bolt (Cash Special HD.25) will be used as the primary stunning implement for hogs.	9 CFR 313.15	Category VIII – Stunning Effectiveness.	Upon implementation, August 11, 2021, and each Slaughter day for hogs.
A .22 magnum caliber handgun with CCI MAXIMAG .22 WMR 40 grain, 1875 FPS, or equivalent manufacturer, ammunition will be used as the backup stunning implement for hogs to assure penetration.	9 CFR 313.16	Category VIII – Stunning Effectiveness.	Upon implementation, August 11, 2021, and each slaughter day for hogs.
Sows will be stunned using at minimum a .38, with a .410 slug as backup.	9 CFR 313.16	Category VIII – Stunning Effectiveness.	Upon implementation, August 11, 2021, and each Slaughter day for sow(s).
The backup stunning implement will be immediately available in the stunning area.	9 CFR 313.15, 313.16	Category VIII – Stunning Effectiveness.	Upon implementation, August 11, 2021, and each Slaughter day.
Updated kill log will be utilized each slaughter day for all inspected animals slaughtered and will be kept available for FSIS review. *This documentation will be available for IPP to review.	9 CFR 313.15, 313.16	Category VIII – Stunning Effectiveness.	Upon implementation, August 11, 2021, and each Slaughter day, each inspected animal slaughtered.

***Inspection Program Personnel will perform humane handling verification every slaughter operation day to verify the adequacy and effectiveness of the establishment’s compliance with the humane handling regulatory requirements of 9 CFR Part 313.**

***Inspection Program Personnel will ensure all humane handling/stunning regulatory requirements are complying daily on each slaughter day, regardless of the stunning method.**

***Inspection Program Personnel will review all monitoring, verification, and corrective action records to verify procedures are being conducted as prescribed and at the specified frequency.**

***Please notify the Frontline Supervisor (FLS) and the District Veterinary Medical Specialist (DVMS) if there is any change in the establishment’s corrective action or preventive measures. The verification plan will then be modified appropriately.**

CC:

FSIS - FO/Quarterly Enforcement Report

Mr. Mark Crowe, Director, CID, FSIS, OIEA, Washington, DC

Ms. Geraldine French, EARO, FSIS, OFO, Washington, DC

Mr. Joseph Priore, RD, FSIS, OIEA, Northeast Region

Dr. Lynda Lilyestrom, DM, FSIS, OFO, Philadelphia District Office

Ms. Valerie Clay, DDM, FSIS, OFO, Philadelphia District Office

Mr. Michael Osifat, DDM, FSIS, OFO, Philadelphia District Office

Mr. Joseph Schein, DDM, FSIS, OFO, Philadelphia District Office



Official Files Establishment Folder – Est. 44910

FSIS-(b) (6)