



United States Department of Agriculture

Food Safety and
Inspection Service

December 15, 2021

Office of Field
Operations
Denver District Office

**SENT VIA FEDEX &
ELECTRONIC EMAIL**

1 Denver Federal
Center, Bldg. 45
P.O. Box 25387
Denver, CO 80225

Zeeshan Qazi, Plant Manger
ZYK Enterprises, Inc., 9325 M/P
17658 W. Snoqualmie River Road NE
Duvall, WA 98019

Voice (303) 236-9800
Fax (303) 236-9794

(b) (6)

NOTICE OF SUSPENSION HELD IN ABEYANCE

Dear Mr. Qazi,

On December 14, 2021, the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) issued your establishment, ZYK Enterprises, Inc., 9325 M/P, located in Duvall, WA, a Notice of Suspension (NOS). The decision to issue the NOS was made in accordance with Title 21 of the United States Code (USC), Section 603(b) and Title 9 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 500.3(b), based on your establishment's failure to comply with 9 CFR 313.2 regulations. A Noncompliance Record (NR), written by FSIS Inspection Program Personnel (IPP), documented an egregious event whereby establishment employees dragged and cut a disabled and conscious goat following the conclusion of the ritual exemption period.

On December 14, 2021, the Denver District Office (DDO) received your initial response to the NOS and corrective actions via electronic mail. Requests for clarification were sent and additional clarifications received on December 14 and 15, 2021. Based upon your proposed corrective actions FSIS will hold the suspension of inspectors at your establishment in abeyance. Deputy District Manager Jenifer Monteverde notified you verbally of the suspension held in abeyance on December 15, 2021.

The suspension will remain in abeyance pending verification by FSIS inspection personnel. During this abeyance period, FSIS will continue to verify, assess, and evaluate the effectiveness of your proffered corrective actions to ensure that these are adequately implemented, and confirm that livestock are properly handled and slaughtered humanely.

FSIS will design a verification plan to confirm that your establishment is implementing the corrective actions you provided in your response to the NOS. The verification plan identifies your corrective action plan, the relevant regulations and the frequency FSIS inspection personnel will verify the implementation and effectiveness of your proffered actions.

FSIS will provide you a copy of the verification plan. Please be advised that only FSIS can amend the verification plan. If your establishment wishes to modify your proposed corrective actions during the abeyance period, please submit these changes, in writing, to FSIS for approval prior to making any changes in your actions.

FSIS reminds you that as an operator of a federally inspected facility, you are expected to comply with the *Federal Meat Inspection Act* (FMIA), the *Humane Methods of Slaughter Act* (HMSA) and the regulations in 9 CFR 313 to ensure livestock at your establishment are handled and slaughtered humanely. The regulations require establishments to take appropriate action(s) when either the establishment or FSIS determines that the establishment's system controls for humane handling requirements are ineffective. FSIS has the responsibility to initiate action if your establishment fails to operate in accordance with FSIS regulations.

Please be aware that your failure to comply with the regulatory requirements or effectively implement the commitments you proffered in your responses may lead to further administrative enforcement actions, including reinstatement of the suspension action.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, you may contact the Denver District Office at (303) 236-9800.

Sincerely,

JENIFER
MONTEVERDE

Digitally signed by JENIFER
MONTEVERDE
Date 2021.12.15 16:27:01 -0700

Dr. Robert Reeder
District Manager
USDA FSIS OFO
Denver District Office
Robert.Reeder@usda.gov

cc: FO/QER
Est. File
J. Monteverde, DDM
D. James, DDM
J. VanHook, DDM

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S. Baucher, RD/OIEA