Valley Meat Company, LLC 3845 Cedarvale Rd Roswell, NM 88203

June 14, 2013

Dear Dr. McKean

We are receipt of your letter dated June 10, 2013. At this point we feel we must reiterate and state for the record that we do not feel that a CWA permit or a certification of no discharge is appropriate by your agency. By your own admission we would have been able to continue or return to processing cattle absent of such a permit or certification of no discharge.

Please treat this letter our official certification under the objection noted above that Valley Meat Company, LLC <u>DOES NOT DISCHARGE NOR HAVE THE POTENTIAL FOR A DISCHARGE INTO A</u> <u>NAVIGABLE WATER OF THE UNITED STATES</u> pursuant to 401(a) of the CWA (33 U.S.C. § 1341(a)). Valley Meat under the same protest noted above in compliance with 9 C.F.R. § 304.2(c)(1) does hereby state the following:

"I declare that the operations conducted at my facility Valley Meat Company, Inc., 3845 Cedarvale Rd., Roswell, NM B8201 will not result in a discharge into any navigable waters as defined by the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. § 1251 et seq.)"

We have consulted with legal counsel and with the New Mexico Environment Department and understand that our permit DP-236 from NMENV for our closed lagoon system is the only permit we require because there has never been nor is there a potential for a discharge in to navigable waters of the United States.

This letter serves to satisfy the new extra requirement for our facility which has been in operation for 20+ years and we expect that our Grant of Inspection will be immediately forthcoming as you have previously indicated we had already met all of the necessary requirements and that a Grant would be issued no later than April 29, 2013.

Thank you for your consideration of the matter.

Ricardo De Los Santos on behalf of Valley Meat Company, LLC.