

EXHIBIT 5

DECLARATION OF RANDY PARKER, D.V.M.

I, Randy Parker, declare as follows:

1. I am a veterinarian and own and manage Range View Equine Associates in Elbert, Colorado. I have personal knowledge of the facts set forth in this declaration. The facts set forth are true to the best of my knowledge and recollection.

2. I am a 1989 graduate of Tufts University School of Veterinary Medicine, and have been practicing veterinary medicine for twenty-three years. After graduation from Tufts, I did an internship on Prince Edward Island, focusing on large animal, food animal and equine practice.

3. After my internship I moved to Colorado where I have been in practice ever since. My veterinary practice focuses almost exclusively (greater than ninety percent) on the care of companion horses, and horses used in competition, show and sporting events.

4. I see an average of thirty horses every week as part of my practice.

5. In the course of my practice I prescribe medications needed by the horses I treat. I also visit the barns, tack rooms, and treatment areas in which my clients' horses live, and regularly observe the kinds of drugs, substances, and treatments my clients use for their horses, whether prescribed or acquired elsewhere.

6. I have reviewed Exhibit 1 to the Petition for Rulemaking submitted by Front Range Equine Rescue. I am familiar with the large majority of the drugs, treatments and other substances on Exhibit 1, which I have either prescribed myself or seen at the barns of and in use by my clients for their horses.

7. Many of the drugs on this list are harmful to humans. For example, chloramphenicol is known to cause aplastic anemia and other problems. Nitrofurazone, which is commonly used, is a human carcinogen. Additionally, the administration of any antibiotic to horses, if those horses were then eaten, could lead to the development of antibiotic resistances in humans.

8. The majority of drugs, treatments and substances on Exhibit 1 to the Petition are regularly and routinely used by owners of horses in the areas where I work, and I believe this practice to be common throughout the country.

9. Based on my training and experience, it is my professional opinion that an alarming majority of American horses who are sent to slaughter for human consumption may have been treated with a variety of drugs, treatments and substances that renders their flesh dangerous to people who eat horse meat and makes the horses' meat unsafe for human consumption.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct, based on my own personal knowledge and experience.

Executed this 17 day of March, 2012, in Elbert, CO


Randy Parker, D.V.M.