

McKean, Jennifer - FSIS

From: Davis, Gary - FSIS
Sent: Monday, December 03, 2012 3:35 PM
To: McKean, Jennifer - FSIS
Cc: [REDACTED] - FSIS
Subject: FW: Valley Meats Compliance Checklists from last walk through and review in June 2012

November 29, 2012, 11 AM MST:

Dr. Gary Davis, DDM, Ms [REDACTED] FLS, and CSI Glen Brooks met with Mr. Rick De Los Santos, owner of Valley Meat Company, [REDACTED], and Mr. Jose Hernandez, business partner at Est. M7299, Valley Meat company, Roswell, NM.

A NR for SPS findings on the slaughter floor and carcass coolers were not documented and a meeting MOI was not documented due to a telephone call from the owner's attorney citing there is a law suit with USDA and FSIS should not be conducting inspections related to the equine slaughter operations without his presence.

SPS findings:

Slaughter Floor – Rusty rails and support structures; peeling/curling paint on the ceiling; 3X3 foot opening in the ceiling above the evisceration station due to previous roof leak (old dirty bucket still left hanging to catch rain water). Rails are 15 foot except bleeding and sticking area which is almost 18 feet. Head is to be removed post-bleeding, and rail height should be sufficient with this procedure.

Hot box and Sales cooler (two carcass chillers) Rusty rails and support structures

Hurried through remaining plant areas due to phone call from plant owner's attorney.

Pen Area concerns: Metal rebar on part of pen floor may cause shod horses to get caught on it. Loose channel iron, piping, and abrupt ending concrete floors, and openings under troughs may cause future animal welfare issues and noncompliance's. Pens are not numbered to ensure which pens received ante mortem inspection.

At entrance meeting discussed: Two Applications (December 2011 and March 2012) and inaccuracies; hand delivered current application form (FSIS Form 5200.2), and provided instructions to complete it correctly. Discussed 9 CFR 305.2(b) and the grant process and completion of the application for a grant for a plant requesting to slaughter and process horses and other equine. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] was discussed and the end for a cat walk or stand to inspect horses on ante mortem inspection (catwalk already present); handling of suspect animals in a humane manner, handling of nuchal ligament at evisceration and viscera inspection; stunning of horses; rail height, and animal welfare concerns, handling of inedible materials and denaturing, and donning and doffing start of operations and around the lunch break.

An exit meeting was not held due to attorney's phone call. A discussion regarding identification of gray and white horses after dehidng, dropping of front legs regarding a white or gray horse, and use of green ink was not discussed as planned.

Gary A. Davis, DVM
Deputy District Manager
Dallas District Office
Phone: 214-767-9116
Fax: 214-767-8230
Mobile: 214-763-7201
E-mail: gary.davis@fsis.usda.gov