



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Food Safety  
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Service

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16 April 2010

**TO:** Ms. Auralie Ashley-Marx  
Solid Waste Bureau Chief  
State of New Mexico Environmental Department

Ms. Teri Monaghan  
Enforcement Officer  
State of New Mexico Environmental Department

**FROM:** Dr. Ron Nelson  
District Manager  
Denver District  
U.S. Department of Agriculture

Ms. Anna Gallegos  
Deputy District Manager  
Denver District  
U.S. Department of Agriculture

**RE:** Pecos Valley Meats, Est. 7299; 3845 Cedarvale Road; Roswell, New Mexico 88203

Dear Ms. Ashley-Marx and Ms. Monaghan:

Attached please find the photographs that we took regarding the compost of dead animals at Pecos Valley Meats, Est. 7299; 3845 Cedarvale Road; Roswell, New Mexico 88203. We appreciate the opportunity to have met with Ms. Monaghan so that we could express our concerns. We did express the urgency of getting to the facility and in assisting Mr. De Los Santos since he is actively working on the pile now and needs to do it correctly. Thank you for giving us some insight into the composting procedures. We are not familiar with the State laws regarding composting so it was nice to learn that information. The magnitude of this problem is hard to envision until you see it on site and smell it. We urge you to make this a top priority.



Picture depicts a shed on the East side of the facility (approximately 200 feet) showing beef skeletal bones and trash. The pile also contained parts of animals that still had muscle and hide attached.



Picture depicts the back side of the shed. A pile of approximately 15 feet high is shown full of bones and animal parts, of which some still contained tissue. There is no composting, just animals piled upon each other. Some dirt has piled up on the animal remains.



Photo depicts a dirt wall approximately 12 feet wide separating the pile of beef parts (right side) and a silage pit (left side).



Photo depicts another pile on the back side of the shed. This pile sits next to the dirt wall that separates the dead animals and bones and the silage pit. The pile contains skeletal remains and parts with tissue still on them, as well as whole dead animals.



Photo depicts small piles of fresh manure that will be used to compost the piles of beef parts.



Photo depicts the north side of the shed where additional piles of dead animals and old bones are stacked up. The dirt that is on the pile is only on the surface and not layered into the piles of the dead animals.