



*the*  
Conference  
*for* FOOD  
PROTECTION

May 27, 2016

Daniel L. Engeljohn, PhD  
Assistant Administrator, Office of Policy and Program Development  
USDA - Food Safety and Inspection Service  
1400 Independence Ave., SW, Room 350-E JWB  
Washington, DC 20250

Dear Dr. Engeljohn:

The Conference for Food Protection (CFP/Conference) recently completed its 2016 Biennial Meeting in Boise, ID. This meeting was a great success, and I would like to personally thank you and USDA for their participation and contribution to the success of the 2016 Biennial Meeting. USDA's show of support for CFP and the CFP process is a concrete example that indeed food safety is a winnable battle.

As you are aware the mission of the Conference for Food Protection (CFP/Conference) is to promote food safety through collaboration and partnership among federal, state, and local regulatory agencies; the food industry; academia; and consumer organizations. The three Councils deliberated on a total of 117 issues. Of these, the Assembly of State Delegates (a group of representatives from 44 States, the District of Columbia, and the territory of Guam) accepted 116 of the Councils' recommendations. There were four Issues that pertained to USDA-FSIS

As described in the Conference Procedures and addressed in our MOU with USDA, the Conference Chair must convey any recommendations related to the USDA and request written response from the USDA to those recommendations within 60 days of receipt.

The following are the aforementioned issues with a brief recommendation for your consideration:

30 Elliott Court, Martinsville, IN 46151-1331 • Telephone: 317-696-0573  
E-mail: [dmcswane.cfp@gmail.com](mailto:dmcswane.cfp@gmail.com) • Web site: [www.foodprotect.org](http://www.foodprotect.org)  
**Remit Payment To:** 4307 SE Oak Street, Portland, OR 97215

### **2016- I-038 Raw Animal Foods – Consumer Advisory**

The Conference requests that USDA, in conjunction with FDA and CDC, conducts a focus group to reevaluate consumer advisory language and methodology to determine what is meaningful to the consumer. Report back the findings to the CFP at the next biennial meeting in 2018.

### **2016- I-039 Addition of New Food Code section: Grinding Logs**

The Assembly of State Delegates instructs the Chair of the Conference to send a letter to USDA-FSIS requesting:

1. Training be developed and provided to state and local retail regulators on the grinding log rule and public health reasons, preferably available online.
2. Provide the Conference for Food Protection with a detailed strategy of its plan for enforcing the regulation including answers to the following:
  - a. Discussion of the role of state and local regulators in enforcing grinding log rule.
  - b. Approach for state and local regulators to report potential violations of the grinding log rule to USDA FSIS including either a national reporting line or list to whom each state should refer complaints.
  - c. Discussion of how funding will be provided to state and local regulators in enforcing grinding logs.
  - d. Strategy for outreach and training to state and local regulators in enforcing grinding logs.

### **2016-III-022 Slow Continuous Cooking of Raw Animal Foods**

The Assembly of State Delegates instructs the Chair of the Conference to send a letter to FDA CFSAN and USDA-FSIS requesting they evaluate the cooking temperatures in FDA Food Code sections 3-401.11 (A-C) and 3-401.13 and any other related or affected sections regarding the concerns that food establishment operators have about food that dwells in the temperature danger zone for times that are hazardous for foodborne illness pathogens and their toxins. The Conference further requests that the FDA and/or USDA consider presenting Issue(s) to the 2018 CFP biennial meeting that helps minimize this foodborne illness concern.

### **2016-III-036 “Intended Use” for Raw Beef Source Materials**

The Assembly of State Delegates instructs the Chair of the Conference to send a letter to USDA FSIS asking the agency to discuss better ways to label intact beef products so retailers will not use these products in raw non-intact beef products at retail.

USDA’s support of and cooperation with the Conference through the years has resulted in an improved regulatory process and increased efforts toward food safety. The CFP Executive Board looks forward to continuing this same collaboration with USDA in the coming months and years. With such a productive partnership, we expect to continue the great progress of the past.

Daniel L. Engeljohn, PhD  
USDA - FSIS  
May 27, 2016  
Page 3

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patrick Guzzle", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Patrick Guzzle, Chair  
Conference for Food Protection

Cc: William K. Shaw, Jr. PhD  
Director, Risk, Innovations, and Management Staff, USDA/FSIS/OPPD  
CFP Executive Board