



Sanderson Farms, Inc.

FOODS DIVISION

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November 12, 2001

Docket Clerk
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Food Safety and Inspection Service
300 12th Street, SW
Room 102 Cotton Annex
Washington, DC 20250

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01-030N
01-030N-110
Paul Billingsley

Re: Docket number 01-030N
Industry Petition to Postpone the Effective Date of Regulations Limiting and
Requiring Labeling for Retained Water in Raw Meat and Poultry Products

The following comments are submitted in support of the above referenced industry petition:

This rule if implemented without a postponement could seriously undermine numerous strides made in the area of food safety. Submersion chilling is a process, which has aided the industry in its ability to meet and exceed micro-biological standards. Careful study must be conducted and documented to ensure time and temperature as well as micro standards continue to be met.

I ask that you review the date you have proposed and make the informed decision to place food safety and the public in the forefront.

Sincerely,

Paul Billingsley
Division Manager