



Wisconsin River Meats

N5340 N. Hwy HH
Mauston, Wisconsin
53948
(608) 847-7413

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FSIS DOCKET ROOM

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Fax (608) 847-3723

www.wisconsinrivermeats.com

FSIS Docket Clerk
Docket #03-0251F
102 Cotton Annex
300 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20250

Dear Sirs,

We are commenting on docket #03-0551F. Our first comment is on calling Beef Round Casings a specific risk material. These should not be designated SRM's. Evidence linking them with BSE is sketchy at best and there is no scientific evidence linking them with BSE. Beef Round Casings are a traditional casing here in Wisconsin for Ring Bologna and Smoked Sausage and banning their use will have a significant negative impact on a popular regional food entrée.

The ban on non Ambulatory cattle also has a negative impact on Wisconsin agriculture. We believe an exemption should be created so the owners of freshly injured livestock could have them processed for use at the owners home.

There is no reason that freshly injured beef are at any higher risk for BSE than any other beef, - and banning them from slaughter only puts an additional financial burden on farmers.

Sincerely,

John D. Hamm
President

Wisconsin River Brands, Inc.