

## NATIONAL CATTLEMEN'S BEEF ASSOCIATION

1301 Pennsylvania Ave., NW Suite 300 • Washington, DC 20004-1701 • 202-347-0228

May 7, 2004

FSIS Docket Clerk Room 102, Cotton Annex 300 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW Washington, DC 20250



Re: Docket No. 03-038IF "Meat Produced by Advanced Meat/Bone Separation Machinery and Meat Recovery (AMR) Systems"

Dear Docket Clerk:

On behalf of the National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) I want to express our appreciation for the opportunity to comment on the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) Docket No. 03-038IF "Meat Produced by Advanced Meat/Bone Separation Machinery and Meat Recovery (AMR) Systems." Producer-directed and consumer-focused, the National Cattlemen's Beef Association is the trade association of America's cattle farmers and ranchers, and the marketing organization for the largest segment of the nation's food and fiber industry.

NCBA supports this interim final rule and urges its adoption as a final rule. AMR is a process that when conducted following these regulations and proper industry practices, is safe.

Thank you for considering our comments.

Sincerely,

Jan Lyons President