

Verification Plans

A. Verification Plan Design

A verification plan (VP) is to be developed the EIAO in conjunction with the in-plant inspection team when a decision is made by the District Manager to defer enforcement following the issuance of a NOIE, or a decision is made District Manager to hold a suspension in abeyance following the suspension of the assignment of inspection personnel. The VP provides a systematic means for FSIS to verify that an establishment is effectively implementing the corrective measures that were proffered to FSIS. The EIAO has the primary responsibility for preparing the written verification plan. However, the EIAO is to work with the in-plant inspection team, including the Frontline Supervisor, in the development of the VP. The VP should be referenced in the deferral or abeyance letter issued to the establishment.

The VP is to:

1. Describe the verification activities that will be performed by inspection personnel based on the establishment's corrective measures.
2. List the ISP procedure code associated with each verification activity that will be carried out by the inspection team.
3. List the regulatory cite associated with each verification activity.
4. Be developed so that the verification activities identified in the VP are performed as part of scheduled PBIS procedures.

B. Verification of Establishment's Corrective Measures

1. On a weekly basis the in-plant team is to report via e-mail to the District Office the results of the activities conducted under the VP.
2. The in-plant inspection team has the flexibility to increase the frequency of the verification activities based on its findings. The in-plant team may request that the EIAO conduct a follow-up visit to an establishment that has had an enforcement action deferred or is under a suspension action that is held in abeyance to determine the overall effectiveness of the establishment's corrective measures.
3. Also, the in-plant team may request a visit at the end of the deferral or abeyance period to determine whether the action should be closed. This is in addition to the daily verification activities done by the in-plant team using the VP.