

**Summary of  
Certifying Beef Products under Export Verification Programs  
FSIS Notice 09-06**

**Purpose**

This notice provides the Food Safety and Inspection Service personnel with instructions related to the FSIS certification process for meat products exported under EV programs. This notice instructs FSIS personnel to verify, in addition to other requirements, that the Applicant provides a signed document from the Agricultural Marketing Service stating that all EV requirements have been met by the establishment and suppliers of the product intended for export.

**Background**

The Audit, Review and Compliance Branch of AMS has been assigned the responsibility for reviewing and approving companies as eligible suppliers of meat and meat products under the USDA Export Verification programs. The EV programs outline the specified product requirements for individual countries.

**EV Approval Process for Establishments**

1. The establishment will request to be audited by AMS for EV approval.
2. AMS will notify the Technical Service Center.
3. The TSC will notify the District Office, determined by the location of the facility.
4. When the establishment passes the initial audit and is approved for an EV program, AMS will send a copy of the approved products to the TSC.
5. The TSC will then notify the District Office of the approval of the establishment.
6. AMS requires that the approved establishment maintain a copy all EV Program Audits Reports in its records.
7. The establishment is required, as part of the EV approval process, to discuss the audit reports with FSIS Inspection Personnel during a weekly PBIS meeting **prior** to the first EV export.
8. If a plant is delisted, AMS will notify the TSC and the TSC will notify the DO.
9. The District Office will then notify the affected FSIS Inspection Personnel.

**Inspection Verification Procedures for EV Programs**

1. Determine if the establishment has an approved EV Program during the weekly PSIS meeting.
2. Know the location and content of the approved EV Program to perform verification activities.
3. If the establishment receives meat or meat products from a supplier, determine through records if the supplier has an approved EV Program. The establishment is required to maintain these records and make them available to inspection personnel.
4. If there are concerns about the establishment properly executing the approved EV Program, notify AMS, with a cc to the immediate supervisor and the TSC.

### **Inspection Verification Procedures for Exported Product**

Upon receipt of FSIS Form 9060-6 from the Applicant, the inspection program employee performs the verification procedures outlined in FSIS Directive 9000.1, Rev. 1. and:

1. Verifies that the establishment is on the AMS EV approval list to export product to the importing country.
2. Determines that the product is derived from cattle slaughtered **after** the establishment received AMS approval.
3. Verifies that each product listed on the FSIS Form 9060-6 is eligible for export to the importing country.
4. After determining that all requirements have been met, re-inspects the product as described in FSIS Directive 9040.1, Rev. 3.
5. If FSIS Form 9060-6 and the re-inspection of product are acceptable, issues FSIS Form 9060-5.

### **Additional Requirements for the Certifying Official**

As part of the EV approved program, prior to the Certifying Official signing the FSIS Form 9060-5, the establishment **must** receive a letter from AMS confirming that all the EV Program requirements have been.

Required documents that the establishment must provide to the Certifying Official,

1. The original FSIS Form 9060-5
2. All certificates, supporting documentation, and Letterhead Certificates (if required by importing country)
3. Copy of the AMS Letter confirming that all requirements have been met

### **Inspection Responsibilities when Application or Product is unacceptable**

1. Do not sign the FSIS Forms.
2. Notify the establishment.
3. Document the notification in a Memorandum of Interview.
4. Maintain copies of documents and Memorandum of Interview in government file.

For additional information regarding this Notice or specific questions contact the TSC.