NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AND CONSUMER SERVICES
MEAT AND POULTRY INSPECTION DIVISION
Raleigh, North Carolina

Steve Troxler, Commissioner

MPID NOTICE	**3-23**	**01-30-23**

LABEL APPROVAL PROTOCOL FOR STATE INSPECTED ESTABLISHMENTS

I. PURPOSE:

This notice is being issued to provide instructions for label approvals in State Inspected Establishments. Reserved regulations were removed and a hyperlink was updated.

II. CANCELLATION:

This notice cancels MPID Notice 2-22 dated 02-14-22.

III. REFERENCES:

9 CFR 412.

IV. DEFINITIONS:

Label – a display of written, printed or graphic matter upon the immediate container (not including package liners) or any article.

V. PROCEDURE:

A. The Inspector-in-Charge (IIC) is responsible for verifying that the establishment is maintaining a label approval file. This file must contain current copies of all labels used by the establishment.

B. State Inspected Establishments are responsible for approving their own labels and those labels that may be generically approved per 9 CFR 412.

C. The following label requests must be approved by the Raleigh Office prior to use:

1. Labels for temporary approval,
2. Labels for products prepared under religious exemption,
3. Labels with special statements and claims. Special statements and claims are explained in detail in an FSIS Compliance Guideline for Label Approval.

D. Any supporting documentation required, such as documentation to substantiate a claim made on the product label, must be submitted along with MPIS Form 11.

E. When labels do not meet the requirements to be generically approved, the following steps must be followed prior to use of the label:

1. The establishment submits label approval requests to their IIC.
2. The IIC then checks the MPIS Form-11, proposed label and any applicable supporting documentation for compliance. If no noncompliance or inaccuracy is noted, the IIC signs the form where indicated and submits these documents to their supervisor. If noncompliance or inaccuracy exists, the IIC returns the form and supporting documentation to the establishment for correction.
3. The Area Supervisor reviews the label submittal information. If they are satisfied it meets regulatory requirements, the supervisor initials the MPIS Form-11 and submits it and the attachments to their supervisor in the Raleigh Office for approval. These items may be submitted via U.S. Mail or another postal carrier or emailed.
4. Once received by the Raleigh Office, the label will be reviewed for acceptability by the appropriate Talmadage-Aiken Coordinator.
5. Approved labels and supporting documentations will be returned to the establishment via the Area Supervisor.

V. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: If you have any questions or need additional information, contact your supervisor.

Attachment:
MPIS Form 11

Dr. Karen Beck
State Director

DISTRIBUTION:	**SUBJECT CATEGORY:**
MPID Personnel	Processing