



JUL 19 2016

Ms. Amanda Hungerford  
The Humane Society of the United States  
2100 L Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20037

Dear Ms. Hungerford:

This is in response to your June 2, 2016, letter regarding the conditions your society discovered during an undercover investigation of Hillandale Farms, Inc., located at 272 Plains Road, in Turner, Maine. You stated that your society conducted an undercover investigation of this egg production facility between April 20 and May 20 of this year and found unsanitary conditions which you believe raise serious food safety concerns. Your letter outlined the conditions that were encountered and urged FDA to fully investigate the conditions at the Hillandale facility.

A review of our records indicates that this facility was last inspected by FDA in September 2010. During that inspection, our investigators noted the following observations:

- Failure to take adequate steps to assure that there is no introduction or transfer of SE into or among poultry houses.
- Failure to maintain records documenting compliance with biosecurity measures.
- Failure to document the monitoring of rodents and other pest control measures.

At the conclusion of the inspection, a discussion was held with Hillandale management regarding these observations, and management agreed to evaluate and correct the deficiencies. During the inspection, FDA investigators collected environmental samples from the poultry houses. The samples were analyzed for *Salmonella* Enteritidis by FDA, and all were negative. The inspection was classified by FDA as "voluntary action indicated." We received a letter dated October 22, 2010, from management at the Hillandale facility listing the status of repairs and corrective actions in response to our observations during the inspection. FDA's enforcement of the egg rule is ongoing, and a return visit to the Hillandale facility is planned.

Thank you for your letter and for bringing your concerns to our attention.

Sincerely,

John Sheehan, Esq.  
Director  
Division of Dairy, Egg and Meat Products  
Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition  
Office of Food Safety



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