



Animal Welfare Institute

900 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE, Washington, DC 20003
awionline.org phone: (202) 337-2332 fax: (202) 446-2131

August 4, 2020

Mr. Todd M. Furey
District Manager
USDA-FSIS, District 80
6020 Six Forks Road
Raleigh, NC 27609

Via electronic mail to Todd.Furey2@usda.gov

Re: Allen Harim Foods LLC (P935)

Dear Mr. Furey:

The Animal Welfare Institute (AWI) routinely requests and reviews humane handling records for all federal poultry and livestock plants. I am writing to express our concerns regarding the humane handling history of one poultry plant in your district: Allen Harim Foods LLC (P935) in Harbeson, Delaware.

According to the records provided to AWI by the FSIS FOIA office, in 2016-2018, your inspectors issued the Allen Harim plant a total of 38 Noncompliance Records and Memorandums of Interview for practice not consistent with poultry "good commercial practices" (GCP). This was the second highest GCP total for any US poultry plant during the three-year period (see attached list).

The rate of GCP records at the Allen Harim plant increased in 2019-2020. Since January 2019, your inspectors have issued the plant another 42 GCP records, more than any other plant in the country. (AWI has not yet received records for July to September 2019, so these 42 records were issued within just a 15-month period.) The records were issued for a variety of animal welfare concerns, including live birds entering the scalding tank, live birds buried in the DOA pile, loose and run-over birds in the unloading area, birds dying by suffocation or drowning, and workers intentionally abusing birds.

We respectfully request that your office investigate the humane handling situation at the Allen Harim plant in Harbeson, DE, and if you deem it appropriate, send the District Veterinary Medical Specialist to conduct a review.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dena Jones". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dena Jones
Farm Animal Program Director

Attachment



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Poultry Slaughter Plants with the Most GCP Records, 2016-2018*

Company Name	Plant Number	Plant Location	# of Records
Mar-Jac Poultry-MS	P517	Hattiesburg, MS	43
Allen Harim Foods	P935	Harbeson, DE	38
Simply Essentials Poultry**	P34668	Charles City, IA	35
Sanderson Farms	P51179	Palestine, TX	30
Tecumseh Poultry (Tyson Foods)	P20251	Tecumseh, NE	30
Equity Group-KY	P20245	Albany, KY	29
Simmons Foods**	P550	Decatur, AR	29
Tyson Foods***	P5842	Springdale, AR	29
Moroni Turkey Processing (Pitman Farms)	M751/P1049	Moroni, UT	27
Case Farms Processing	P419	Morganton, NC	26
Wayne Farms	P519	Laurel, MS	25
Jennie-O Turkey Store*** (Hormel Foods)	P544A	Melrose, MN	24
Jennie-O Turkey Store*** (Hormel Foods)	P579	Faribault, MN	23
OK Foods***	P165H	Heavener, OK	22
Pilgrim's Pride***	P1272	Douglas, GA	22
Tyson Foods***	P325	Center, TX	22
Perdue Farms***	P764	Salisbury, MD	19
Whitewater Processing	P1209	Harrison, OH	19
Southern Hens	P17766	Moselle, MS	18
George's Processing	P208	Springdale, AR	17
Northern Pride	P425	Thief River Falls, MN	17
Pilgrim's Pride***	P843	Marshville, NC	17
Mar-Jac Poultry-AL	P1307	Jasper, AL	16
Pilgrim's Pride***	P192	Guntersville, AL	16
Sanderson Farms	P34308	Waco, TX	16

*According to documents received by the Animal Welfare Institute in response to multiple Freedom of Information Act requests.

** Plant no longer operating.

*** Company—but not necessarily this particular plant—supplies chicken and/or turkey products to federal nutrition assistance programs (e.g., school lunch). (7/2020)