

POULTRY PROTEIN & FAT COUNCIL

U.S. POULTRY & EGG ASSOCIATION

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July 30, 2004

Division of Documents Management
(HFA-305)
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

RE: Extension of Comment Period
Docket No. 2004N-0264
Federal Measures to Mitigate BSE Risks: Consideration for
Further Action

Dear Sir or Madam:

We request a 60-day extension of the comment period for the referenced rule. We make this request so that we can supply reasonable, fact-based responses to several of the questions posed by FDA in the ANPR. Specific questions requiring more time than the current 30-day comment period are as follows:

Questions 12 and 14 regarding data supporting banning the use of Avian MBM (Poultry By-Product Meal or Chicken Meal) in ruminants, and the economic impact of such a ban.

We are currently polling our membership to provide a response to these questions, however, thirty days is simply inadequate for this task.

We appreciate your consideration of our request, and believe providing an extension will provide fact-based information for FDA decision-making.

Sincerely,

John E. Starkey, P.E.
Vice President – Environmental Programs
jstarkey@poultryegg.org

JES:eh