

Done in Washington, DC, this 24th day of February 2000.

**Bobby R. Acord,**

*Acting Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.*

[FR Doc. 00-5053 Filed 3-1-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-34-U

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Food Safety and Inspection Service

[Docket No. 00-006N]

#### Exemption for Retail Stores; Adjustment for Dollar Limitations

**AGENCY:** Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) has increased the limitation on annual sales of meat and meat food products by retail stores whose operations are exempt from Federal inspection. The dollar limitation for poultry products has been kept unchanged at \$39,000 for calendar year 2000. The dollar limitation for meat and meat food products has been increased from \$41,000 to \$42,500 for calendar year 2000. This increase conforms to the price change for meat and meat food products indicated by the Consumer Price Index.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** March 2, 2000.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Daniel L. Engeljohn, Ph.D., Director, Regulations Development and Analysis Division, Office of Policy, Program Development, and Evaluation, FSIS, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Room 112, Cotton Annex, 300 12th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20250, (202) 720-5627, fax number (202) 690-0486.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

##### Background

Under the regulations in 9 CFR 303.1(d) and 381.10(d), FSIS exempts certain operations of types traditionally and usually conducted at retail stores from routine Federal inspection of meat and poultry products. Whether a retail store operation qualifies for an exemption depends, in part, on the percentage and volume of trade in meat and poultry products that a retail store conducts with non-household consumers (hotels, restaurants, or similar institutions). The regulations state in dollars the annual maximum amount of meat and poultry products that a retail store may sell to non-household consumers if that store's operations are to remain exempt from inspection.

FSIS adjusts the dollar limitation during the first quarter of each calendar year if the Consumer Price Index, published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, indicates at least a \$500 increase or decrease in the price of the same volume of product during the previous year. FSIS publishes a notice of the adjusted dollar limitation in the *Federal Register*.

The Consumer Price Index for 1999 indicates an average annual price increase in meat and meat food products of 3.6 percent and an average annual price decrease in poultry products of 2.8 percent. When rounded off to the nearest \$100, the price increase for meat and meat food products amounts to \$1,500 and the price decrease for poultry products amounts to \$200. Prices of meat and meat food products, therefore, have changed in excess of \$500, and those of poultry have decreased by less than \$500. In accordance with §§ 303.1(d)(2)(iii)(b) and 381.10(d)(2)(iii)(b) of the regulations, FSIS has increased the dollar limitation of permitted sales of meat and meat food products from \$41,000 to \$42,500 and has kept the dollar limitation of permitted sales for poultry products at \$39,000.

#### Additional Public Notification

Public awareness of all segments of rulemaking and policy development is important. Consequently, in an effort to better ensure that minorities, women, and persons with disabilities are aware of this notice, FSIS will announce it and provide copies of this *Federal Register* publication in the FSIS Constituent Update. FSIS provides a weekly FSIS Constituent Update, which is communicated via fax to over 300 organizations and individuals. In addition, the update is available on line through the FSIS web page located at <http://www.fsis.usda.gov>. The update is used to provide information regarding FSIS policies, procedures, regulations, *Federal Register* notices, FSIS public meetings, recalls, and any other types of information that could affect or would be of interest to our constituents/stakeholders. The constituent fax list consists of industry, trade, and farm groups, consumer interest groups, allied health professionals, scientific professionals, and other individuals that have requested to be included. Through these various channels, FSIS is able to provide information to a much broader, more diverse audience. For more information and to be added to the constituent fax list, fax your request to the Congressional and Public Affairs Office, at (202) 720-5704.

Done at Washington, DC, on: February 24, 2000.

**Thomas J. Billy,**  
*Administrator.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Forest Service

#### Revision to Solitude Mountain Resort Master Development Plan Update, Wasatch-Cache National Forest, Salt Lake Ranger District, Salt Lake County, UT

**AGENCY:** Forest Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

**SUMMARY:** The Salt Lake Ranger District, of the Wasatch-Cache National Forest, will conduct a new public scoping process and prepare an EIS on Solitude Ski Resort's (Solitude) revised proposal to update their Master Development Plan.

**DATES:** Comments concerning the scope of the analysis should be received in writing by April 4, 2000.

**ADDRESSES:** Send written comments to Daniel J. Jiron, District Ranger, 6944 South 3000 East, Salt Lake City, Utah 84121.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Steve Scheid, Project Manager, (801) 733-2689.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Solitude is proposing to revise its Master Development Plan Update. During the spring and summer of 1995, Solitude Ski Resort submitted to the Forest Service an updated Master Development Plan (MDP) detailing proposed ski area and facility modifications. Public comment was initially solicited on August 4, 1995 through the issuance of a scoping document, followed by a public meeting on August 25, 1995. A second public scoping notice was issued for Solitude in July 1996, after the Forest Service determined that an EIS needed to be prepared. A public field review was also held in September 1997 to view and discuss proposed projects and potential alternatives for Solitude's MDP update.

The planning horizon for Solitude's original MDP update was approximately five years. Due to the substantial elapse of time (four years), there is now a need to extend the planning horizon of Solitude's MDP update. In addition, Solitude's desire to address public and Agency issues pertaining to their proposed facilities has resulted in a