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STATE OF COLORADO

COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
406 STATE SERVICES BUILDING
1525 SHERMAN STREET
DENVER, COLORADO 80203

April 3, 1980

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Mr. Al Bateman
10368 W. Baseline Road
Lafayette, CO 80026

Dear Mr. Bateman:

This letter is to clarify the terms of quarantine #20698 which I issued to you on January 28, 1980. A copy of this quarantine is enclosed.

It specifically prohibits the slaughter of these animals for human consumption because of excessive levels of poly-chlorinated biphenyls (PCB) in their tissues. The animals under restriction are one Angus cow and one black brockle-face steer. The concentration of pcb's found in fat biopsies from these two animals was higher than the allowable limit of 3 parts per million in animals killed for human consumption.

As you know this quarantine replaced one previously issued to you which restricted other animals in your possession also. The previous quarantine was lifted because laboratory analysis of fat biopsies from these animals showed pcb levels to be well below the 3ppm allowed.

Levels of pcb's in the two head still under restriction were 1.3ppm in the Angus cow and 5.5ppm in the black brockle-faced steer. I have reviewed the scientific literature on this subject and all indications are that the level of pcb's in these animals will probably never fall to acceptable limits. It appears that, for all practical purposes, the poly-chlorinated biphenyls are irreversibly bound to the tissues and no appreciable excretion can take place. It would therefore be my recommendation that these animals be destroyed and their carcasses disposed of under supervision in a sanitary landfill.

If you have any questions on this matter, please feel free to contact me at 839-2828.

Sincerely,

James M. Williams, DVM
Assistant State Veterinarian

Enclosure:

JMW/c

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