

This verification plan is designed to assist the FSIS inspection team in ensuring the establishment is following their submitted action plan in response to a Notice of Suspension issued on April 15, 2023, for an egregious incident involving an establishment employee’s use of an electric prod directly on the anus of a hog. This verification plan is to be implemented immediately and performed at the frequency indicated below.

The PHIS Livestock Humane Handling Verification Task should be entered as an inspector generated task (Directed) for these activities. **If the establishment decides to make any changes to corrective actions and/or preventative measures during the verification period, they will need to contact and inform the Specific District Office for approval (Mr. Great Guy, DM; Dr. Great Vet, DDM; Mr. Awesome Person DDM; Dr. Great DVMO, DVMO; Ms. Great Person, DCS; and Dr. Good Vet, FLS). Once those changes are accepted the verification plan will be revised prior to implementing proposed changes.**

Verification Activity	Livestock HH Task Regulation	HAT Activity	Frequency	FSIS Team Comment or NR #
1. Verify that all employees from the livestock area were given training on improper electric prod use and were instructed that they must absolutely avoid prod use on the anus, vagina, and testicles. To prevent any confusion, employees were instructed that any electric prod use must be on the back only. Verify that this training session was documented.  All records identified in this section shall be available for review by FSIS.	9 CFR 313.2(b)	Category VI	Once	
2. Verify that the establishment incorporates this new electric prod use training into their annual training materials to go along with their “Robust Systematic Approach to Humane Handling Program.”  All records identified in this section shall be available for review by FSIS.	9 CFR 313.2(b)	Category VI	Once	
3. Verify that the livestock foreman keeps a close eye on employees when they are using an electric prod. Verify that the monitor checks for improper use of prods. Employees are only to use electric prods on the back of an animal. Deviations will be indicated with an “X” over the number of the hog being checked. For the next week, the humane handling audit will be conducted daily. If all is acceptable, the establishment will conduct the audit twice a week for an additional month. If after that month the establishment feels comfortable that everyone is properly using the electric prod when the prod is the last resort, the establishment will resume their normal once a week humane handling audit.	9 CFR 313.2(b)	Category VI	Each occurrence	

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4. Verify that in the event there is an improper prodding, the employee is suspended, and if the establishment decides to bring the individual back after their suspension, that the employee is shadowed by either the livestock foreman or the execution hall foreman for a week.	9 CFR 313.2(b)	Category VI	Upon occurrence	
5. Verify that employees are using electric prods as a tool of last resort, and when applying them, are using them on the back of the animal and not in sensitive areas.	9 CFR 313.2(b)	Category VI	Each slaughter day	