



Dear AAFCO Member:

Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) is a potential serious health threat to ruminant animals in North America. The federal rule as defined in Title 21, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 589.2000, prohibits the feeding of certain animal protein products to cattle and other ruminants to prevent the spread and amplification of BSE. Most state feed regulatory programs are either conducting BSE inspections as part of their routine feed inspections or are under contract/partnership with FDA to conduct these inspections.

Some pet foods and treats contain or may contain animal protein products that are prohibited for use in ruminant feed. Salvaged and/or distressed pet foods have been used as a livestock feed or feed ingredient. There is a concern that salvaged and/or distressed pet food may be diverted as feed for ruminant animals. All of the pet food manufacturers in your state need to be made aware of the proper handling, labeling and use of salvaged or distressed pet foods.

The Pet Food Institute (PFI) has offered to assist state feed regulatory programs by providing information to the pet food manufacturers in your state on how to properly handle, label and use salvaged and/or distressed pet food. It is important to the entire pet food industry and the regulatory community to make certain that each firm and facility are handling these products in an appropriate manner. Recognizing our limited resources, I would encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity, if possible. I would also strongly recommend that you inspect or re-inspect these establishments to ensure compliance with the provisions of the BSE rule.

If you would like PFI's assistance in notifying your pet food manufacturers, retailers or distribution points, provide the name and address of any of these firms in your state. These establishments will be provided with information, appropriate for their operation. I have been assured that no membership solicitation will be included with any related materials.

Send any contacts to:

Ms. Nancy K. Cook  
Vice President, Technical & Regulatory Affairs  
Pet Food Institute  
2025 M Street NW, Suite 800  
Washington, D.C. 20036

You may send this information via hard copy (fax #202-367-2120), mail, or email to [pfi@dc.sba.com](mailto:pfi@dc.sba.com).

Sincerely,

John W. Breitsman  
AAFCO President

JB:mw