

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20508

NOV 19 2006

H.E. German Gref
Minister
Ministry of Economic Development and
Trade of the Russian Federation

Dear Minister Gref:

I was pleased to receive your letter confirming how the Russian Federation will apply certain provisions of our bilateral agreement concerning inspection and certification of slaughter, processing and cold storage facilities to be in the official list of facilities which are allowed to export poultry and poultry products and pork and pork products to the Russian Federation.

I appreciate your confirmation that taking into account that facilities included on the List of Certified Facilities (the List) permitted to ship pork and pork products for industrial use were already inspected for full implementation of the "Recommendations on Methods for the Control of Trichinella in Domestic and Wild Animals Intended for Human Consumption" of the International Commission on Trichinellosis on the method of low-temperature treatment (inactivation of trichinae by freezing), facilities that are on the List as of the date of the Agreement will also be permitted to export pork and pork products for retail sale and will not be treated as newly certified facilities for the purposes of the Agreement. You have also confirmed that facilities on the List will not need to be re-inspected before exporting pork and pork products for retail sale to the Russian Federation and that for the purpose of conducting joint audits under paragraph 6 of the Agreement, these facilities will be audited under the terms of sub-paragraph 6.3 of the Agreement.

Thank you for these assurances and please accept the assurances of my deepest respect.



Susan C. Schwab