

## **USDA Alleges Creekstone Farms Premium Beef, LLC, Violated the Packers and Stockyards Act**

WASHINGTON, April 22, 2008 - On April 7, 2008, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration filed a complaint against Creekstone Farms Premium Beef, LLC, of Arkansas City, Kansas. The complaint alleges that Creekstone operated while insolvent. Under the Packers and Stockyards Act, Creekstone must maintain a solvent financial condition. Solvency is defined as current liabilities exceeding current assets.

Creekstone buys and sells livestock in commerce for slaughter. It also manufactures and prepares meat and meat food products for sale or shipment in commerce.

If the allegations in the GIPSA complaint are admitted, or proven in an oral hearing, Creekstone could be ordered to cease and desist from violating the Act and assessed a civil penalty.

GIPSA ensures payment protection for livestock and poultry sellers by maintaining standards of financial stability for those engaged in the marketing of livestock, meat and poultry.

The Packers and Stockyards Act is a fair trade practice and payment protection law that promotes fair and competitive marketing environments for the livestock, meat, and poultry industries.

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