

Central Beef Ind., LLC is Assessed a Civil Penalty In the Amount of \$14,000

WASHINGTON, May 14, 2009 - On May 4, 2009, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) entered into a decision without hearing by reason of consent with Central Beef, Ind., LLC (Central Beef), Center Hill, Florida.

Central Beef has been ordered to cease and desist from purchasing livestock and failing to pay sellers, in a timely manner, for livestock purchases. They have also been assessed a civil penalty in the amount of \$14,000.

The decision resolves charges that were filed on April 1, 2009, in which GIPSA alleged that Central Beef purchased livestock and failed to pay sellers, in a timely manner, for livestock purchases.

Central Beef buys livestock in commerce for purposes of slaughter; is in the business of slaughtering cattle and manufacturing or preparing meat or meat products for sale or shipment in commerce; and is a packer subject to the Packers and Stockyards (P&S) Act.

The P&S 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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