



## **National Beef Packing Co. LLC Livestock Handling Policy**

December 11, 2014

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Humane handling of livestock from the time they arrive at a National Beef Packing Co. LLC facility, through the receiving, stunning and bleeding process is of the utmost importance to our company. Not only do we consider it our moral duty to treat all animals humanely; it is dictated for all slaughter facilities by the Humane Slaughter Act of 1978. There are additional benefits of ensuring an animal's well being, which include worker safety and continued high meat quality

All employees of National Beef Packing Co. LLC handling livestock go through an intensive "Humane Handling" training class and are audited by both In-house and outside auditors on a regular basis to ensure that they are treating all livestock in a humane manner throughout our entire process. The following are some specific company requirements regarding the humane handling of livestock:

1. Livestock are unloaded and driven in a manner to ensure low stress handling and unnecessary crowding in the holding pens. Electric prods are not allowed to be used or carried by National Beef employees or Cattle Haulers at the receiving dock or holding pens.
2. National Beef approved motivating tools (rattle paddles, flags and pom-poms only) may be used to move cattle to ensure low-stress handling. National Beef employees rely on positioning and eye contact to move cattle through the process. Electric prods may be used as only as cattle enter the restrainer and only as a last resort.
3. Conscious non-ambulatory livestock are humanely euthanized and rendered insensible (knocked) prior to being moved and handled according to plant policy.
4. All fully ambulatory cattle are knocked and rendered insensible prior to shackling, sticking and bleeding.
5. Audits are routinely conducted to ensure plant compliance to National Beef's Cattle Welfare Program and USDA regulations.

National Beef employee(s) who deviate from the National Beef Cattle Welfare Program are subject to disciplinary action up to and including immediate discharge. Cattle Hauler(s) found to be deviating from the National Beef Cattle Welfare Program are removed from the facility and their company suspended until sufficient corrective and preventative action(s) are received, reviewed and approved by National Beef.