



To: School District Superintendents

From: Chas Anderson
Deputy Commissioner

Date: February 4, 2008

Subject: Additional Information for Beef HOLD

Last week, the United States Department of Agriculture announced that it has indefinitely suspended Westland Hallmark Meat Company as a supplier to federal food and nutrition programs. Following USDA directions, the Minnesota Department of Education placed a hold on all beef products from this supplier and asked Minnesota school districts to do the same.

Following that announcement, we immediately began the process of contacting distributors, producers and school districts to identify Minnesota school districts that may have received this beef.

Through those efforts, we have compiled the attached list of school districts and schools we believe have potentially received beef from Westland Hallmark. We will update this list as we continue to identify districts that have received this product. An updated list will remain posted at: www.education.state.mn.us.

Regardless of whether your district is on this list, we encourage you to call your broker or distributor to identify any Westland Hallmark meat you may have received and take appropriate action.

If you have any changes to this list regarding your district or if you have placed a HOLD on beef products, please contact fns@state.mn.us.

It is important to note that no illness has been reported from this product. But, out of an abundance of caution, it is important that we all work together to isolate this product.