

From: Kevin Watt <kevinawatt@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 23, 2009 12:00 PM
To: ATR-Agricultural Workshops <agriculturalworkshops@usdoj.gov>
Subject: Comment

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Kevin Watt and I am a new farmer. I am gravely concerned by the lack of small to medium scale slaughtering facilities in my area and the overwhelming regulations that make it hard for a farm of my size to compete.

I hold a master's degree in Political Science, and so I understand the forces that have influenced the creation of regulations, namely the incredible power of organized and well-funded political action groups. As such I am wary of more regulations as a solution.

My suggestion to you would be to develop a cut-off point where educated individuals and small farmers can choose to have a transaction without the added cost, time, and often quality-decreasing procedures that go along with regulations that were intended for larger corporate producers.

My Thanks,
Kevin