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Dear Don Lee Farms customers:

Lean Finely Textured Beef (LFTB) is a permissible ingredient in the USDA commodity specification. As LFTB is considered to be a meat ingredient, it is not required to be identified on the label of the incoming raw material that Don Lee Farms receives for further processing. USDA is the best source of information as to whether an approved vendor to the USDA Foods has LFTB as part of their formulation. Don Lee Farms does NOT add LFTB to any of the further processed items that we supply to schools across the United States.

We have several resource materials that have been made available to us by USDA and others related to the safety and wholesomeness of LFTB which we are glad to supply you upon request.

We recognize the difficult position that you are placed in with the media attention and are eager to assist you in any way that we can. However the specification for the USDA commodity beef is set by USDA—not the further processors.

We suggest that you contact either Martin O'Connor with the Agricultural Marketing Service (Technical Specifications, Invitations to AMS Vendors and Awards to AMS Vendors) at 202-720-7046 or Laura Castro, Director of Food Distribution Division who handles all orders of USDA Foods 703-305-2680.

Suzanne Boutros,

Technical Services