|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Establishment Number** | **Establishment Name** | **Inspection Date** | **Description** |
| M45471+P45471 | New Angus, LLC | 3-Apr-23 | At 6:00 am, Food Inspector (FI) REDACTED was conducting antemortem Inspection HATS IV. FI REDACTED called to inform me that the barn conditions were excessively foggy, humid, and hot with elevated ammonia. FI REDACTED reported that the visibility was too low to continue antemortem inspection and reported three dead cattle, two dead in pen 5 and one in pen 13. I instructed her to move to an area with more visibility and less fog and to have the plant walk the cattle past her from there. I also talked to the plant employee doing antemortem inspection with FI REDACTED, he informed me that the fans and the Air Make UP unit (AMU) were not working when he arrived, but they were able to lower curtains and turn fans on. FI REDACTED called back at 6:30 am, because she was still having difficulty seeing cattle and FSIS was forced to delay further antemortem inspection. At 7:00 am, I arrived at the barn to conduct antemortem inspection and discovered an additional dead steer in pen 14. Additionally, some of the cattle throughout the barn were open mouth breathing, indicating respiratory distress. The barn and pens were full of fed cattle. There were 750 steers and heifers. The pen cards indicated unloading times from 5:00 pm to 8:15 pm the night prior. At post-mortem inspection, there were no significant pathologic findings that would indicate an increased prevalence of disease among the pens where dead animals were found during antemortem.  I spoke with the Director of Technical Operations REDACTED, who informed me that the fans and AMU malfunctioned about 4:00 am that morning. The temperature, humidity and ammonia built up to a point where the lack of fresh air may have contributed to four animals dying. On 04/04/2023, I finished reviewing the antemortem, postmortem, and historical dead numbers recorded for this establishment. The spike in dead animals on 04/03/2023 exceeds historical expectations; pathology among corresponding groups does not indicate disease prevalence; and my observations of respiratory distress indicate that the increase in dead animals was caused by the failure of the establishments air management system. This is a noncompliance with 9 CFR 313.2(a). On 04/04/2023, I informed the Barn Supervisor REDACTED that a noncompliance report would be issued for the noncompliance. |