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The Wyoming Department of Agriculture is dedicated to the promotion and enhancement of Wyoming's agriculture, natural resources and quality of life.

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Recalled Beef Products May Be In Wyoming

CHEYENNE (August 11, 2009) – Beef Packers, Inc., a Fresno, Calif., establishment, is recalling approximately 825,769 pounds of ground beef products that may be linked to an outbreak of salmonellosis, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) announced.

According to the USDA, the California beef company is recalling products from June 5<sup>th</sup> to the 23<sup>rd</sup> and carries the establishment number 31913, is believed to be linked to the outbreak. The ground beef products were distributed to retail distribution centers in Arizona, California, Colorado and Utah and could be in Wyoming. Because these products were repackaged into consumer-size packages and sold under different retail brand names, consumers should check with their local retailer to determine whether they may have purchased any of the products subject to recall.

Consumption of food contaminated with *Salmonella* can cause salmonellosis, one of the most common bacterial foodborne illnesses. *Salmonella* infections can be life-threatening, especially to those with weak immune systems, such as infants, the elderly, and persons with HIV infection or undergoing chemotherapy. The most common manifestations of salmonellosis are diarrhea, abdominal cramps, and fever within eight to 72 hours. Additional symptoms may be chills, headache, nausea and vomiting that can last up to seven days.

Consumers with questions about the recall should contact the company's Consumer Line at (877) 872-3635. Media with questions should contact company Director of Communications Rebecca Hayne (316) 291-2126.

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