
RESOLUTION NUMBER: 21 **Approved**

SOURCE: **COMMITTEE ON SWINE**

SUBJECT MATTER: **African Swine Fever Hour 73: Planning Options for Resumption of Movement following 72-hour National Movement Standstill**

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

In any one day, the swine industry moves over a million pigs. If African swine fever (ASF) was introduced into this scenario, it could be distributed across the United States in a very short period of time. Upon the initial introduction of ASF, the current policy is to institute a 72-hour standstill order.

The 72-hour standstill is intended to accomplish several goals:

- Stop movements to slow any further spread of disease.
- Allow producers and other entities involved with production, time to address biosecurity and if any changes are needed after movement resumes.
- Allow regulatory officials time to do epidemiological tracing on the infected premises and identify the appropriate control areas to establish when the 72-hour standstill expires.

It is also understood that a standstill order will create other consequences. The COVID-19 pandemic provided the lesson that we can stop movement, but it must be resumed as soon as possible to not create a significant cascade of negative impacts on swine production sites.

RESOLUTION:

The United States Animal Health Association recommends the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services adopt the following policy changes to minimize negative consequences of the 72-hour National Movement Standstill.

Hour 73 Swine Slaughter Establishments in Free Areas

After the 72-hour National Movement Standstill, at Hour 73, slaughter establishments in the Free Area should be removed from any extended national standstill order and be allowed to resume operations.

[continued]

Hour 73 Scenarios for Production Premises (*dependent upon circumstances of the outbreak*)

- Continue National Movement Standstill for an additional period beyond hour 73 exempting swine movement to slaughter establishments in free areas.
- End the 72-hour National Movement Standstill at Hour 73.
 - Premises in free areas resume intrastate and interstate commerce at Hour 73 without permits unless movement is into an established control area.
 - Premises in established control areas need permits for intrastate and interstate commerce.
- Establish a smaller geographical or jurisdictional movement standstill area (such as part of a state, or an entire state, or a region) for intrastate and/or interstate commerce at Hour 73.
 - Premises in free areas resume intrastate and interstate commerce at Hour 73 without permits unless movement is into an established control area.
 - Premises in established control areas need permits for intrastate and interstate commerce.

USDA APHIS INTERIM RESPONSE:

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services (VS) recognizes the concerns of the United States Animal Health Association (USAHA) and appreciates the opportunity to respond.

APHIS is currently updating the draft National Movement Standstill requirements and will incorporate Hour 73 response options into APHIS, State, and private sector response planning. USDA APHIS will also remove slaughter establishments in the Free Area from any extended National Movement Standstill order at Hour 73. APHIS agrees that a stop movement of swine to harvest establishments in Free Areas longer than the initial 72-hour National Movement Standstill could result in significant problems and harm for non-infected production premises in Free Areas.

USDA APHIS also agrees to consider adding the two options listed in the resolution, for production premises, to APHIS, State, and private sector response plans. APHIS will continue discussions on these recommendations as well as additional Hour 73 options with USAHA Swine Committee and stakeholders.