



Moat House, Dutton Road, Coventry CV2 2LE T: 024 7684 3880

The Rt. Hon Alistair Carmichael MP
Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (EFRA) Committee
House of Commons,
London,
SW1A 0AA

CC: Emily Miles, Director General for Food, Biosecurity and Trade & Christine Middlemiss, Chief Veterinary Officer, UK, DEFRA

Sent by email

Subject: Urgent Request for Decision on Regionalisation Following Foot and Mouth Case in Brandenburg State, Germany

12th March 2025

Dear Mr Carmichael,

I write to you on behalf of CPC Foods Ltd, the UK subsidiary of Premium Food Group, a leading pork producer in Germany, to formally express our concerns regarding the continued restrictions on pork exports from Germany to the United Kingdom. These restrictions have been in place since January 10th, following a single, isolated case of foot and mouth disease in Brandenburg State. Notably, the European Union has formally recognised regionalisation in this matter, allowing trade from unaffected areas to resume.

We acknowledge the necessity of rigorous biosecurity measures and due diligence in risk assessments. However, we are increasingly concerned by the prolonged timeline in which the UK has yet to provide a definitive position regarding the recognition of regionalisation. The extensive epidemiological evidence submitted should serve as a sufficient scientific foundation to support such recognition, consistent with international trade and disease control protocols.

The delay in the UK's decision-making process is resulting in excessive commercial detriment, including substantial financial losses and significant disruptions to the pork supply chain. Moreover, these restrictions are adversely impacting the availability of pork materials in the UK market, with potential ramifications for UK businesses and consumers alike. Given these commercial and economic implications, balanced against the weight of scientific evidence; we urge DEFRA to expedite its assessment and issue a determination regarding the recognition of regionalisation without further undue delay.



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In light of the above, we respectfully request an immediate update on the status of DEFRA's review, including an estimated timeline for a final decision. We remain fully committed to compliance with all relevant regulatory and biosecurity standards and stand ready to engage with UK authorities to facilitate a timely resolution of this matter.

We trust that DEFRA will give this issue the urgent consideration it warrants, and we look forward to receiving your prompt response.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Sh", is positioned above the name Simon Hewitt.

Simon Hewitt

Group Dir. of Technical and ESG

On behalf of CPC Foods Ltd, and Premium Food Group GmbH