



DATE: March 11, 2010

TO: All Local Health Departments
Attn: Chief Food Inspection Officer

FROM: ^{ASG} A. Scott Gilliam, MBA, CP-FS
Director, Food Protection Program

SUBJECT: Ruiz Foods Inc Recall

SUGGESTED

ACTION: Class I Recall; Ready-To-Eat Beef Product Due to Possible *Salmonella* Contamination; Recommend notification of affected stores via phone, fax or e-mail.

From the information provided by USDA, the product being recalled was distributed in the State of Indiana. Ruiz Foods, Inc. distributes RTE beef product nationwide to retail and food service establishments. Only those products distributed for retail sale are subject to recall. Detail information is not available at this time. In addition, if any recalled product is found, please notify this office at 317-233-7360.

Texas Firm Recalls Ready-To-Eat Beef Product due to Possible *Salmonella* Contamination

Recall Release
FSIS-RC-016-2010
Congressional and Public Affairs
(202) 720-9113
Catherine Cochran

**CLASS I RECALL
HEALTH RISK: HIGH**

WASHINGTON, March 9, 2010 - Ruiz Foods, Inc., a Denison, Texas establishment, is recalling approximately 115,700 pounds of a ready-to-eat (RTE) beef product that may be contaminated with *Salmonella*. The packages of beef product contain as an ingredient the specific Hydrolyzed Vegetable Protein (HVP), which was previously recalled, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) announced today.

Due to potential Salmonella contamination, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) announced a recall of the HVP product on **March 4, 2010**. A recall of the beef product was warranted because the HVP ingredient was added

after Salmonella prevention steps were applied.

The products subject to recall include: [\[View Labels\]](#)

- 8.4 ounce boxes of "TORNADOS RANCHERO BEEF & CHEESE."

Each box contains 3 Tornados. "Est. 17523A" and code numbers "09357," "10023," "10028," "10030," "10031," or "10032" are ink jetted on the side panel. The RTE product was produced on Dec. 23, 2009, Jan. 23, 2010, Jan. 28, 2010, Jan. 30, 2010, Jan. 31, 2010, and Feb. 1, 2010.

Ruiz Foods, Inc. distributes RTE beef product nationwide to retail and food service establishments. Only those products distributed for retail sale are subject to recall. All product distributed to food service establishments undergoes a lethality treatment to kill Salmonella before consumption. FSIS has received no reports of illnesses associated with the consumption of these products. Individuals concerned about an illness should contact a physician.

According to FDA's March 4, 2010 release, FDA conducted an investigation after a customer of an FDA regulated firm reported finding *Salmonella* in the HVP ingredient. This resulted in the subsequent recall of the contaminated HVP products.

FSIS routinely conducts recall effectiveness checks to verify recalling firms notify their customers of the recall and that steps are taken to make certain that the product is no longer available to consumers.

Consumers with questions regarding the recall should contact the company's Consumer Line at 1-800-SPANISH or 1-800-772-6474 . Media with questions regarding the recall should contact Pat Summers, Media/Public Relations Representative, at (559) 222-7100.

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 food safety questions can "Ask Karen," the FSIS virtual representative available 24 hours a day at AskKaren.gov. The toll-free USDA Meat and Poultry Hotline 1-888-MPHotline (1-888-674-6854) is available in English and Spanish and can be reached from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (Eastern Time) Monday through Friday. Recorded food safety messages are available 24 hours a day.

TORNADOS

A WHIRLWIND OF FLAVOR!



RANCHERO BEEF & CHEESE

BEEF AND CHEESE IN A SEASONED BATTERED TORTILLA
TEXTURED VEGETABLE PROTEIN ADDED

3 TORNADOS

NET WT 8.4 OZ (238 g)

TORNADOS

A WHIRLWIND OF FLAVOR!

10028 X 15:51 Est. 17523A
Best if used by 01/28/11