



Petition in Opposition to the National Animal Identification System (NAIS)

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is attempting to require all U.S. livestock owners to register their private property – their premises – in a national premises registry under the National Animal Identification System (NAIS). The NAIS has not been authorized by Congress, and while USDA publicly states that premises registration under the NAIS is *voluntary*, the agency recently *mandated* premises registration for U.S. livestock & poultry owners when: 1) activities are performed on their property by a State or Federal animal health authority or accredited veterinarian for any regulated disease; and, 2) when Federal funds are used to support USDA animal disease programs.

USDA's new premises registration policy effectively makes the NAIS and its requisite premises registration mandatory. USDA has achieved this feat unlawfully because it did not first conduct a rulemaking to amend its animal disease regulations, which currently *do not* require premises registration. USDA's aggressive efforts to implement premises registration under NAIS are being conducted without congressional authority, in contradiction of current regulations, in violation of the agency's rulemaking obligations, and in violation of the private property rights of U.S. livestock owners.

We, the undersigned Citizens of the United States of America, urge the States and Congress to take immediate action to halt USDA's unauthorized implementation of the NAIS, which includes the unauthorized registration of U.S. livestock owners' premises.

Name: _____ Signature: _____
(please print)

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____ Own Cattle: Yes No

Name: _____ Signature: _____
(please print)

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____ Own Cattle: Yes No

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