

EL POLLO LOCO HOLDINGS, INC. ANIMAL WELFARE POLICY

Last Updated: March 23, 2017

El Pollo Loco Holdings, Inc. (“we”, “us”, or “EPL”) is committed to a high standard of animal welfare. EPL’s principal food product is chicken. While EPL does not own, raise, breed, process or transport chickens, we recognize that animal welfare is an important part of a safe and sustainable food supply chain. And, like many of our stakeholders, we care about the way animals, including chickens, are raised and treated.

EPL is committed to purchasing chickens from suppliers that treat their animals in accordance with applicable laws, including USDA guidelines, and in accordance with certain animal welfare guidelines established by applicable industry associations such as the National Chicken Council (“NCC”). EPL has a quality assurance team that ensures all of its poultry suppliers undergo animal welfare audits in accordance with the audit program recommended by the NCC, the association representing most of the vertically integrated broiler producer-processors. In 2016, 100% of our poultry suppliers passed their third party animal welfare audits. The NCC’s animal welfare guidelines ensure proper nutrition and feeding, appropriate comfort and shelter, health care and monitoring, and best practices from grow-out to processing.

EPL sources other finished product proteins from further processors that require certification and reporting of their suppliers to demonstrate compliance with requirements and guidelines including: (i) the Humane Methods of Slaughter Act of 1978, (ii) Part 313 of Title 9 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Humane Slaughter of Livestock, (iii) Food Safety and Inspection Service (“FSIS”) Directive 6900.2, Revision 2 (8/15/11), and (iv) North American Meat Institute (“NAMI”) guidelines.

As part of our commitment to animal welfare, EPL has an established Animal Welfare Council comprised of internal quality assurance, supply chain, legal, and marketing personnel, as well as external subject matter experts from industry and academia, including a third-party consultant who is completing auditor certification with the Professional Animal Auditor Certification Organization, Inc. (“PAACO”) in 2017. We intend to further expand participation with industry associations for the latest animal welfare advancements.

EPL is in close contact with poultry suppliers who are actively reviewing and evaluating improved technologies and methods of poultry care and processing.

In conclusion, EPL strongly supports the humane treatment of animals, and will continue to strive to live up to its Mission Statement:

El Pollo Loco is committed to the humane treatment and well-being of animals. EPL works closely with approved suppliers to ensure a high standard of animal care.

EPL is actively engaged with industry experts, suppliers and academia for the latest advancements in animal welfare.

This policy will be reviewed periodically by EPL and accordingly is subject to change from time to time.