



News Release

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

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Statement by CDPH Director Regarding Detection of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) in California Dairy Cow

SACRAMENTO - California Department of Public Health (CDPH) Director and Public Health Officer, Dr. Ron Chapman issued the statement below following the USDA's announcement of a detection of atypical bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) in a California dairy cow:

"There is no public health threat due to the discovery of BSE in a dairy cow. The food supply in California has not been affected by this discovery, and residents do not need to take any specific precautions. The California Department of Food and Agriculture has many procedures in place to keep this disease from entering the food chain, and the detection found is evidence that the system of safeguards is working. The cow in question was not slaughtered for food and BSE is not transmitted in milk.

"CDPH will continue to monitor the situation and will advise Californians of any new information."

The USDA announcement may be viewed at:

<http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/usda/usdahome?contentid=2012/04/0132.xml&contentonly=true>

www.cdph.ca.gov

