



Animal &  
Plant Health  
Agency

## APHA Briefing Note 49/25

# Further update on how to certify GB's BSE Negligible Risk status

**Date issued: 15<sup>th</sup> December 2025**

### Purpose

In line with the Commission's stated position, France has confirmed that their Border Control Posts (BCPs) have been informed to accept GB origin bovine items, certified as derived from animals of BSE Negligible Risk (NR) status and originating in GB as a NR status country, regardless of the slaughter date, for certificates issued since 24 November 2025.

### Background

As outlined in [Briefing Note 48/25](#), the Commission clarified that the NR status for GB also applies to the whole animal population born, reared and slaughtered in GB, irrespective of their date of birth or slaughter. This means that for the certification of meat derived from ruminants in GB, both the country and the animals from which the meat is derived, can now be certified as compliant with NR status requirements.

Defra has received confirmation from France that this position has been adopted and is effective retrospectively for certificates signed on or after 24 Nov 25, irrespective of whether these were signed prior to the Commission's recent clarification. Defra has requested SIVEP not to reject any consignments for NR/CR certified status, certified on or after 24 November, where OV's were acting in accordance with SIVEP's local instructions prior to the receipt of the Commission's clarification. At the time of issuing this BN, Defra has not received confirmation of this.

As regards other points of entry into the EU, most, if not all, EU BCPs have now implemented this scenario when making their documentary certification checks.

APHA is an Executive Agency of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and also works on behalf of the Scottish Government, Welsh Government and Food Standards Agency to safeguard animal and plant health for the benefit of people, the environment and the economy.

## Action

For exports to the EU via French BCPs, OV's should now be certifying GB origin meat, from animals born reared and slaughtered in UK, as BSE NR status, regardless of the slaughter date. It remains the case that exporters should verify the specific requirements for and with the BCP at the Point of Entry they intend to use.

Should OV's become aware of EU BCPs that are not accepting certification of ruminant meat in this manner, please report the details to the [exports@apha.gov.uk](mailto:exports@apha.gov.uk) mailbox.

## Further Information

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