

## When a Consignment is on Hold in Poland

Exporters should always have their Polish importers confirm **prior to shipment** that the consignment will be allowed entry with only the documentation that will accompany the consignment. If there is any doubt which requirements noted under the [European Union](#) or Poland page a consignment will fall, the U.S. exporter should have the Polish importer email the Polish government at [WET@WETGIW.PL](mailto:WET@WETGIW.PL) with a description of the proposed import including the animal-origin contents, the intended use of the material in Poland, and the border inspection post (BIP) through which the consignment will enter Poland. The Polish government will respond to the importer in writing. The response may come from the pertinent BIP to whom the central Polish authorities may forward the request. Contact information for the various BIPs in Poland is available (in Polish) at [http://www.wetgiw.gov.pl/files/2274\\_lista-posterunkow-weterynaryjnej-kontroli-granicznej.pdf](http://www.wetgiw.gov.pl/files/2274_lista-posterunkow-weterynaryjnej-kontroli-granicznej.pdf).

Once a consignment is placed on hold in Poland, the Polish importer or their agent will be given by the BIP a Notification called a **WEZWANIE** indicating the deficiency or deficiencies identified by the BIP, and what they consider required to fix the issue. The importer or importer's representative can pick it up from the BIP, or receive it by fax, email, or regular mail. At any point the importer can appeal the decision to the central authorities by emailing the BIP to appeal the decision.

It is unlikely that APHIS will be able to gain release of a consignment if it is placed on hold by the BIP since this likely indicates the consignment was exported without having the pertinent requirements verified. However, if the **WEZWANIE** indicates that the consignment may be able to be released, and if the U.S. exporter is seeking APHIS assistance, the exporter should send the following information to the APHIS Veterinary Services field office that endorsed the original certificate for the consignment:

- The **WEZWANIE**
- English translation of the **WEZWANIE**
- Scan of export certificate issued for the consignment
- Scan of the bill of lading (or airway bill)
- A list of materials in the consignment (unless obvious from the certificate)
- A description of the intended use in Poland of the materials in the consignment
- The name of the BIP where the material is on hold
- Contact information for the exporter
- Contact information for the importer and if applicable the importer's agent