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## Press Release

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **ASSI Brand Oysters Linked to *Norovirus* Illnesses**

(JUNEAU, AK) – Korean Farm, Inc. has issued a recall for ASSI Brand frozen oysters imported from Korea. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has confirmed three *norovirus* illnesses in Washington State were associated with the recalled oysters.

The frozen oyster meat (shucked; not in shell) is packed in 3-lb bags. Each bag is labeled ASSI Brand "INDIVIDUALLY QUICK FROZEN OYSTER" with a "Better if Used By" date of "2013.02.23" and a bar code number of "8 1652 20083". Each bag identifies Central Fisheries Co., LTD, as the packer and Korean Farms of Santa Fe Springs, California as the distributor.

The individual bags are shipped in boxes of 10 bags each with lot number C-110223 and "SHUCKED DATE: 2011.02.24" appearing on each shipping carton.

The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation has verified this product has been distributed in Alaska. There have been no reported illnesses in Alaska.

*Norovirus* infection causes nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, and some stomach cramping; most people recover within two to three days without medical treatment. People with *norovirus* infection should drink plenty of fluids to prevent dehydration and use good hand washing and other hygienic practices to prevent the spread of illness to others. Consumers exhibiting symptoms of illness should consult with a health care provider.

Purchased, uneaten oysters should be disposed of in the trash or garbage disposal.

Consumers with questions about the recalled oysters should call Korean Farms Inc. at 1-562-789-9988.

For more recall details, please visit:

<http://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/ucm278659.htm>.

For more information on recalls affecting Alaskans, visit DEC's website:  
<http://www.dec.alaska.gov/eh/fss/recalls/recallsalerts.html>.



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