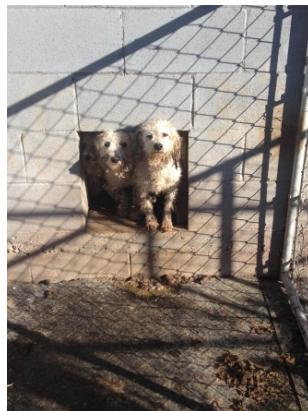


## **SAMPLE COMMENTS THAT CAN BE SUBMITTED TO USDA ON RENEWING LICENSES OF COMMERCIAL DOG BREEDERS**



- Licenses should be **renewed annually** and only after thoroughly reviewing the history of the breeder.
- USDA should no longer automatically renew the Animal Welfare Act licenses of known animal abusers.
- Rubber-stamping license renewals encourages bad behavior from puppy millers and circumvents the purpose of the Animal Welfare Act
- Please continue to require dog breeders **to re-license every year** but only upon the condition that the licensee has no serious or critical or repeat violations documented on their inspection reports.
- Granting a license renewal without performing a new inspection or reviewing a licensee's violation history enables facilities to continue inhumane conduct, putting animals in danger and misleading the public.
- Require license applicants to disclose any animal cruelty convictions or other violations of federal, state, or local laws or regulations pertaining to animals including all non-compliant items noted on *state* inspection reports.
- Please streamline the procedures for denying a license application, terminating a license, and summarily suspending a license.
- Because USDA enforcement action against chronic violators is notoriously slow, automatic license renewals means that breeders that abuse animals can continue to operate during the long and laborious process necessary to revoke a license.
- The current process of automatically renewing a breeder's license means breeders with terrible violations – for sick, malnourished or injured animals – are able to stay in business year after year in spite of chronic and serious violations of the Animal Welfare Act.

**Feel free to add other comments on the problems of puppy mills.**