

Edward P. Butler
166 2nd Ave. #15B

7493 '00 NY NY 10003
NOV 30 AM 48

TO: Dockets Management Branch
RE: Docket Number 98P-0151/CP1

I write to urge you to grant this petition to prohibit the slaughter of downed animals. This is a repugnant and unhealthy practice. The process is grotesquely inhumane. Under the best of circumstances downed animals could hardly be moved humanely; and in practice their treatment is far worse, resulting in a host of injuries. Not only does the practice pose an increased risk of bacterial contamination, but there is evidence that some downed animals may be afflicted with a form of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy or "Mad Cow Disease".

The only solution is that animals too sick or injured even to stand must not be allowed to enter the human food chain. Such a measure would cause no economic hardship, inasmuch as downed animals comprise a very small percentage of animals slaughtered. Furthermore, industry experts estimate that 90% of downed animals can be prevented with better care and handling. If we remove the market for downed animals, it will provide an incentive for the industry to prevent downed animals to begin with.

Sincerely,

Edward P. Butler

98P-0151

C3071

EDWARD BUTLER
166 2ND AVE. #15B
NY, NY 10003



U.S. FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION
DOCKETS MANAGEMENT BRANCH
5600 FISHERS LANE, ROOM 1061
ROCKVILLE, MD 20852

20852-1750 51

