

December 6, 2000

7760 Price Road
Springwater, NY 14560

1026 '00 DEC 14 09:46

U.S. Food and Drug Administration
Dockets Management Branch
5600 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

re: docket # 98P-0151/CP1

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to request that you grant the petition to prohibit the slaughter of downed animals, docket number 98P-0151/CP1. These animals, too sick to stand, should be treated with at least a minimal amount of compassion, and we should not allow them to be dragged or pushed to the slaughterhouse. Animals in this advanced state of illness can only pose a health threat to the public, and to continue this practice is both inhumane for the animal and potentially dangerous for the consumer.

Removing the market for downed animals will serve two purposes: it will provide an impetus for the farm owner to keep his animals healthy (it has been estimated that 90% of these cases can be prevented with adequate care and handling); and it will protect the public from the possibility of eating unhealthy meat.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely yours,



Martha C. Ewbank

98P-0151

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