



Nov. 1, 2000

U.S. Food and Drug Administration
Dockets Management Branch
5630 Fishers Lane
Room 1061, Docket # 98P-0151/CP1
Rockville, MD 20852
email: FDADockets@oc.fda.gov

4 3 1 3 '00 NOV 13 AIO:12

RE: DOCKET NUMBER # 98P-0151/CP1, DOWNED ANIMAL PROTECTION

As long as downed animals are legally butchered for human consumption, animals and humans will suffer. I urgently request that you help terminate this abhorrent practice by granting the Farm Sanctuary Campaign (www.NoDowners.org) petition to prohibit downed-animal slaughter.

Animals too ill or injured to stand cannot reach food or water. Veterinary care is routinely denied. Considered living "trash," they are commonly dragged with chains or pushed with tractors and forklifts on to mounds of dead and decaying animals. Cows with broken bones and torn ligaments are pulled across cement. Pigs suffer gaping wounds.

These are living beings!

These mangled and sick animals are kept alive in order to be processed into food for human beings. They are more likely to wind-up as food items that contain bacterial contamination. Further evidence suggests that downed animals may have a strain of BSE (Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy), or "Mad Cow Disease." This disease is associated with its deadly human variation, Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (CJD).

Animal torment and human health risks are simply not worth the paltry percentage of downed animals slaughtered for profit. In fact, agribusiness experts have estimated that 90% of downed animals could be prevented with more humane care and handling.

This petition to prohibit downed-animal slaughter for human consumption—in conjunction with The Downed Animal Protection Act (bills HR-443 and S-515) to ban the sale of downed animals and humanely euthanize suffering animals—would eliminate the market for downed animals. With no financial motivation, the food-animal industry might finally implement a "no-downers" policy.

I strongly agree with DOCKET NUMBER # 98P-0151/CP1. Downed animals should not sustain untold misery just to make it to the "dinner table." I also concur with The Downed Animal Protection Act's proposal to humanely euthanize suffering animals at stockyards.

Federal legislation to prohibit the marketing of downed animals is a mandatory step toward animal welfare and human disease prevention. Please act immediately to grant this petition.

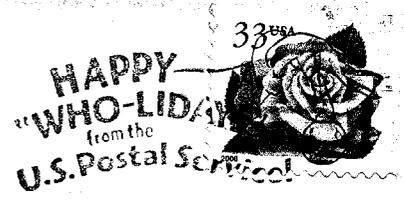
Sincerely, *Samuella A. Shoss*

Some where along the line, ethics must come before profit.

98P-0151

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