

November 4, 2000

To: U. S. Food and Drug Administration
Dockets Management Branch
5600 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville MD 20785 NOV 15 P2:18

Subj: Farm Sanctuary petition to prohibit slaughter of
downed animals--Docket # 98P-0151/CP1

1. I URGE YOU TO GRANT SUBJECT PETITION TO PROHIBIT THE
SLAUGHTER OF DOWNED ANIMALS.
2. As you must be aware, downed animals are subjected to
despicable treatment on their way to slaughter.
2. Animals that are too sick or injured to stand or walk
should not be subjected to the rigors imposed on livestock
headed for slaughter.
3. Sick or injured animals should not be processed for human
consumption.
4. Downed animals pose the danger of bacterial contamination
as well as "Mad Cow Disease" with its link to the always-fatal
human disease, Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease.
5. Downed animals cannot be moved humanely, hence they are
moved brutally with forklifts, tractors, or chains which
cause additional severe pain and injury.
6. By barring the transport of downed animals to auction/
slaughter, producers will be forced to provide better care of
animals to prevent sickness and injury.
7. Because downed animals represent a small percentage of
animals sent to slaughter, barring downers from auction/slaughter
will not pose a hardship for producers.
8. 90% of downed animals can be prevented with better care and
handling. If downers are barred from slaughter, producers will
be more inclined to practice humane husbandry.
9. I am grateful that in Illinois where I have lived for almost
a lifetime, our state legislature had the decency to pass a law
barring farmers from shipping downers to auction or slaughter.

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