

18 Equestrian Ct.
Huntington, NY 11743
Nov. 12, 2000

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NOV 16 P 3:29

U.S. Food and Drug Administration
Sockets Management Branch
5600 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20785

Dear Representative:

I was reading about downed animals in the Farm Sanctuary newsletter, and I would like to urge you to grant their petition to prohibit the slaughter of downed animals - docket number 98P-0151/CP1.

Animals who are too sick or injured even to stand should not be allowed to enter the human food chain.

I am enclosing the rest of the news article.

- In addition to posing an increased risk for bacterial contamination, there is evidence that some downed animals may be afflicted with a form of BSE (Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy or "Mad Cow Disease"), a disease which has been linked to a fatal human illness (CJD or Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease).
- It is practically impossible to move downed animals humanely, and they are typically pushed with tractors or dragged with chains—inhumane processes which cause injuries ranging from bruises and abrasions, to broken bones and torn ligaments.
- Downed animals comprise a very small percentage of animals slaughtered, and prohibiting their marketing will cause no undue economic hardship.
- Industry experts have estimated that 90% of downed animals can be prevented with better care and handling. Removing the market for downed animals will provide an incentive for the industry to prevent downed animals in the first place.

98P-0151

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I am sure you share my concern,
and will take steps to grant the
petition.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mary Ellen Tang

Mary Ellen Tang

18 Equestrian Ct.

Huntington NY 11743

A



Ms. Mary Tang
18 Equestrian Ct.
Huntington, NY 11743-6636



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