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October 15, 2000

U.S. Food and Drug Administration  
Dockets Management Branch  
5600 Fishers Lane, Room 1061  
Rockville, MD20785

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing to urge that you grant the petition of Farm Sanctuary, docket# 98P-0151/CP1, to prohibit the slaughter of downed animals. This is critical for both humane and national health reasons. Animals who are too sick or injured to stand should not be allowed in the human food chain, since they pose risks not only the of bacterial contamination, and but also of BSE. Downed animals are typically pushed with tractors or dragged with chains, causing injuries ranging from bruises and abrasions to broken bones and torn ligaments. Removing these animals from market, moreover, will give the producers an incentive to improve care and handling, which industry experts have estimated could prevent 90 percent of downings. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

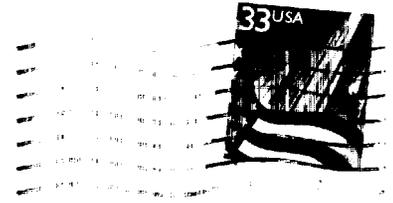


Elizabeth Ungar

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