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October 23, 2000

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

I am writing to urge your support for the petition to prohibit the slaughter of downed animals - docket number 98P-0151/CP1. These animals are diseased or injured or both and have no place in the human food chain. In addition, these animals may be afflicted with Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (Mad Cow Disease). Since these animals are unable to walk, the methods used to move them are brutal and inhumane.

These animals comprise a very small percentage of animals slaughtered, and prohibiting their marketing will cause no undue economic hardship. Industry experts estimate that 90% of downed animals can be prevented with better care and handling. Removing the market for these animals will provide an incentive for the industry to prevent downed animals in the first place.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

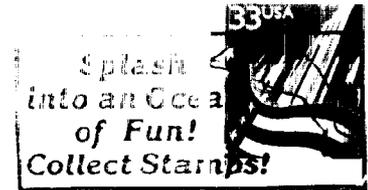


Kathy M. Dye

98P-0151

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