Dear Sir / Madam, Oct. 24, 200

Please grant our petition to prohibit the slaughter of downed animals - docket number 98P-0151/CP1

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

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 Creutzfelds-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 broken bones and torn muscles/ligaments.

98P-0151

Downed animals comprise a very small percentage of animals slaughtered, and prohibiting their marketing will cause no undue economic hardship.

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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.

I thank you for your consideratio and time.

for the animals,

Emanuela Bar
6324 N. Chatham #320
Kansas City, Missouri 64151

Emanuelle Ban
6324 N Chatham Ave # 320
Kansas City, MO 64151-2473

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U.S. Food and Drug Administratio
Dockets Management Branch
5600 Fishers Lane, Room 10
Rockville, MD 20785 HFA
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