

Diane P. Heil
6419 Caleb Court
Alexandria, VA 22315 9 '00 NOV -2 A10 :55

October 31, 2000

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing this letter to respectfully request that you grant the petition pending to prohibit the slaughter of downed animals - **docket number 98P-0151/CP1**.

Animals who are sick or injured are currently entering the United States of America's food supply and that should not continue. Additionally there is evidence that many downed animals may be subject to contamination including mad cow's disease.

Equally important to me as a human being is the inhumane practices associated with leaving downed animals exposed to suffering and further pain when moved by machinery that in many cases causes more injury and suffering.

I urge the FDA to consider this petition to make downed animals less marketable and thus make the farming industry more likely to take measures to eliminate and or reduce the instances of animals being injured during transport. Most of these downed animals can be avoided with better care and handling, but only providing incentives or taking away the market will force this to happen.

I for one would like to rest a little easier tonight knowing that pain and suffering can be reduced with just a small effort on your part.

Thank you for your consideration

Sincerely,

Diane P. Heil

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