

3395 '00 NOV -7 A11:53

October 30, 2000

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

RE: Docket Number 98P-0151/CP1

Please, we urgently request, for the welfare of humans and for those who can't speak for themselves, that you grant the petition 98P-0151/CP1 to prohibit the slaughter of downed animals. Animals too sick or injured surely should not be moved or pushed with tractors or dragged with chains - the most inhumane thing we've heard, and certainly should not be allowed to enter the human food chain.

Downed animals make-up a very small percentage of animals slaughtered and prohibiting their marketing will cause no undue economic hardship. Why not urge farmers to send all sickly and injured animals they have, to animal sanctuaries to care for them. This would give the industry a shining acknowledgment that they are humane in what they do and concerned with what humans consume.

If you remove the market for downed animals, it will provide an incentive for the industry to prevent downed animals in the first place since industry experts have estimated 90% of downed animals can be prevented with better care and handling.

Thank you for your time and kind consideration. Please grant this petition.

Sincerely,

  
John and Shelly Repinski  
13496 99th Avenue, North  
Seminole, Florida 33776-1551

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