

October 31, 2000

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

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To Whom It May Concern:

I have just become aware of the practice of slaughtering "downed" animals for food. This item is Docket Number 98P-0151/CPI. I became aware of this practice and the policy the USDA has recently revised regarding this docket through the Farm Sanctuary in Watkins Glen, New York.

I would like to express my opinion that animals that are used for food in this country are not treated very well. This prompted me to stop eating meat 20 years ago when I lived near a slaughterhouse as a young woman. The practices there were deplorable and from what I read in the Farm Sanctuary's petition, they still are deplorable.

Just because the animals used for food are not household pets, does not mean that we should treat them in an inhumane manner. This reminds me of the way soldiers have to treat the "enemy" in order to kill them during war. We do not have to demean and debase an animal that we are about to eat. Ending this practice of leaving downed animals to die and then slaughtering them is one way we could treat our animals for food with more respect. I will refuse to eat meat until we practice reverence towards animals.

Please prohibit the slaughter of downed animals.

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