

Dockets Management Branch
DOCKET NO. 98P- 0203/CP1
Food and Drug Administration
Department of Health & Human Services
12420 Parklawn Drive, Room 1-23
Rockville, MD 20857

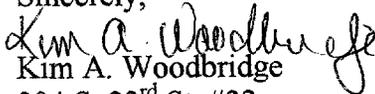
January 11, 2000

To the Dockets Management Branch,

I am writing to express my concern about DOCKET NO. 98P- 0203/CP1, reducing egg borne diseases by prohibiting forced molting. According to an article in Avian Diseases 1995, "feed withdrawal from turkeys and chickens has long been shown to markedly increase contamination with both Salmonella and Campylobacter. The birds look for other food sources during feed withdrawal, eating litter [the contaminated material the birds are forced to live in] when they are hungry." Since hens being starved in their cages do not have access to litter, they are driven to "pluck and consume" cage mates' contaminated feathers" (Avian Diseases 1995, 39:248).

Your attention to this matter is appreciated. I also request that you respond to my concerns.

Sincerely,


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98P-0203

C1930

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