

January 28, 2001

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U.S. Food and Drug Administration  
Dockets Management Branch  
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061  
Rockville, Md. 20852

I am writing to ask you to grant petition 98P-0151/CP1, to prohibit the slaughter of downed animals.

Animals who are too sick or injured should not be allowed to enter the human food chain.. As you are probably aware, in addition to posing an increased risk for bacterial contamination, there is evidence that some downed animals may be afflicted with a form of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy, or "Mad Cow Disease." This disease has been linked to a fatal human illness called Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease.

I am appalled at the thought that downed animals are typically pushed with tractors or dragged with chains. These are inhumane processes which cause injuries ranging from bruises and abrasions to broken bones and torn ligaments.

Again, I am requesting that you grant petition 98P-0151/CP1, to prohibit the slaughter of downed animals. Removing the market for downed animals will provide an incentive to industry to prevent downed animals in the first place.

Yours in the interest of humane practices in the food industry,

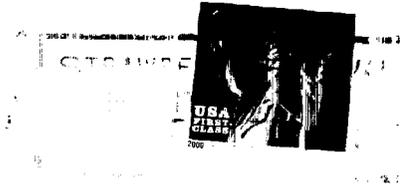


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