

ROSA MARIAN LEDA
2708 Rosemary Court
Adamstown, MD 21710
301-874-3130

4456 '01 FEB 15 P3:06

February 13, 2001

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

Re: Docket Number 98P-0151/CP1

Dear Sir/Madam:

I am writing to urge your administration to grant the above referenced petition to prohibit the slaughter and mistreatment of downed animals.

Animals that are too sick or injured even to stand should not be allowed to enter the human food chain.

In addition to posing an increased risk of bacteria contamination, there is evidence that some downed animals may be afflicted with a form of BSE (Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy or "Mad Cow Disease"), a disease which has been linked to a fatal human illness (CJD or Creutzfeldt-Jacob Disease).

It is impossible to move downed animals humanely, and they are typically pushed with tractors or dragged with chains - inhumane processes which cause injuries ranging from bruises and abrasions, to broken bones and torn ligaments.

Downed animals comprise a very small percentage of animals slaughtered, and prohibiting their marketing will cause no undue economic hardship.

Industry experts have estimated that 90% of downed animals can be prevented with better care and handling. Removing the market for downed animals will provide an incentive to industry to prevent downed animals in the first place.

Your attention to this matter is greatly appreciated.

Very truly yours,



MARIAN LEDA

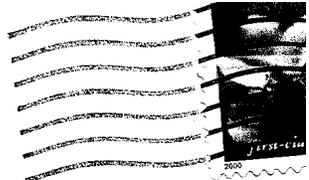
Cc: Farm Sanctuary

98P-0151

C 4044

Proud Supporter of Wildlife Land Trust

Ms. Rosa Marian Leda
2708 Rosemary Ct.
Adamstown, MD 21710



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

