

Subject: Docket # 98P-0151/CP1

To Whom It May Concern:

The purpose of this correspondence is to urge that the FDA grant the petition to prevent the slaughter of downed animals. This issue deserves serious consideration for many ethical, economical and human health concerns. I recognize that not everyone may share my view that all sentient beings are deserving of moral respect, and therefore should not be tortured & slaughtered in such a horrendous manner as is commonly practiced in the U.S. livestock industry. However, this being the case, I would urge you to assess the other reasons for not allowing the slaughtering of downed animals. Briefly these reasons are as follows: an animal that is too weak/sick to stand or move should not be allowed to enter the human food chain as this poses dire risks to human health via harmful bacteria, etc. Also downed animals comprise a very small percentage of livestock marked for slaughter and therefore prohibiting the marketing of such beings would cause no undue economic hardship to farmers or the livestock industry. Finally, industry experts have postulated that 90% of downed animals could be prevented with more humane care and thus legislation prohibiting the marketing of such animals would provide a viable incentive to an industry concerned more with the bottom line than the fair treatment of feeling, sentient creatures.

I urge you to pass this petition to ban this gruesome practice on the grounds of moral decency, human health and because doing so would scarcely, if at all, affect the Livestock industry's economic stability.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Joyce Bonvillain

3670 02 FEB 20 06:43

98P-0151

C4031