

March 2, 2001

VIA FAX: 301-827-6870

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

**REF: Docket Number 98P-0151/CPI**

Dear Sir/Madam:

I am writing to you today to respectfully urge you to grant petition 98P-0151/CPI to prohibit the slaughter of downed animals.

Animals who are too sick to even stand could pose a health threat and should not be allowed to enter the human food chain. These animals comprise such a small percentage of animals slaughtered, that prohibiting their marketing will not cause any undue economic hardship.

It is impossible to move downed animals humanely; they are brutally pushed with tractors or dragged with chains – cruel and inhumane practices which cause injuries, not to mention pain and suffering to living, feeling animals. These animals should be humanely euthanized at stockyards to end their pain.

Removing the market for downed animals will provide the necessary incentive to industry to prevent downed animals in the first place.

*Please help the animals.*

I respectfully submit my letter to you today.

Sincerely,



Elaine Van Gunst  
3 East Gate Road  
Long Valley, NJ 07853

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