

March 11, 2001

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

RE: **Docket Number 98P-0151/CP1**

I am writing to let you know my opinion against the downed animal trade. Animals who 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 for bacterial 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 that has been linked to a fatal human illness (CJD or Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease).

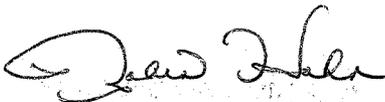
It is impossible to move downed animals humanely, and they are typically pushed with tractors or dragged with chains – inhumane processed which cause injuries ranging from bruises and abrasions, to broken bones and torn ligaments.

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.

**Please grant petition to 98P-0151/CP1 to prohibit the slaughter of downed animals.**  
Thank you.

Sincerely,



Robin Hahn

11 Wilcox Street

Binghamton, NY 13904

98P-0151

C4298

Robin Hahn  
11 Wilcox Street  
Binghamton, NY 13904



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