

March 10, 2001

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

3885 '01 MAR 16 110:14

Dear FDA:

I'm writing to let you know that I support petition 98P-0151/CP1, filed by the Farm Sanctuary that prohibits the slaughter of downed animals. Due to the horrendous conditions on factory farms, many animals become too weak and sick to stand up or move under their own strength. These "downed" animals are shackled, hoisted, and dragged by the leg or neck or pushed by tractors and forklifts to the slaughterhouse. The helpless animals suffer broken bones, torn tendons, and lacerations from this inhumane handling. Studies reveal that most downed animals are fully conscious and suffer intensely during the process. All this, so that companies can make a few extra dollars.

In addition to posing an increased risk of 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).

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,



Rebecca J. Altman  
Pittsburgh, PA

98P-0151

C4314

R. AITMAN  
4720 CENTRE AVE, 16  
P64, PA 15213



US FOOD + DRUG ADMINISTRATION  
DOCKETS MANAGEMENT BRANCH  
5630 FISHERS LN, RM. 1024  
ROCKVILLE, MD 20852

