

April 22, 2001

Veronica Soto
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U.S. Food and Drug Admin.
?109 '01 APR 26 P1 51

Dockets Mgmt. Branch

Re: Docket # 98P-0151/CP1

I am writing to urge the US Food and Drug Admin. to grant petition 98P-0151/CP1 to disallow the slaughter of downed animals. It is incomprehensible that the marketing of such meat products is allowed. As I understand, downed animals are a small percentage of animals slaughtered, therefore the argument that prohibiting the marketing of such meat would pose an economic threat is not a viable one.

Why is it allowed to sell the meat that comes from animals too sick to even stand up? That looks to be a very dangerous practice that should end. C4713

At this time, the general public is becoming more and more fearful of what they are actually consuming when they buy that pound of

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beef at the supermarket. They are becoming increasingly nervous that meat tainted with some form of a disease may ~~ever~~ show up at their supermarket. Why make it that much worse by allowing diseased animals to be sold for human consumption.

I applaud the recent decision by the USDA to discontinue the purchase of meat that comes from downed cows for the ntl. School Lunch Program. It only makes sense that this should be extended to include all meat for the general public not just the schools.

Thank you very much for your consideration in this most urgent matter.

Sincerely,
Veronica Soto

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