

August 18, 1999

7 0 1 4 '99 AUG 23 A 9 :29

FDS/Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
5630 Fishers Lane, Rm. 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

Re: Docket No. 97N-0074

Gentlemen:

I am writing in regard to the subject of food safety. I simply refuse to buy beef, poultry and pork from any grocer after all the information I have been exposed to in relation to the factory farming operation. The problems such as overcrowded animals, stressful procedures and conditions, chicken litter and feces in feed, diseased animals rendered into animal feed, the excessive use of antibiotics and other drugs, inhumane and unhygienic transport and slaughter are so appalling that I go to a local farmer and purchase my meat. There is just too much risk to purchase meat that has come from a factory farm. I believe more and more people are coming to this conclusion after they are made aware of the facts of factory farming. I had no idea what factory farming involved until this year and I want nothing to do with it. There are few regulatory measures maintained in the system and this just opens the door to more and more health problems passed on to humans.

Food safety hazards must be addressed at the source with mandatory safeguards at the animal production stage. Safeguards should include more humane and hygienic treatment and conditions for farm animals. Short of this, any food safety plan is doomed to fail.

Sincerely,



Brenda Shanks
3117 W. 260 N. Rd.
Covington, IN 47932
Bshanks@DACC.cc.il.us

Cc: USDA/FSIS Hearing Clerk

97N-0074

C 82

3117 W. 260 N. Rd.
Covington, LN 47932



Docket #97N-0074

FDS/Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
5630 Fishers Lane, Rm. 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

20857+0004

