**Mrs. Katherine G. Bender**
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New Castle PA 16101-6235

Oct 23 2000

U.S. Food and Drug Administration
Dockets Management Branch

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Would you please grant the Farm Sanctuary's petition to prohibit the slaughter of downed animals - docket # 98-P-0151/CP1.

Animals who are too sick or injured to stand should not be allowed to enter the human food chain. In addition to posing risk of bacterial contamination some animals may be afflicted with Mad Cow Disease or other diseases that can be fatal to humans.

It is practically impossible to move downed animals humanely, and they are typically pushed with tractors or dragged with chains - inhumane processes which cause injuries and pain.

Industry experts have estimated that 90% of downed animals can be prevented with better care and handling. Removing the market for downed animals can provide an incentive to prevent downed animals which comprise a small percentage of animals slaughtered and prohibiting their marketing would not cause economic hardship.

Please give this matter your consideration. May you have a kind heart and help all you can in this matter.

Many thanks, Mrs K Bender

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NEW CASTLE PA 16101
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