January 27, 2001 '01 JAN 26 A10:42

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

RE: Petition 98P-0151/CPI
Prohibit the Slaughter of
Downed Animals

Gentlepersons:

This letter is a request that the Food and Drug Administration grant the above-referenced Petition prohibiting the slaughter of downed animals. Animals who are too sick or injured even to stand should not be allowed to enter the human food chain.

It is impossible to move downed animals humanely, so they are pushed with tractors or dragged with chains. Downed animals comprise a small percentage of animals slaughtered, and prohibiting their slaughter will cause no undue economic hardship. In addition downed animals may be afflicted with diseases which could inflect fatal human illnesses such as the "Mad Cow Disease."

This request is twofold: 1) protect the human food chain and 2) protect animals from inhumane treatment. As stated by Mahatma Gandi, "You can judge the moral progress of a nation by the way its animals are treated."

Thank you for your attention in this matter.

C 3657

Sincerely,

98P-0151

Ellen L. Munoz

Ellen L. Munoz
360 No. Lima Street
Sierra Madre, CA 91024-1049

len L. Munoz
0 No. Lima Street
erra Madre, CA 91024-1049

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Rockville, MD 20782

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