Monica Engebretson
2703½ T street
Sacramento, CA 95816

March 4, 2001

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

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RE: Docket Number 98P-0151/CPI

Dear FDA:

I urge you grant petition 98P-0151/CPI.
This petition will prohibit the slaughter of "downed" animals.

As you know, a "downed" animal is one who is too sick or injured even to stand. Such animals suffer greatly at auctions and slaughter houses as they are dragged, kicked, or left without food or water. Moreover, such animals may pose a human health risk as often times it is unknown why the animal is "downed" and secondary infections may also occur in distressed animals raising further concerns about "meat quality."

Industry experts have estimated that 90% of downed animals can be prevented with better care and handling. This petition would be an incentive for humane treatment - an issue of great importance to many people. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Monica Engebretson

C4273

98P-0151

M. Engebretson
2703½ T Street
Sacramento, CA 95816

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