

TO:

10/26/00

U.S. Food and Drug Administration ^{15 98 '00 NOV 7 10:30}

I urge that you grant our petition to prohibit the slaughter of downed animals.

Docket Number 98-0151/cp1. Animals who are too sick or injured even to stand should not be allowed to enter the human food chain.

This poses an increased risk for bacterial contamination, there is evidence that some downed animals may be afflicted with a form of B.S.E. "Mad Cow disease".

It is practically impossible to move downed animals humanely, and they are typically pushed with tractors or dragged with chains.

Downed animals comprise a very small percentage of animals slaughtered, and prohibiting their marketing will cause no undue economic hardship.

Industry experts have estimated that 90% of downed animals can be prevented with better care and handling. Removing the market for downed animals will provide an incentive for the industry to prevent downed animals in the first place.

Please I urge your support.

Thank you

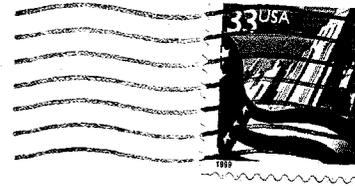
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98P-0151

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