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U.S. Food and Drug Administration  
Dockets Management Branch  
5600 Fishers Lane, Room 1061  
Rockville, MD 20785

Re: Docket Number 98P-0151/CP1

I am writing to urge the FDA to take action and support Docket Number 98P-0151/CP1 prohibiting the slaughter of downed animals. There are numerous health and humane reasons to support this docket and little economic justification to allow the meat industry to continue current practice.

The evidence is in. If the USDA felt compelled to prohibit the purchase of ground beef including product from non-ambulatory cattle for the National School Lunch Program, what comfort can the Public at Large take in the safety of what we buy at the grocery store.

There is evidence of increased risk for bacterial contamination as well as BSE. Why should animals that are too sick or injured to stand be allowed to enter the human food chain?

The treatment of these sick and injured animals is also horrific and industry experts agree that 90% of downed animals can be prevented with better care and handling.

It's time to remove the market and economic incentive for downed animals to prevent both the health and humane treatment issues. Please support this docket and help increase consumer confidence in the safety and rationality of U.S. food production.

Respectfully,



Fran C. Storer

98P-0151

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