

January 22, 2001

U.S. Food and Drug Administration 8187 '01 JAN 29 AIO:27
Dockets Management Branch
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

Docket number 98P-0151/CP1

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to ask you grant petition **98P-0151/CP1** to prohibit the slaughter of downed animals.

The marketing and slaughter of downed animals is unacceptable. Animals who are too sick or injured even to stand or walk should not be allowed to enter the human food chain.

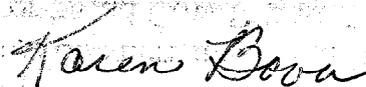
Downed animals pose an increased risk for bacterial contamination, there is evidence that some downers may be afflicted with a form of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy or "Mad Cow Disease".

It is impossible to move downed animals humanely, and they have been documented being pushed by tractors or dragged with chains. The meat and dairy industries will continue to use, and abuse, downed animals until we pass laws to ban these cruelties.

These animals comprise a very small percentage of animal slaughtered, and prohibiting their marketing will cause no undue economic hardship. Removing the market for downers will provide an incentive to industry to prevent downed animals in the first place.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Karen Bova



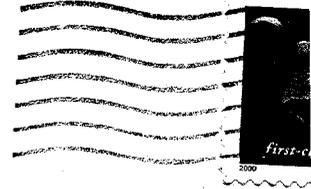
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