

January 24, 2001

9 4 1 0 '01 FEB -2 A9 :40

Philip C. Graham
3221 Love Road
Northampton, PA 18067

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

Dear Sirs:

I am writing to urge the Food and Drug Administration to grant petition 98P-0151/CPI to prohibit 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. In addition to posing an increased risk for bacterial contamination, there is evidence that some downed animals may be afflicted with a form of BSE (Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy or "Mad Cow Disease") a disease which has been linked to human illness (CID or Creutzfeldt-Jakob-Disease).

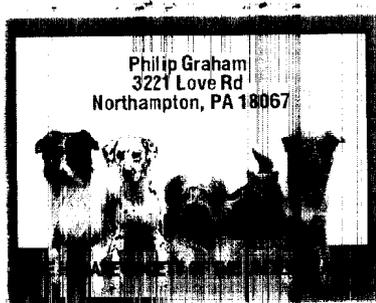
Downed animals comprise a very small percentage of animals slaughtered and prohibiting their marketing will cause no undue economic hardship. I also understand that industry experts have estimated that 90% of downed animals can be prevented with better care and handling. Removing the market for downed animals will provide an incentive to industry to prevent downed animals in the first place.

Sincerely,



98P-0151

C3806



14 Fa
305



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

20857-0001

