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5500 01 FEB 21 P4:47

February 12, 2001

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

Re: Referring to Docket Number 98P-0151/CP1

Gentlemen:

I am urging the Food and Drug Administration to grant petition 98P-0151/CP1 to prohibit the slaughter of downed animals.

Animals who are incapacitated to the point where they cannot even stand should not be used in the food chain. To do so, risks bacterial contamination and passing on of "Mad Cow Disease" that is linked to the fatal human illness, Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease.

Since downed animals are impossible to move humanely, I feel they should be put to sleep in a humane way. They are only a small percentage of animals slaughtered and, therefore, should not cause economic hardship. Not being able to use downed animals in the food chain should spur the industry to use better care and handling with its animals so they are not "downed" in the first place.

Sincerely,



Anne Blowers

98P-0151

C405-9

 Ms. Anne L. Blowers
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RICHMOND VA 23232
PM
15 FEB
2001



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