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February 6, 2004 815 Dickson Pkwy. Mansfield, OH 44907

FSIS Docket Clerk
Docket 03-0251F
Room 102, Cotton Annex
300 12th and C Street SW
Washington, DC 20250-3700

RE: Docket 03-0251F

Dear Docket Clerk:

My family joins me in thanking Secretary Ann Veneman for banning the slaughter of downed cows for human consumption. We respectfully urge her to hold the line against weakening changes and maintain USDA's interpretation of downers - i.e., all non-ambulatory disabled animals, regardless of the reason they are unable to stand or walk (illness, injury, or a combination.) Also, we urge her to extend the ban to cover any species of downed animals - not just cows, but pigs, sheep, and the other livestock. I do not want to feed my family meat from animals that are sick.

We most sincerely want her to require immediate, humane euthanasia, of course.

We thank the Secretary for any attention she may pay to my very real and genuine concern over this very important matter for all Americans.

Very truly yours,

(Mrs.) Marton P. Foster