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Carmel, NY 10512
February 11, 2004

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

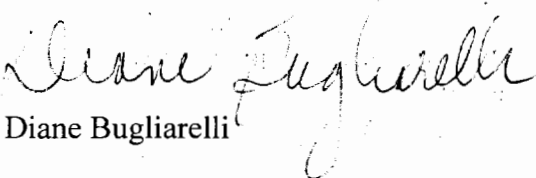
Attention: Anne Veneman, Secretary
Subject: Docket No. 03-0251F

Dear Secretary Veneman:

Firstly, I want to thank you for banning the slaughter of downed cows for human consumption.

I urge you 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). I would also urge you to extend the ban to cover any species of downed animals – not just cows, but also pigs, sheep, and other livestock – and to require their humane euthanasia.

Sincerely,



Diane Bugliarelli