January 27, 2004

FSIS Docket Clerk Docket 03-025IF Room 102, Cotton Annex 300 12th and C Street SW. Washington, DC 20250-3700





To Whom It May Concern:

There is no excuse for allowing downed animals, regardless of species, to be sent to slaughter. I am sick and tired of the meat industry and its allies in Congress making policy based on greed and cruelty.

It is time the USDA put the welfare of the animals and the public before the meat industry's wants and desires by <u>permanently</u> banning the slaughter of <u>all</u> downed animals regardless of why they cannot walk to their deaths (injury, illness, disease, etc). It is 2004 and there is no excuse for treating animals as though we are still living in the middle ages.

Please retain the ban on downer cows and extend the ban to other animals. Thank you.

Sincerely,

G. Woods

Graham Woods

815 Thayer Ave.

Silver Spring, MD 20910