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R.R. #1 Box 181A  
East Waterford, PA 17021  
February 17, 2004

FSIS Docket Clerk  
03-025 I F  
Room 102 Cotton Annex  
300 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Washington, DC 20250-3700

RE: 03-025 I F

Gentlemen:

I am writing in reference to the ban of down cows for human consumption. As a dairy farmer this new law will affect me greatly and already has. I have had in the past and I'm sure I will have in the future cows with "acute injuries". Whenever a cow has a broken bone, splits herself or pinches a nerve from calving there is absolutely nothing wrong with the meat for human consumption. Last month I had a cow that fell and broke her leg and because of this new law I was unable to send her to market for meat. I feel that you need to amend this law stating that cows with "acute injuries" as I mentioned above should be exempt from this law.

Thank you for your time in this most urgent matter.

Sincerely,



Donald A. Shoop