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January 19, 2004

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

To Whom It May Concern:

We are writing to thank you for implementing an emergency ban on using downed cattle as human food. We would like to see this ban become permanent and to include all other livestock as well as cattle.

We strongly support a complete and comprehensive ban on all downed animals being used in any part of the human or animal food chain. Downed animals should be absolutely and permanently prohibited from being used as food for humans or other animals, with no exceptions or loopholes. This is the only way to ensure that the public has access to a safe food supply, in keeping with the mission statement of the United States Department of Agriculture.

Many of the most dangerous animal-borne diseases have arisen relatively recently, without warning. A complete ban on using downed animals as food for humans or other livestock is the only way to ensure protection not only against the diseases that are now known, but also against any diseases that may arise in the future, also without warning. In addition, please add a requirement to the ban to ensure that downed animals are immediately euthanized in the most humane way possible wherever they become downed.

Sincerely,

David Gill: Natasha Gill  
David and Natasha Gill

**We may be contacted at 348 Lawson Road, Skandia, MI 49885, by phone at 906-942-7975 or via e-mail at [thegills@tds.net](mailto:thegills@tds.net).**