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Marcia L. Balkan

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

Gentlemen\Ladies:

I understand that the current emergency ban on the slaughter of "downed" cattle is a temporary measure.

This letter is to thank you for taking that action, but also to urge that the prohibition remain permanent and that there be no exemption that would allow any downed animal--including sheep, pigs and other livestock--to go to slaughter.

I also strongly urge that the USDA require the immediate humane euthanasia of animals who are down.

Sincerely yours,

Marcia L. Balkan