

January 20, 2001

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U.S. Food & Drug Administration  
Dockets Management Branch  
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061  
Rockville, MD 20852

Subject: Docket #98P-0151/CP1

To the US Food & Drug Administration:

Please grant this petition to prohibit the slaughter of  
downed animals.

Animals who are too sick or injured to even stand should not  
be allowed to enter the human food chain.

In addition to posing an increased risk for bacterial  
contamination, there is evidence that some downed animals may be  
afflicted with a form of BSE.

It is impossible to move downed animals humanely, and they  
are typically pushed with tractors or dragged with chains -  
inhumane processes which cause injuries ranging from bruises and  
abrasions to broken bones and torn ligaments.

Downed animals comprise a very small percentage of animals  
slaughtered, and prohibiting their marketing will cause no undue  
economic hardship.

Industry experts have estimated that 90% of downed animals  
can be prevented with better care and handling. Removing the  
market for downed animals will provide an incentive to industry  
to prevent downed animals in the first place.

I hope this law will finally be passed.

Sincerely,

*Jennifer van Wyck*  
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