

Environmental Association for Great Lakes Education

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

8808 '01 FEB 28 10:57

Please grant the petition 98P-0151/CP1 to prohibit the slaughter of downed animals. Animals who are too sick or injured even to 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 (Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy or "Mad Cow Disease"), a disease which has been linked to a fatal human illness (CJD or Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease).

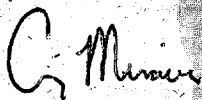
It is impossible to move downed animals humanely, and they are typically pushed with tractors or dragged with chains - inhumane processes which cause injuries ranging from bruises and abrasions, to broken bones and torn ligaments.

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% percent 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.

Please grant the petition 98P-0151/CP1 to prohibit the slaughter of downed animals.

Sincerely,



Craig Minowa- Environmental Association for Great Lakes Education

98P-0151

14134

Signatures gathered at
Duluth, MN's
Living Green Conference

2-17-2001

Name

Signature

Address

Craig Minawa

Craig Minawa

11 N. 93rd Ave. Duluth
5580

Warren Howe

Warren Howe

112 LAKE AVE S, DULUTH,
ST 804

Kathy Tuttle

Kathy Tuttle

1521 1/2 W 19th St. Superior
548

Cann Skrog

Cann Skrog

4017 Pitt St. Duluth
2000 1st St 55804

Sally Hayes

Sally Hayes

11 E. 9th St Duluth 55801

Misty Johnson

Misty Johnson

Duluth MN 55805

Carolyn Sheets

Carolyn Sheets

Po Box 16130. Duluth MN. 558

Rosie Seymour

Rosie Seymour

1606 N 18th St.

Genevieve Holtz

Genevieve Holtz

Superior WI 548

Amy Fitzpatrick

Amy Fitzpatrick

4944 Apple Ave
Duluth, MN 55804

101 Elen Ln Duluth 55805

Darlene Heiskala

Darlene Heiskala

415 SE 7th St Mpls MN 554

Jen Punzel

Jen Punzel

1605 Hughtt Ave #3 Superior, WI 5488

Will Rhodes

Will Rhodes

5998 CANT RD Duluth, MN 558

Andrea Sande

Andrea Sande

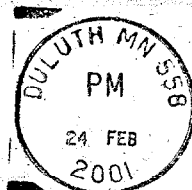
1015 Skiffill Rd' Two Harbors 1
55601

Louise Curnow

Louise Curnow

2606 W. 13th St. Duluth

entai Association
akes Education
Avenue South
MN 55802



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Rockville, MD 20852

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