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03-025IF-129

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

03-025IF
Robin Craft

USDA Officials:

I am writing to ask you to make the ban on using downer cows in human food permanent. Currently, the ban is temporary.

Secondly, I would like to ask that the ban be applied to not only cows, but to all farmed animals.

Finally, in an act of kindness and extreme humanity, I would like to see laws incorporated that would require downed animals to be euthanized. An animal that is downed is obviously in severe pain. It is impossible to humanely move a downed animal. Cranes and forklifts are then used to transport the animal further adding to its misery.

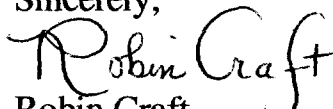
I am concerned about the use of downed animals, as well, in others areas besides human food sources. Once the downed animals are dragged with the cranes or forklifts, often fully conscious and suffering, they are then slaughtered. They can then be used in pet food or as food for other animals being raised for food. This seems to be a very serious problem as these animals are obviously very sick and may perhaps transmit Mad Cow Disease to other animals, including humans who then eat these non-downed food sources.

I am equally worried about the spread of Mad Cow Disease to pets. I have a cat who is a wonderful, loving companion. I would not want to see anything happen to him, especially not a terrible disease like Mad Cow. In an effort to prevent this from occurring, I am currently working to make him into a "Vegan Cat" who will only eat cat food that does not use animal byproducts.

I encourage you to help keep the human food supply safe by keeping ALL downed animals out of the food chain. I would also encourage you to ensure that these animals are humanely released from their suffering. Further, I would like for downed animals to NOT be used as food for other animals, including pets.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. I look forward to your response to this highly important issue.

Sincerely,


Robin Craft