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February 7, 2004

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

I recently read about that animal protection groups have argued that the treatment of animal downers is deplorable – with the hapless animals being dragged by chains or pushed by bulldozers to get them into the slaughterhouses.

As someone concerned about the welfare of animals I respectfully encourage you to immediately ban the slaughter of downed animals and maintain USDA's interpretation of downers – i.e., all non-ambulatory disabled animals, regardless of the reason they are unable to stand or walk (illness, injury, or a combination).

Sincerely,


Angela Levy
10881 Richmond
Houston, TX 77042