

January 22, 2004

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FSIS Docket Clerk
Docket 03-0251F
Room 102, Cotton Annex
300 12th and C Street, SW
Washington, DC 20250-3700

(2)

Subject: Docket 03-0251F

Dear Sir/Madam:

We are writing to thank you for the emergency measures banning the slaughter of downed cattle for human consumption.

PLEASE MAKE THIS BAN PERMANENT!

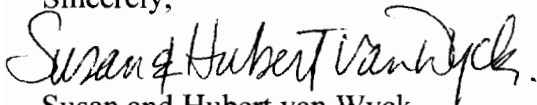
Please include ALL downed animals: pigs, sheep and other livestock, as well as all downed cattle, in the final ban. Please also add a requirement that all downed animals be humanely euthanized immediately, wherever they become downed.

For years and years, animal protection groups have been pleading with you to stop this shameful practice. Now, it has finally been proven for everyone to see, that treating non-human creatures cruelly has a devastating effect on human health. If you will not pass a law banning the slaughter of downed cattle simply because it is immoral to kill them as they are (were) being killed, now at least pass it to save human health and lives.

For years, the cattle industry, trying to squeeze the last dollar out of the miserable animals the industry itself has caused to be sick or injured, has lobbied to allow downed cattle to be slaughtered for human consumption. Obviously, the cattle industry cares nothing about either human health or the immoral and shameful treatment of the helpless animals it allows to be tortured...only about greed.

There should be NO exemption for any downed animal.

Sincerely,



Susan and Hubert van Wyck
24 Iron Mountain Road
Kent, CT 06757