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Docket 03-025IF
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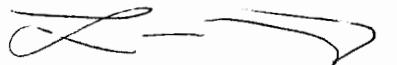
Gentlemen\Ladies:

I understand that the current emergency ban on the slaughter of "downed" cattle is a temporary measure.

This letter is to thank you for taking that action, but also to urge that the prohibition remain permanent and that there be no exemption that would allow any downed animal--including sheep, pigs and other livestock--to go to slaughter.

I also strongly urge that the USDA require the immediate humane euthanasia of animals who are down.

Sincerely yours,


LAWRENCE VALLENS