

2811 South Fiske #37  
Spokane, WA 99223  
March 17, 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

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I want to declare the strongest support for the USDAs proposed rule to prohibit the use of downer cattle. I believe this rule would prohibit any transportation or use of "downer" animals (cattle, pigs, sheep, goats, etc.). These unfortunate animals should be euthanized at the earliest opportunity, hopefully at the time of sickness or injury.

Transporting sick and injured animals and dragging them from place to place and finally to the slaughter house in order to "maximize profits" is an activity that no civilized society should tolerate. If humane considerations are of no interest in the cattle industry then fear for public health alone should prohibit any use of "downers."

Please make the transportation and use of "downer" animals permanently illegal and beyond negotiation.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

*Marcia R. Mueller*

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