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February 4, 2004

USDA Secretary Ann Veneman
C/O FSIS Docket Clerk
Docket 03-0251F
Room 102, Cotton Annex
300 12th & C Street SW
Washington, DC 20250-3700

03-0251F-94
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Diane M. Biase

Dear Ms. Veneman,

I want to thank you for banning the slaughter of downed cows for human consumption. I hope that this ban remains strong and does not change, as this practice is so cruel. I would like to also urge you to ban the slaughter of all downed animals, such as pigs, sheep and other livestock, as well. All animals for slaughter should have the courtesy and decency of humane euthanasia.

Thank you again for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,



Diane M. Biase
30 Mead St.
Somerville, MA 02144