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Concord, NH

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03301-3208
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December 29, 2000

US Food and Drug Administration
Dockets Management Branch
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

To Whom This May Concern:

I am writing concerning
Petition 98P-01511CP1 to prohibit
the slaughter of downed animals.

Animals who cannot even stand
due to sickness or injury should
be prohibited from being slaughtered

for human consumption. Besides
being a large risk factor for
bacterial contamination, there is
evidence that some downed

livestock may have BSE (Bovine
Spongiform Encephalopathy or
"Mad Cow Disease" which has
been linked to a fatal human

98P-01511 C3284

illness (CJD or Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease)

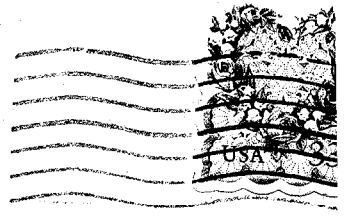
It is not possible to move downed animals without causing further injuries to them such as bruises and abrasions and broken bones and ligaments. They usually are pushed by tractors or dragged, using chains,

Since downed animals represent a very small number of livestock slaughtered, banning their use will not cause financial hardship,

Experts in the industry have stated that ~~90%~~ percent of downed animals can actually be prevented using better care and handling. By closing down the market for these animals an incentive will be created to prevent animals from becoming injured in the first place.

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