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February 21, 2001

U.S. Food and Drug Administration
Dockets Management Branch
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 106 1
Rockville, Maryland 20852
98P-0151/CP1

Dear Food and Drug Administration:

I am writing to urge you to grant petition **98P-0151/CP1** to prohibit the slaughter of downed animals. Last year the USDA announced a landmark policy to stop purchasing meat from downed cows for Federal programs including the National School Lunch Program. This development shows a **growing** concern even among the livestock industry and government officials that the marketing and slaughter of downed animals is unacceptable.

There are several reasons why downed animals should not be used for food and I am certain that you have heard all the arguments. I am pleading with you to do the honorable thing and **STOP** the use of downed cows. Hear the cries of thousands of innocent, helpless animals that cannot speak for themselves. These animals that give their life for us **DESERVE** a humane death. It is not humane to allow them to suffer the way they do.

Thank you for doing the right thing and I will leave you with this thought. "The thinking man must oppose all cruel customs no matter how deeply routed in tradition or surrounded by a halo...We need a boundless ethic which will include the **animals** also." Dr. Albert Schweitzer (1875-1965)

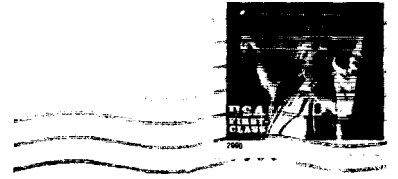
Sincerely,

Connie Simpson

98P-0151

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