

03-080-1
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farm letter

December 26, 2003

Docket No. 03-080-1
Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS Station 3C71
4700 River Road, Unit 118
Riverdale, MD 20737-1238

Re: Opening the Canadian Border to Allow the Importation of Live Cattle

I am a cow-calf producer in South Dakota, and I background my own calves. **I am opposed to the opening of the Canadian Border to allow importation of live cattle.** Opening the border would negatively affect my operation. The Canadian cattle were captive supplies and were being used to manipulate the U.S. cattle markets. Since the Canadian cattle have stopped coming over the border, captive supplies have decreased and our cattle prices have risen.

Even with the discovery of a BSE infected animal, the United States has the safest supply of food in the world. Opening the border jeopardizes the safety of our food supply, our economy and the health of the American people. The American consumer should be given the opportunity to choose US Beef, if they so desire. Opening the border without country of origin labeling denies the American consumer of this right.

With the discovery of BSE in the United States, opening the border to allow the importation of certain live cattle, ruminant products and by-products would undermine the consumer confidence in the safety of our meat supply.

Sincerely,

Allen Schrempp

Allen Schrempp

Box 731

Eagle Butte SD 57625

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