

Grant County Stock Growers
Ken Brooks, President
34488 Short Corner Road
Fox, Oregon 98756
February 9, 2007

The Honorable Mike Johanns
Secretary
United States Department of Agriculture
Washington, D.C. 20250

Dear Secretary Johanns:

The Grant County Stock Growers oppose the importation of any Over Thirty Month (OTM) cattle or beef products into the United States.

As you are aware just yesterday another BSE beef animal was discovered in Canada while at the same time the United States is unable to open the Pacific Rim export markets to United States beef products because of these countries concerns about the possibility of BSE.

Canada's protocol calls for a higher level of specific risk material removal than is required by the United States in processing plants. To import cattle that Canada chooses not to process will exacerbate the resistance of other countries to reopen to United States exports.

It is unconscionable to import a specific food stuff into the United States which causes cessation of export trade and causes severe and immediate economic harm to states and citizens.

We respectfully request that you remove the proposed rule for Canadian Over Thirty Month cattle importation immediately.

Yours Truly,



Ken Brooks, President

cc Senator Gordon Smith
Senator Ron Wyden
Congressman Greg Walden
County Judge Mark Webb