

DECLARATION OF HILARY WOOD

I, Hilary Wood, declare as follows:

- 1. I am the President and Founder of Front Range Equine Rescue ("FRER"), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization incorporated in Colorado. I have personal knowledge of the facts set forth in this declaration. The facts set forth are true to the best of my knowledge and recollection. If called, I could and would testify to these facts in a court of law.
- 2. Petitioner FRER is a Colorado-based nonprofit group incorporated under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. FRER is dedicated to stopping cruelty and abuse of horses through rescue and education. FRER is actively involved in the rescue, rehabilitation and adoption to good homes of domestic and wild horses found at auctions and horses destined for slaughter; and in educational efforts regarding responsible horse ownership, the cruelty of horse slaughter and wild horse roundups. FRER has assisted thousands of horses through its rescue and educational programs. While some of FRER's horses are surrendered by their owners or rescued when abandoned, many are rescued from livestock auctions; others are purchased at feed lots before they are sent to slaughter.
- 3. FRER directly rescues approximately 100 120 new horses per year. FRER horses live at facilities owned by FRER, at private foster homes, or at other privately contracted facilities.
- 4. One of FRER's primary goals is to purchase horses destined for slaughter for human consumption. Once rescued, FRER provides for the direct care and rehabilitation of these horses, provides training assessment, and then adoption into permanent and suitable homes for them.
- 5. I have personally been housing and providing for the care of horses for over twenty years.
- 6. In connection with my work with FRER and my own personal ownership of horses, I have become intimately familiar with the drugs, treatments and substances used by horse owners in America.

- 7. I assisted in the preparation of and have reviewed Exhibit 1 to the Petition for Rulemaking being submitted by FRER. Every item on that list is either commonly found in barns housing horses, and is used on those horses, or is found in catalogues and supply stores, for sale to private horse owners in America or available with a veterinarian's prescription. I am personally familiar with and use or have used at least 50 of the substances on that list, and am informed and believe that all of those substances are used regularly on companion, pleasure and recreation, and competition/show horses.
- 8. FRER has rescued horses from auction lots who were born as wild horses, captured by the federal Bureau of Land Management ("BLM"), and eventually ended up for sale. I have also directly adopted wild horses from the BLM. Records that accompanied these horses showed that they received some of the drugs on Exhibit 1, including but not limited to a series of vaccinations for many diseases, dewormers, which are labeled as prohibited for use in animals which will be eaten.
- 9. As part of FRER's mission, I have participated in the purchase of slaughter-bound horses directly from lots that were the horses' last stop before slaughter. Many of those horses, who would have entered the slaughter process otherwise, were sick with contagious respiratory illnesses. Many others developed serious illnesses, such as *Streptococcus equi* ("strangles"), a virulent and highly contagious equine infection, within a week of our acquisition.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct, based on my own personal knowledge and experience.

Executed this Gday of March, 2012, in Larkspur, Colorado.

Hilary Wood