



Consumer Federation of America

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 24, 2005

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Statement of CFA's Carol Tucker Foreman on Positive BSE Test Results

“Now we know why USDA resisted having the suspect animal subjected to the most sophisticated BSE test. They were afraid the truth would come out. The public and the industry know that this animal was infected with BSE only because the USDA office of inspector general insisted that the additional test be done.

“For over a week the industry has complained bitterly that it was ‘unfair’ and ‘unscientific’ to perform the most sophisticated scientific test. The history of BSE in the U.S. has been characterized by unsupportable assurances of no risk, inadequate regulatory remedies and the adoption by government and industry of ‘sympathetic science.’ This will result in further diminution of public confidence in USDA’s capacity to put public health ahead of industry convenience and trade imperatives.”

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The Consumer Federation of America is a non-profit association of 300 consumer groups, representing more than 50 million Americans, that seeks to advance the consumer interest through research, education and advocacy.