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Euthanasia Drug Dearth Hits Animal Shelters; Manufacturer's Changes Blamed



The Washington Post

April 4, 2000 | Guy Gugliotta

Animal shelters across the country are running out of the lethal drugs needed to destroy an estimated 6 million sick and unwanted animals each year, the Humane Society of the United States said yesterday.

The drug shortage arose because Ganes Chemical Works, of Pennsfield, N.J., has curtailed production of sodium pentobarbital, the principal raw material for veterinary euthanizing agents, while it changes its manufacturing techniques.

Ganes Vice President Michael Pavlak said the firm is the only one in the United States that made sodium pentobarbital for animal use. He confirmed the company had run out of the chemical, but expected to resume shipments by the end of April or ...

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