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ASHLAND COMMUNITY FOOD STORE

237 N. FIRST ST • ASHLAND, OR 97520 • (541) 482-2237 • FAX (541) 488-0470 • outreach@acfs.org

June 1, 2000

FDA Commissioner Jane Henney
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061 (HFA-305)
Rockville, MD 20852

RE: Docket No. 00P-1211/CP1

Dear Commissioner Henney,

On March 21, 2000, Greenpeace and a coalition of over 50 family farm, consumer and environmental groups joined the Center for Food Safety in a petition to the FDA demanding the development of a thorough pre-market and environmental testing regime for genetically engineered foods and mandatory labeling of such foods. I am writing for submission to the official rulemaking docket (#00P-1221/CP1) in support of that action.

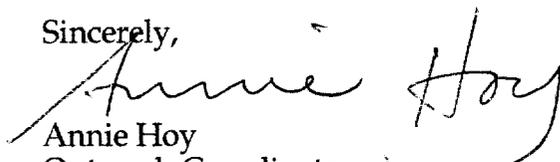
As a concerned citizen, I urge the FDA to require the labeling and pre-market safety testing of genetically engineered foods. As consumers, have an absolute right to know what is in the food that we are purchasing, as well as how it was produced.

As a grocery retailer, we have a right to know about every ingredient in the food we are selling. Our customers want to be sure they are purchasing food free of harmful ingredients. Right now we cannot tell them that the food we sell does not contain GMOs because there is no labeling requirement.

Scientists and doctors have warned that genetically manipulated crops may have unexpected side effects in the diet and the environment. Now we have evidence from a German study that GMOs fed to test animals affected the bacteria that naturally live in the gut. Without safety testing, there can be no evidence that these foods are safe in the long run.

Please take action to ensure that our health and environment are not put at risk.

Sincerely,


Annie Hoy
Outreach Coordinator
Ashland Community Food Store

00P-1211

Open 8 am to 9 pm Monday - Saturday, 9 am - 9 pm Sunday.
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