

June 2, 2000

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

1329 '00 JUN 12 P2:11

RE: Docket No. 00P-1211/CP1

Dear Commissioner Henney,

I am writing to add my comments to the official rulemaking docket (#00P-1211/CP1) demanding that the FDA develop thorough pre-market and environmental testing protocol(s), as well as *mandatory labeling*, for genetically engineered foods.

It is scandalous that consumers are being kept in the dark about the contents of the food they eat. We have a simple right to know what we are eating and how it was produced. For years, the FDA has received hundreds of thousands of comments from the public demanding mandatory labeling of GE foods, but no real action has been taken. The recent decision to have makers of genetically engineered foods "consult" with the FDA before introducing their product falls miles short of the action that must be taken. What is now being called a decline in "consumer confidence" with respect to genetically engineered foods is literally becoming a rise in consumer outrage. The public has repeatedly and overwhelmingly demanded more information and more precautions for genetically engineered food. Why have they been ignored?

The government should require mandatory pre-market safety testing of genetically engineered foods. Without such requirements, we cannot know if new toxins or allergens are being introduced, or if levels of existing toxins in these new foods are increased. Also, the effect of using antibiotic resistant genes in the genetic engineering process remains unclear, and may pose a health risk.

I urge you to take immediate and significant action to address the safety of genetically engineered foods. We must not tolerate anything below the gold standard when it comes to the safety of the food we eat. We have a right to know.

Sincerely,



Chris Guenther
650 Branciforte Dr
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

00P-1211

C 1021

C. GUENTHER
650 BRANCIFORTE DR.
SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060



FDA COMMISSIONER
5630 FISHERS LANE
ROOM 1061 (HFA-305)
ROCKVILLE, MD 20852

20852/0001

