

FDA Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
Food & Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane Rm. 1061
Rockville, MD. 20852

3124 '02 FEB 14 10:39

Greetings,

2-9-01

We are writing in regard to the FDA's proposed guidelines for foods containing genetically engineered products.

The FDA's current proposal requires makers of GE foods or ingredients only to "consult" with the FDA at least four months before releasing new products onto the marketplace. Such mandatory "consultations" have no legal meaning and offer consumers nothing but a false sense of security.

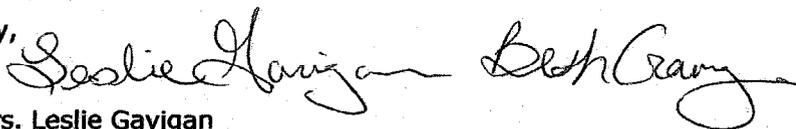
The proposed rules allow for voluntary "GE free" food labeling, effectively putting the burden on companies who shun such unproven technology to test, certify and label their products as non-GE.

We believe the proposed rules favor the interests of corporate agriculture and the biotechnology industry over the public's right to know about and choose products with acceptable ingredients.

We are not opposed to biotechnology and all of its applications, but we do concur with many scientists and an international coalition of governments that call for precautionary testing and strict regulation of genetically engineered products to prevent harm to human health and the environment.

Our family rejects your lax rules proposal and demands the FDA require more testing and information about genetically manufactured products. We also demand genetically engineered products be clearly labeled so consumers can reject the purchase of these items if they choose to do so.

Sincerely,



Mr. & Mrs. Leslie Gavigan
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