

05 March 2001

FDA Commissioner
FDA Docket No. 00N-1396 / 00D-1598
FDA Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

Re: FDA Docket No. 00N-1396 / 00D-1598

Greetings Commissioner,

We are responding to the FDA's proposed rule and guidance on genetically engineered (GE) foods on behalf of our family. The agency's voluntary labeling and notification proposals are totally inadequate to protect human health, the environment and our right to know. We fully support the following:

1. Mandatory requirement that all GE foods and food ingredients be labeled so that we are informed and have a choice.
2. GE foods should not be assumed to be safe and should be subject to mandatory premarket safety testing.
3. There should be a moratorium on GE foods until long-term studies show they are safe for human health and the environment.

The FDA Modernization Act of 1997 (PL 105-115) affirmed FDA's public health protection role and defined the Agency's mission. A part of that mission is to protect the public health by ensuring that foods are safe, wholesome, sanitary, and properly labeled. By supporting the above three requirements, the FDA would be fulfilling their mission for the American consumer.

Sincerely,



Cathy and David Wirtanen
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