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As produce growers for Farmers Markets, we have the following comments concerning Docket #97N-0451.

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Section 2.1

#1. We Reject the use of Chlorine Dioxide; Hypochorite AND TRISODIUM PHOSPHATE As ONLY ADDING MORE UNNECCESARY CHEMICALS TO THE HUMAN BODY.

#2 - ALL PRODUCE SHOULD BE SPRAY WASHED TO MINIMIZE EXPOSURE TO CONTAMINATION.

SECTION 2.1.1 - MUNICIPAL SEWER SLUDGE SHOULD NEVER BE USED ON ANY FIELDS ASSOCIATED WITH THE FOOD CHAIN.

RADIATION SHOULD NEVER BE CONSIDERED FOR SANITATION PURPOSES.

SECTION 2.2.1 - WE BELIEVE THAT ONLY HUGE AGRIBUSINESS' WOULD TAKE THE CHANCE OF USING UNTREATED MANURE ON FIELD CROPS, AS IT

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WOULD 'BURN OUT' THE ENTIRE CROP AND SMALL FARMERS COULD NOT AFFORD THIS.

GENERAL COMMENTS:

WHY CAN'T A SIMPLE TEST FOR MOST COMMON PATHOGENS (ie: A STRIP TEST) BE CREATED AND MADE AVAILABLE FOR PRODUCE. IN THIS MANNER, FARMERS COULD TEST AND RECORD MICROBIAL LEVELS AT VARIOUS STAGES OF PRODUCTION. SAMPLES AT ie: IN THE FIELD AT HARVESTING
AFTER CLEANING, PACKAGING AND COOLING.

WE DO FEEL THAT LOT ID WILL PUT A TREMENDOUS BURDEN ON THE SMALL TO MEDIUM PRODUCE FARMER AS HE WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO AFFORD THE EXTRA COST. IF THIS COMES TO REGULATION, PERHAPS GOVERNMENT GRANTS <u>SHOULD</u> BE PROVIDED.

IF FDA IS SO WORRIED AND CONCERNED ABOUT POLLUTED SURFACE WATER, THEY SHOULD THINK ABOUT THE ALLOWING OF RAW SEWAGE AND SLUDGE INTO THE RIVERS AND LAKES OF THIS COUNTRY. THERE ARE PLANTS THAT WILL CONVERT EVEN THE WORST PATHOGENS INTO CLEAN WATER. PERHAPS 'THE POND TREATMENT SYSTEM' SHOULD BE PLACED AT EVERY MUNICIPAL TREATMENT PLANT IN THIS COUNTRY.

ALSO, MOST OF THE SANITATION AND WATER TESTING AND WORKER REGULATIONS LISTED IN THIS DOCUMENT ARE ALREADY LAWS IN MOST STATES.

SINCERELY

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