31 MARCH 1999

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN —

I AM WRITING TO EXPRESS MY CONCERN OVER THE FDA'S PROPOSAL TO ELIMINATE THE LABELING OF IRRADIATED FOODS. THE PROCESS OF IRRADIATION PRESENTS MANY HAZARDS TO BOTH THE CONSUMER AND COMMUNITIES WHERE IRRADIATION CENTERS ARE LOCATED AND IT SEEMS THAT THE ONLY VIABLE ARGUMENT FOR IRRADIATION IS TO PROVIDE AN OUTLET TO SURPLUS RADIOACTIVE WASTE THAT THE D.O.E. WOULD LIKE TO GET RID OF. I FEEL THAT IT IS THE BASIC RIGHT OF THE CONSUMER TO KNOW THAT THE PRODUCT THEY MAY BE BUYING IS AN IRRADIATED PRODUCT AND LABELING OUGHT TO REMAIN PROMINENT AND ACCURATE IN ITS DESCRIPTION OF FOOD IRRADIATION (THAT IS, MISLEADING TERMS SUCH AS "COLD - PASTEURIZED" OUGHT TO BE AVOIDED). AS SOMEONE INVOLVED IN FOOD PRODUCTION & MARKETING I WOULD BE OUTRAGED IF IRRADIATION LABELING WAS DIMINISHED OR ELIMINATED.

SINCERELY —

98N-1038

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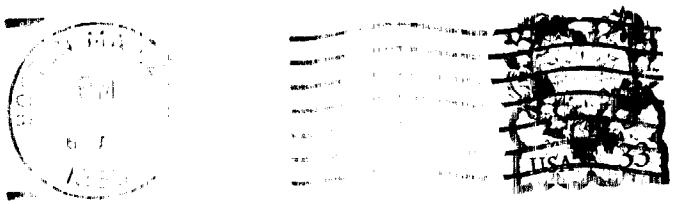

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