5-14-99.

To: The Food & Drug Admin.
Fr: Don Torrence P.O. Box 1022 Kent, Wa. 98035.
Re: Docket 98N-1038 - Irradiation

99 MAY 19 P4:24

Dear Sirs;

I am opposed to irradiation and remain adamantly opposed to this process because it "destroys vitamins & causes changes in sensory & spoilage qualities that are not obvious or expected by the consumer." As you well know most consumers do not want irradiated foods (97% according to a CBS poll in 1997). In addition, this questionable process adds to the many environmental and safety issues relating to the trafficking of nuclear materials through our cities & rural communities.

In defference to the interests of corporate agribusiness and the nuclear industry, your agency has given the go sign for the irradiation of our food supply. I implore you not to continue to ignore public sentiment & cave in to the above mentioned interests by permiting ~~the~~ innocuous labeling regulations that will deprive the American people of the right to make informed choices. More specifically, I request that irradiated food be labeled as irradiated. No alternative

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terms, such as electronic pasteurization, are acceptable to me and my friends.

When public sentiment is overwhelmingly opposed to a policy, that policy should not be implemented. You are weakening the binding threads of democracy when, in order to implement a questionable process, you destroy the right of choice by labeling meant to obscure rather than enlighten.

Sincerely yours,
Donald R. Lawrence

Donald R. Torrence
P.O. Box 1022
Kent, WA 98035

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