GREGORY V. SCHMIDT
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ST PAUL, MN 55104

FOOD & DRUG ADMINISTRATION
DOCKETS MGMT. BRANCH (HFA-305)
5630 FISHER'S LANE RM 1061
ROCKVILLE, MD. 20852

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DOCKET # 98 N - 1038

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

I FIND IT INCREASINGLY FRUSTRATING WHEN AGENCIES SEEM MORE INTERESTED IN ECONOMIC ISSUES THAN PUBLIC HEALTH & WELFARE, THE REAL WELFARE OF ALL THE CITIZENS. THE USDA'S ACCEPTANCE OF INDUSTRY'S ASSURANCES IN REGARD TO MEAT PACKING IS ONE OF THE MOST BLATANT, BUT THE FDA'S REFUSAL TO BE BALANCED IN REGARD TO NATURAL HEALTH, A POSITION THAT IS CLEARLY AT ODDS WITH A HUGE PERCENTAGE OF THE POPULATION, IS OBVIOUSLY EQUALLY PUZZLING.

THE ISSUE OF FOOD IRRADIATION SEEMS TO BE YET ANOTHER ATTEMPT TO SOLVE A PERCEIVED PROBLEM WITH A SOLUTION THAT'S SO FAR OUT OF PROPORTION AS TO BE LUDICROUS. THE CHIEF PROBLEMS WITH THIS METHOD ARE

1) SEVERE DEGREDATION OF BOTH THE VITAMIN CONTENT AS WELL AS THE ENZYMES CONTAINED IN THE FOOD. DEAD FOOD SOURCES EQUALS DEAD PEOPLE. YOU CANNOT GET LIFE FROM DEATH, NO ENZYMES NO LIVING FOODS

2) ONCE THE FOOD HAS BEEN IRRADIATED, IT'S STILL NOT SAFE IF BACTERIA IS INTRODUCED AFTERWARD, FROM OTHER SOURCES. A MORE LIKELY OUTPUT SINCE A FALSE SENSE OF SECURITY HAS BEEN IMPARTED BY THE SELLING OF THE TECHNOLOGY AS THE CURE OF ALL.

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