July 12, 1999

Jane E. Henney, M.D.,
Commissioner
Food & Drug Administration
Room 14-71
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, Maryland 20852

2340 '99 JUL 19 P2:01

Re: Docket #98N-1038 "Irradiation in the Production, Processing and Handling of Food"

Dear Dr. Henney:

I am extremely concerned about the prospect of weakening or eliminating the labeling requirements for irradiated food. Any foods containing ingredients that have been treated by irradiation, should be clearly labeled with the international symbol of irradiated food. For food that is not packaged, this information should be clearly displayed on a poster in plain view to where the product is displayed for sale.

The terms "treated with radiation" or "treated by irradiation" should be retained because they accurately portray the irradiation process. The radura symbol without written disclosure is not adequate.

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We, as consumers, have a right to know how our food has been processed. Please ensure that labeling requirements are strengthened, not weakened.

Sincerely

Winfred J. Matronia

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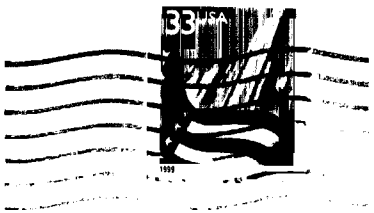

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