

GLOBAL RESOURCE ACTION CENTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

10:37

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Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
Food and Drug Administration
Room 1061
5630 Fishers Lane
Rockville, MD 20852

August 14, 2000

Dear FDA:

On behalf of the Global Resource Action Center for the Environment (GRACE), I am writing to express our opposition to the expansion of the definition of "fresh" on food labels to include alternative "nonthermal" processes including irradiation.

Irradiated food is not fresh food, and the FDA's definition should reflect this by not including nonthermal technologies. The potential risk to human well-being from irradiated food has not been thoroughly studied, and the FDA is responsible for making decisions that do not pose a threat to public health.

Please ensure the labeling criteria reflects the understanding of 'fresh' to be untreated, unprocessed food.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

Alice Slater
President

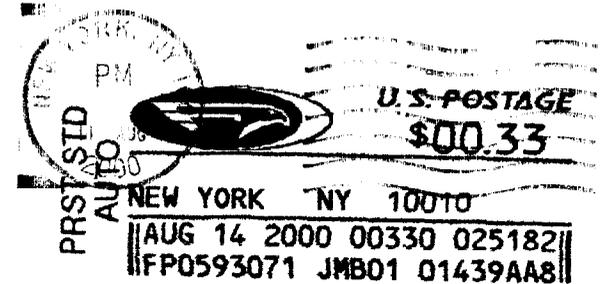
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15 East 26th Street, New York, N.Y. 10010



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HFA - 305
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5630 Fishers Lane
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