

Cynthia Kolbe
1025 E. Orange St. # G-120
Tempe, AZ 85281

0347 '01 MAR 13 P1:54

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

March 5, 2001

To whom it may concern:

I am writing to you regarding the FDA's proposition requiring premarket notification on foods developed through biotechnology. I am writing to encourage you to implement a consultation with food developers at least 120 days in advance before marketing the food product. I am an undergraduate student in Dietetics at the Arizona State University. Personally, I support the FDA's approval for nutritional labeling and would also recommend food labels to include truthful information regarding its development.

Information that demonstrates to consumers that food products are as safe as its conventional counterpart should be included in food labels for the following reasons:

- There is too little output data to reveal health significance of foods developed through biotechnology.
- Unlabeled food products developed through biotechnology may mislead a consumer to purchase a bioengineered product that contains a harmful allergen.
- Consumers have a right to make an informed decision when choosing to purchase foods that may or may not have been developed through biotechnology.

Certainly, the FDA should create a standard criterion to evaluate food development organizations. I believe it is also important for the FDA to communicate with the food development organizations as well as consumer populations the appropriate labeling terms. By taking action on this proposal the FDA will be protected because consumers will be responsible for their decisions to purchase the foods correctly labeled "biotechnology" or "bioengineered."

I appreciate your concern. Should you need further information, please do contact me at (480) 829-6296.

Yours sincerely,



Cynthia Kolbe

C 2217

000_1598