



GRACE PUBLIC FUND

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Bernard A. Schewtz
Acting Principal Deputy Commissioner
U.S. Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane
Room 1061 (HFA-305)
Rockville, MD 20852

RE: Docket No. 01P-0230

November 6, 2001

Dear Commissioner Schewtz,

GRACE Public Fund supports the petition submitted by the Center for Food Safety and the coalition of over 60 petitioners, including consumer groups, environmental organizations, fishing companies and fishermen, calling for a moratorium on the domestic marketing and importation of transgenic fish until FDA adequately addresses the impacts to the environment and human food safety.

We urge you to reject any application seeking to market transgenic fish as food for human consumption until there has been a review of the associated risks.

As FDA takes steps to regulate transgenic fish under its authority to review new animal drugs, it should seek full consumer and environmental protection. Given the human health risks and potential environmental impacts posed by the commercialization of this fish, it is imperative that FDA adopt a pre-market regulatory review with these threats in mind.

Further, FDA should retain the moratorium until the Department of Interior, Department of Commerce, and Department of Agriculture address the environmental risks posed by transgenic fish and implement the necessary regulatory requirements as required by each agency's statutory mandates.

The approval of any genetically altered (GE) salmon and other GE fish is unacceptable at this time.

Sincerely,

Christina Salvi
Program Associate

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