



SUSTAINABLE FOOD CENTER

Board of Directors

Colin Wallis, Chair
Ian McAbeer, Chair Elect
Nancy Spencer, Treasurer
Cheray Ashwill, Secretary
Amon Burton
Carrie Dyer
Laura Estes
Felipe Fernandes
Valerie Romero Foohey
Kristi Katz
Cory Leahy
Erika Levack
Jody Madden
James Osborn
Mellie Price
Steve Semelsberger
Shelly Sethi

Kathleen S. O'Neill
Chief, Transportation, Energy & Agriculture Section
Antitrust Division
United States Department of Justice
450 5th Street, NW, Suite 800
Washington, DC 20530

Chief O'Neill,

The Sustainable Food Center is a non-profit organization based in Austin, Texas. We manage two farmers markets as well as a Farm-to-Work CSA program that allows farmers to sell-directly to consumers. Together these programs generate over \$2 million per year in revenue for over 90 farmers, ranchers, and food entrepreneurs.

Advisory Council

Will Allen
Growing Power, Inc.
Lucia Athens
Austin Chief Sustainability Officer
Wendell Berry
Author
John-Michael Cortez
Mayor Adler's Chief of Staff
Honorable Lloyd Doggett
U.S. Congress
Jim Hightower
Author/Commentator
Richard Linklater
Filmmaker
Mike Martinez
Former Austin City Council
Will Meredith
Meredith Family Investments
Tom Philpott
Writer for Mother Jones
Michael Pollan
Author/Professor
Robin Rather
Collective Strength
Anne Robertson
Healthy Child, Healthy World
Dr. Eduardo Sanchez, M.D.
American Heart Association
Eric Schlosser
Author
Eugene Sepulveda
Entrepreneurs Foundation
Jennifer Vickers
Community Investment Corp.
Alice Waters
Chez Panisse

Farmers in our network have expressed growing concern with consolidation in the market for agricultural inputs, including seed, fertilizer, and the suite of products and services that aid in the cultivation of food. Consolidation in the agribusiness inputs sector has led to a situation in which farmers are given fewer choices and must pay more for the products that they often need to conduct business. The Sustainable Food Center strongly opposed the proposed merger of Bayer and Monsanto, until such a time as the former divests itself of neonicotinoid seed treatments besides clothianidin and of seed patents to companies other than BASF. We also believe that Bayer should divest itself of digital agriculture and metadata projects in the United States of America.

The Sustainable Food Center urges U.S. Justice Department to reconsider its decision to approve the merger of the Bayer and Monsanto corporations.

Kind Regards

Alex Canepa
Farmers Markets and Advocacy Manager
Sustainable Food Center