



SUSTAINABLE FOOD CENTER

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

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