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Sent: Friday, December 18, 2009 2:10 AM
To: ATR-Agricultural Workshops <agriculturalworkshops@usdoj.gov>
Subject: Comments

As a consumer and citizen I am writing because I am deeply concerned about the lack of competition in agricultural markets.

-- The causes for this are known, but not dealt with adequately by regulatory agencies, and we are continually eating foods with unlabeled chemicals which may be carcinogens.

-- I am aware that there is a 'revolving door' of personnel between government regulators and corporate lobbyists which I suspect is connected to the fact that agricultural corporations aren't held to strict standards.

-- We know that food is grown with methods that pollute water, poison soils, and threaten long-term food security.

-- Further, farmers are struggling and going under at the same time that big food companies are making record profits. Prices continue to rise at the supermarket. This is wrong.

-- Monsanto controls the majority of seeds in the US and is known to threaten farmers who don't buy its seeds. This should be illegal.

While I deeply appreciate the opportunity to comment, I hope action will be taken to change this system.

Sincerely,

MIRIAM IOSUPOVICI

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