

From: visualeyel08@yahoo.com
Sent: Friday, December 18, 2009 12:43 PM
To: ATR-Agricultural Workshops <agriculturalworkshops@usdoj.gov>
Subject: To me, GMO has been a personal issue, I cannot Eat GMO corn or GMO feed-fed salmon as they give me a strong allergic reaction similar to my wheat allergy!! When I was at the interantional Beekeepers meeting, Apimondia, in France, I learned how

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December 18, 2009

US Department of Justice

Dear US Department of Justice:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments in advance of the Department of Justice's workshops on "Agriculture and Antitrust Enforcement Issues in Our 21st Century Economy."

To me, GMO has been a personal issue, I cannot Eat GMO corn or GMO feed-fed salmon as they give me a strong allergic reaction similar to my wheat allergy!! When I was at the international Beekeepers meeting, Apimondia, in France, I learned how serious the situation was.

As an organic consumer, & BEEKEEPER I am particularly concerned about Monsanto's business plan and mode of operation, using MY government as proxy to force their products on the market & in the field, when their product has NOT been proven harmless to all pollinators.

By buying seed companies and aggressively patenting life, Monsanto has gained control over as much as 90 percent of seed genetics. This is anti-competitive behavior that skews markets and subjects farmers and consumers to the unchecked power of a company that can raise prices at will. The idea that Monsanto could patent the rights to a plant providing nourishment and medicine to poor people in a developing company and prevent them from using what might LITERALLY be in their own back yard is appalling to me ...SOME of those patents have been rejected. It is in our own homeland insecurity to stop this kind of business model because people become angry at that AMERICAN company, and strike out at ANYTHING AMERICAN they can... not good.

But while Monsanto has acquired a diverse store of seed genetics, they are only making available a few seeds that are genetically modified to be dependent on their chemicals.

MONOPOLY!!!

The same way we protect animal species from extinction, we should protect plant species, especially the tens of thousands of food varieties, from companies like Monsanto that are consciously eliminating them.

PERVERSE!!

I urge you to please include in your investigation a consideration of the importance keeping seeds, the foundation of human life, at least in the marketplace, if not in the public domain where they truly belong.

Sincerely,

Tina Juarez
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