

**From:** linda@honorearthfarm.com  
**Sent:** Friday, December 18, 2009 1:12 PM  
**To:** ATR-Agricultural Workshops <agriculturalworkshops@usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** Comments on corporate control of our food system

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To the Dept. of Justice:

I am writing to you as an organic farmer located in Eugene, Oregon. I am very involved in the local food movement here and working on educating people through farmer's markets about their food and food choices. I have been active in the environmental and organic farming education communities now for 10 years.

I am concerned with the consolidation of agriculture and food production into the large corporations that dominate our food production in this country presently. These companies (like Monsanto, ADM, Tyson, etc.) have demonstrated that profits come before concerns for the quality of the food, the humane treatment of animals, and the environmental effects of their agricultural practices. In the case of Monsanto, they have demonstrated PREDATORY business practices that have intentionally put small farmers out of business in this country and outside our country, with the suicides of Indian farmers being directly attributable to Monsanto's activities. Their interest in developing seeds with a "terminator" gene is completely unethical, and they have done everything in their power to stop farmers from saving seed - an immoral act against nature and humanity!

Please consider the actions of these businesses and how they are trading profit for the health of our citizens and our planet. It is high time that these corporations be split into smaller entities to break the monopoly that is now in place in this country. It is also NECESSARY that you investigate their unethical treatment of farm labor, animals raised on factory farms, gross amounts of pesticides that continue to increase in usage do to Monsanto "Roundup Ready" seed, and the monopoly being attempted to control our seed supplies. I would hope you will take the time to view the recent food documentary "Food, Inc." for more details into some of these corporate activities.

If we are to restore our farms and food production back to local, healthy and sustainable methods of agriculture, then these companies need to be dealt with now before their actions have irreversible consequences on our soil, water, and air (CO2 production). Please join those of us working to restore a sustainable food system to the U.S. and show that our government really does care about its citizens, this planet, and healthy sustainable food.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments on this very important investigation of corporate control of agriculture in the U.S.

Sincerely,

Linda Perrine  
Honor Earth Farm  
Eugene, Oregon  
linda@honorearthfarm.com