From: threerivers@tellurian.net
Sent: Friday, December 18, 2009 2:13 PM
To: ATR-Agricultural Workshops <agriculturalworkshops@usdoj.gov>
Subject: Comment

Miriam MacGillis
41A Silver Lake Road
Blairstown, NJ 07825-4158

December 18, 2009

US Department of Justice

Dear US Department of Justice:

Since the early 1980's I have given my life energy to the promotion of organic, locally produced food. This followed a decade of careful study of the structural causes of world hunger, a disgraceful crisis that emerged in the 70's with no real justification for it.

As an advocate on religious and moral grounds I have worked to reveal and uncover the rise and oppressive control of Montsano in the "Life sciences" world of propaganda. I have been and remain deeply worried and troubled by Monsanto's control over the seed supply.

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.

But, my main concern is that, 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.

The vast bounty of food crops that farmers have cultivated and improved upon over the last 10,000 or so years should not be allowed to be bought up and put out of commission by a company bent on whittling down food varieties to a few pesticide-dependent genetically modified crops.

The most devious part of Monsanto's business model is that their Frankenseeds can cross-pollinate with organic and traditional varieties, destroying their unique characteristics and infecting them with genetically engineered chemical dependence or even "Terminator" or "Traitor" technology that renders seeds sterile, a literal death sentence for seeds maintained through conventional breeding.

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.

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.

The short term profit of a few human beings at the expense of our children and the children of all species cries out to heaven. Please touch into your innate conscience.

Sincerely,

Miriam MacGillis