

From: merrie@mcn.org
Sent: Friday, December 18, 2009 7:53 PM
To: ATR-Agricultural Workshops <agriculturalworkshops@usdoj.gov>
Subject: Comment

Meredith Sm
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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."

As an organic consumer of both retail and wholesale products, I am concerned about Monsanto's control over the seed supply. My restaurant grosses nearly one million dollars yearly, contributes hundreds of thousands of tax dollars to the economy, employs twenty five people, and is located in the GMO free county of Mendocino. We buy exclusively non-GMO organic produce, beans, rice, etc. and non-factory farmed grass fed animal products. I am horrified by the takeover attempts and resistance to labeling foods initiated by chemical companies like Monsanto, and the ruinous legal battles with which it has forced honest farmers into bankruptcy. I continue to be appalled by the lack of responsibility Monsanto/Union Carbide demonstrates in its ongoing court battles with the victims of the Bhopal disaster. In the coming years, I hope to develop agricultural production for my own business and need to be assured that at that time I can assure myself and my customers that the seed stocks we plant are GMO/chemical free, and that over the years we can stockpile and pollinate those we most enjoy using in our food production.

Sincerely,

Meredith Smith
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