

**From:** kimerikpierson@yahoo.com  
**Sent:** Friday, December 18, 2009 9:43 PM  
**To:** ATR-Agricultural Workshops <agriculturalworkshops@usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** Comment

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Kim Pierson  
41717 N.W. Chilton Drive  
Woodland, WA 98674-3010

December 18, 2009

US Department of Justice

Dear US Department of Justice:

Personal Comment: All the below +... I am an organic small farmer who has helped start a farmers market in my little WA town. Customers are stunned at the variety of heirloom organics we sell. They cannot believe the difference in taste, and how the vegetables cook differently (fresh tomatoes versus those gassed for color as they are picked green). No company has the right to own the reproduction of food, to mess with its genetic makeup and down the line ours, to deny next year's crop with terminator seeds, and to make our food dependent on the very chemicals that are killing us. Our land is being ruined and our health is in the balance. For our children I fight against Monsanto... how will they know the difference if all there is to choose from comes from one source? Monoculture sets us up for disaster, one mistake and then what? Even the bees are dying from the pesticides and when our pollinators are gone what crops are there left to eat that do not require their help? Not many.  
STOP MONSANTO FOR YOUR CHILDREN'S SAKE OR BE CONSIGNED TO THE RANKS OF HITLER, KHAN, AND THE EASTER ISLANDERS TRAGEDY. THERE IS ONLY ONE EARTH... WE DO NOT GET A SECOND CHANCE! THINK!!!

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, I am particularly concerned about 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.

Sincerely,

Kim Pierson