

**From:** King Family <kings@usiwireless.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 19, 2009 3:22 AM  
**To:** ATR-Agricultural Workshops <agriculturalworkshops@usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** Comments on consolidation in the food system

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As an environmentalist and father of three, I am one who believes that ultimately, the healthiest and most robust food delivery system is based primarily on local production so that those who grow the food and profit from its sale also live on the same land, drink the same water, and plan to pass on a similar natural heritage to their children as the ones who purchase and eat the majority of that food. I believe that consolidation and industrialization has led to a food system that is unsustainable and unhealthy as it strips certain areas of their natural resources and is easily disrupted by its reliance on unrealistically inexpensive fossil fuels for transportation. Furthermore, having profits go to someone who does not live in the environment that is being affected and who does not even necessarily eat the food that is produced is a recipe for short-sighted decisions that put profits ahead of sustainability and health. In the near future, when fuels become properly priced to reflect their impact on global climate change, I believe our systems will revert back to more local food production and I believe that the sooner we can start that transition, the less painful and more planful it will be.

Sincerely,  
Gregory King  
Minneapolis, MN