

From: svleeds@aol.com
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To: ATR-Agricultural Workshops <agriculturalworkshops@usdoj.gov>
Subject: Comment

Sarah Velody
1219 LUISA STREET, SUITE #4
SANTA FE, NM 87505-4176

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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."

Investigating Monsanto for antitrust activity should be a top priority for the Dept of Justice. The main reason is because they have consistently tried to crush competition in their attempts to monopolize the food industry. I cite as evidence of their antitrust behavior, the following:

- 1) Monsanto's numerous lawsuits against small producers of milk and crops in which they attempt to levy huge financial fines against these small companies in a David & Goliath-like scenario (Monsanto being extremely wealthy and able to afford lawyers and litigation that can tie up a small producer so the small producer is forced to shut down).
- 2) Monsanto's insane strategy of sowing their genetically enhanced seeds in fields next to small-scale farmers who have their own organic seeds which then become contaminated by Monsanto seeds - and then Monsanto having the arrogance and gall to accuse those farmers of stealing and growing their gmo seeds! Does this not sound like a deliberate strategy to undermine their competition?
3. Any intelligent person who cares about what they ingest would prefer a non gmo'd grown crop or non rBGH contaminated milk (R-BGH and GMO'd seeds being Monsanto's special "gift" to society). So what did Monsanto try to do? They lobbied to get a law passed so that smaller companies could not warn the public by labeling their products as non gmo and non rGBH. Fortunately, that law was later overturned. But that action on Monsanto's part can definitely be interpreted as evidence of antitrust activity in addition to being underhanded (suppressing what should be public knowledge) and outright disingenuous (encouraging people to buy their product out of ignorance).
- 4) Lastly, Monsanto needs to be investigated for their sheer unfettered greed: placing profit above people's health and welfare. A company should have an obligation to enhance people's lives for the better as well as making a profit - but Monsanto only seems to fit the description for caring about the bottom line - even if their product damages peoples' health and wellbeing; and even, importantly, for the Dept of Justice, if it means breaking antitrust laws in order to get their product sold by crushing competition illegally.

I have never seen any indication that Monsanto as a company gives a hoot about people - their motto is probably "profit above people" but that of course is just my general impression.

Finally, I welcome a Dept of Justice investigation because this kind of cutthroat behavior on the part of bloated, greedy, immoral organizations needs to be curbed.

Sincerely,

Sarah Velody