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Sent: Thursday, December 24, 2009 12:28 AM
To: ATR-Agricultural Workshops <agriculturalworkshops@usdoj.gov>
Subject: Comment

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December 24, 2009

US Department of Justice

Dear US Department of Justice:

First, let me 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."

I am an organic consumer and have been so for over 20 years. I have been deeply concerned over Monsanto's actions to gain control over our seed supply and the food we eat.

In their purchasing of seed companies and aggressive patenting of seed genetics, Monsanto now controls over 90 percent of these seed genetics. They have virtually squashed or taken control of the vast majority of their competition and made it near to impossible to compete against them. They have skewed the markets and now have unchecked power to control pricing and availability of seeds to farmers and consumers both.

In this monopoly they are creating, they are doing something that concerns me even further - in their vast store of seed genetics they are only making available the few seeds that are genetically modified to depend on their chemicals. They are not making the rest of the seeds available, basically taking them off the market.

The food crop seeds that have and are being bought up by Monsanto are seeds that have been universally available, and have been cultivated and improved over the last 10,000 or so years. These seeds originally were provided to us by nature, they do not belong to Monsanto or any monopoly to buy up and put out of commission in order to pare down our food varieties to only be those that are produced by Monsanto as pesticide resistant genetically modified seeds.

This is so obviously an attempt by Monsanto to control the entire market and be a monopoly I am shocked that they have not come under investigation a long time ago.

Monsanto is fully aware of one of the most disastrous traits of their "Frankenseeds" and it is part of their business model. These seeds cross-pollinate with organic and traditional varieties, destroying their unique characteristics, infect them with genetically engineered chemical dependence, or with technology called "traitor" or "terminator" that

renders seeds sterile, giving seeds maintained through conventional breeding a virtual death sentence.

We need to protect our plant species, in particular our thousands upon thousands of food varieties, just as we do for animal species, from companies like Monsanto that are intentionally and consciously eliminating them.

With all my heart and concern for our food supply and our rights as consumers and producers, I implore you to please consider in your investigation how important it is to keep this foundation of human life, our seeds, in the marketplace and in the public domain where they belong.

With respect,

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