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Sent: Friday, December 25, 2009 2:32 PM
To: ATR-Agricultural Workshops <agriculturalworkshops@usdoj.gov>
Subject: Comments

I am writing because I am concerned about the lack of competition (and other related issues) in agricultural markets.

? There is a "revolving door" of personnel between corporate lobbyists and government regulators. No wonder corporations aren't held to strict standards.

(Why in the world is Siddiqui nominated for food trade negotiations??? His experience comes from a corporate giant that restricts competition.)

? Just one company, Monsanto, controls the majority of seeds in the US, and regularly threatens farmers who don't buy its seeds.

Don't fix the food system in the US only to export our horrible corporate seed greed overseas to ruin the developing world as well.

? Food is grown and raised in ways that are terrible for the environment, with methods that pollute the water, poison the soil, and threaten our long-term food security.

I personally seek out foods with no GMO's, chemical herbicides, pesticides and fertilizers that are unhealthy at all stages of the food chain. My daughter has had nothing but organic dairy at home, safest meats, grains, and produce that we can find.

? What's in our food, anyway? And why aren't there decent labels telling you where it grew, what chemicals are on/in it, and if it's genetically modified?

WHY ARE PUBLIC SCHOOL LUNCHESES SO HIGH IN calories and fats using the cheapest disgusting ingredients PURCHASED FROM CORPORATE PIRATES with our hard earned tax dollars?

Why are the children not learning and obese? Non-nutritive/poisonous foods have a great deal to do with it. I wonder how much those same pirates have invested in health insurers and pharmaceutical companies?

If we want to remain relevant in the global economy, why can't we feed our future the very best food?

? Prices are rising at the supermarket, but you've heard that farmers are struggling -- and big food companies have made record profits this year.

Even though our family is struggling every day, I have made a conscious choice to pay about \$1.00 more for each 1/2 gallon of milk to protect farmers in one organic dairy coop.

Apply the laws and/or recommend updated laws (Windfall tax on AgriBusiness Giants Profits and or "War" Reparations for what the neglect of this issue has really cost us and will continue to cost us in medical and social costs for decades to come. We end up forced to pay them profit over and over again for bad service. Is that the new American way?

Can the Justice department really do what needs be done alone or can we have a joint strike force solution with USDA and EPA stepping up and fulfilling their missions?

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to comment(vent). This is a matter of extreme importance to us and most of our friends. Please protect us from those who would create an "Oryx and Crake" (Margaret Atwood novel) world.

Sincerely,

Wendy Wiberg

