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**To:** ATR-Agricultural Workshops <agriculturalworkshops@usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** Comments Regarding Agriculture and Antitrust Enforcement Issues in Our 21st Century Economy

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TEMPLATE: Comments Regarding Agriculture and Antitrust Enforcement Issues in Our 21st Century Economy

I am a mother, grandmother, gardener, and cook, and I am concerned about the consolidation of corporate power in the food and agriculture sector.

Like everyone else, I've watched prices rising at the supermarket even though my income and the majority of other people's earnings have not risen. This makes it very hard to maintain adequate nutrition for many, and although I'm not on the edge of poverty, price hikes just make my staying within budget a lot harder. There seems to be little we can do to cope with this. At the same time, a lot of big food companies have made record profits this year -- even as consumers are paying more for food.)

I'm concerned about my family's safety; outbreak and spread of bacteria like E. coli happens much faster when meat and vegetables are processed in big centralized locations. Furthermore, the use of antibiotics for non-therapeutic reasons constitutes a threat to everyone's health by reducing the effectiveness of antibiotics for human diseases.

In my part of the country, many local farms are going out of business because small farmers can't compete with prices set by industrial farms and consolidated buyers.

I'm also concerned about the environmental damage done by huge agribusinesses that release inordinate amounts of animal wastes into the groundwater and our rivers.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments.

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