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Sent: Thursday, December 31, 2009 5:01 PM
To: ATR-Agricultural Workshops <agriculturalworkshops@usdoj.gov>
Subject: Food/Farming

To whom it may concern,

I am an attorney with a b.s. in biology. I have been very aware of issues regarding the production and processing of food in this country most of my life due to health issues.

Big Agra has a stranglehold in this country on how farming is performed and how food is shipped. There are so many more incidences of allergies, asthma, cancer, diabetes and obesity in this country now because of the way the business of food is handled. When the health providers decry junk food as the harbinger of diabetes and obesity it makes me laugh. Junk food is just the tip of the iceberg. The real problem is obeying the nutritionists mantra of eating around the "perimeter" of the grocery store: the produce, seafood, meat and dairy are usually located along the walls of the store. The idea is that these are the whole foods and healthy foods. However, they are not: the produce and vegetables have been on a barge for weeks coming from Chile, or on a train coming from California, the meat and dairy are chock full of hormones and antibiotics and the animals are not grass feed, and the fish is full of mercury and the oceans' pollutants. So we are eating "good" food with no nutritional value that is chock full of toxins.

There is so much more I would like to say. Please contact me to discuss.

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