

**From:** tdp@wispwest.net  
**Sent:** Monday, January 4, 2010 4:33 PM  
**To:** ATR-Agricultural Workshops <agriculturalworkshops@usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:** Monsanto

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Carol Peterson  
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January 4, 2010

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."

As a small business owner, I am concerned about Monsanto's control over the seed supply.

By buying seed companies and aggressively patenting life, Monsanto has gained control over as much as 90 percent of seed genetics. I appreciate their commitment to spend the investment on the research and development needed to feed a world that will quickly out grow our present supply of food, if we don't harness the ingenuity of American agriculturalists.

We cannot neglect the facts that show us that many third world populations will starve if we don't harness the research and development to better utilize the land and water resources to produce more with less, and be stewards of the resources given to this great nation. That would include our land and our people, who are committed to making a difference for the betterment of mankind around the world.

Please base your investigation on facts and not just emotions. I truly believe there are no better stewards of the land than those of us who make a living by either serving those whose work it or abide on the land. Living in a small rural community for the last 30 years gives me a great appreciation for the physical effort and economic input needed to produce food for all of us.

We proudly support the efforts of large companies, of which Monsanto is but one, in their efforts to feed the world. We must plan ahead and do it now. As a small business owner, I can not afford the monetary investment needed to provide the answers and vision to grow our nations food supply. But I have supported the youth organizations that feed youth into the industry that is on the cutting edge of doing something about feeding the world.

Is everyone perfect in their pursuit of this vision? No. That is why we need you to do your job of overseeing the efforts in agriculture. But please do so with integrity.

Sincerely,

Carol Peterson  
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