

September 11, 2009

Legal Policy Section
Antitrust Division
U. S. Department of Justice
450 5th Street, NW, Suite 11700
Washington, D. C. 20001

To whom it may concern:

Enclosed is an article that states the Department of Justice and the United States Department of Agriculture request comments.

The comment I would like to submit is:

Agriculture is a part of national security.
Agriculture needs protected water privileges.

Sincerely,

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By *Glen Jones*
Director of Research, Education & Policy Development

Facts For You

Workshops to address antitrust enforcement

U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder and USDA Secretary Tom Vilsack recently announced they will hold joint public workshops to address the appropriate role for antitrust, and regulatory **enforcement in the agriculture** industry.

Specifically, the department heads note that they expect the workshops to cover topics including: "the impact of agriculture concentration on food

costs, the effect of agricultural regulatory statutes or other applicable laws and programs on competition, issues relating to patent and intellectual property affecting agricultural marketing or production, and market practices such as price spreads, forward contracts, packer ownership of livestock before slaughter, market transparency and increasing retailer concentration."

- The workshops will take place early in 2010, but no exact dates or loca-

tions have been announced.

Leading up to the workshops in 2010, the Department of Justice and USDA have requested that interested parties submit comments by Dec. 31, 2009. They should be sent to: Legal Policy Section, Antitrust Division, U.S. Department of Justice, **450 5th Street, NW, Suite 11700, Washington, D.C. 20001.**

Source: AFBF **Public Policy** Bulletin, Aug. 25, 2009