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March 20, 2001

RE: Docket #01-004N  
FSIS docket room,  
U.S. Department of Agriculture,  
Food Safety and Inspection Service,  
Room 102 Cotton Annex,  
300 12th Street, SW,  
Washington, DC 20250-3700.

01-004N  
01-004N-7  
Taffy Williams

Dear FSIS,

I am writing to urge you to protect the public's right to know what is in their food supply. Please take the following actions on our behalf:

- 1: Require labeling on all genetically engineered foods or foods produced with any genetically engineered components or by-products.
- 2: Preferably, please prohibit the selling of all genetically engineered foods/components or by-products.
3. Please require labels on any product which was produced through the use of Bovine Growth Hormone (BGH).

As you know, numerous cancer specialists have identified BGH as a high-risk agent for causing breast prostate cancers. Leading scientists such as John Hagelin has publicly stated that GE is the "largest food experiment in the history of the world." The American public has unknowingly become the guinea pigs of the food industry as up to 70% of all processed foods contain genetically engineered components. Side effects of GE foods are well-known; in the case of tryptophan produced by genetically-engineered bacteria 37 people died, 1500 suffered paralysis, and 5000 were temporarily disabled.

It is the responsibility of the FDA/FSIS to protect the public from powerful corporate interests (specifically, Monsanto) which may unwittingly inflict harm through the effects of this human experimentation being conducted by projects such as the use of BGH and genetically-engineered foods.

Requiring labeling on BGH-produced products will make refute charges that the FDA is controlled by Monsanto and other special corporate interests.

Considering the above it is the duty of the FSIS to prohibit the sale of all genetically engineered foods or their components or by-products, or at least clearly label the item as produced through these technologies so the public can make informed choices.

Sincerely,  
Taffy Williams