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Docket No. DOD-1396 and Docket No. OOD-1598  
3825 01 MAR 16 2002  
FDA Commissioner, Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)  
Food and Drug Administration  
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061  
Rockville, MD 20852

Dear Commissioner Henney:

I am writing to you today in regards to the proposed Food and Drug Administration regulations which fail to require labels or safety tests on genetically engineered (GE) food. The new rules continue to deny Americans the right to know what is in our food, while protecting the interests of biotech corporations. This is unacceptable.

Labeling GE foods would protect the public from potential health effects that could only be traced if GE foods can be identified. By refusing to require both labeling and mandatory pre-market safety testing of foods, the FDA puts consumer health at risk, and ignores the recommendations of the Biotechnology Consultative Forum, who in December urged the U.S. to require mandatory labeling of GE foods.

In addition, the far-reaching and unpredictable environmental consequence of GE crops and foods are only beginning to be understood by growers and scientists. Because of the potential for irreparable damage to the environment, the FDA must require mandatory pre-market environmental review of all GE crops and foods.

I urge you to reconsider this proposal and insure that GE foods are subject to pre-market testing and labeling as well as pre-market environmental review. Americans have a right to make informed decisions about the food we consume.

On behalf of the majority of America, I thank you for your time and care.

Sincerely,

OOD-1598

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