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March 11, 2001

FDA COMMISSIONER
Docket No. OON-1396 / OOD-1598
FDA Dockets Management Branch
(HFA-305)
Food and Drug Administration
5 63 0 Fishers Lane, Room 106 1
Rockville, MD 20852

Dear FDA Commissioner,

I would like to add my voice to the chorus of Americans who protest the FDA ruling that does not require testing or labeling of genetically engineered (GE) foods. Testing will, of course, be a tricky issue since most of the adverse effects of GE foods will be subtle and will take decades to become apparent. By that time the food industry will be so committed to its production of GE foods and the effects so widespread that regrouping can only be accomplished with major disruption to the industry that provides our most basic sustenance. Be that as it may, the public should at least have the knowledge of which foods are GE foods. That way each consumer can make his/her own choice about whether to purchase an item. Since I am an individual that has no intention of buying GE foods, the FDA ruling interferes with my right to know. Labeling is mandatory from both a constitutional and a moral standpoint.

In your heart you know what's the right to do.

Sincerely yours,

Fred Pohlmann

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