

DOCKETS MANAGEMENT BRANCH (HFA-305)
FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION
5630 FISHERS LANE, ROOM 106
ROCKVILLE, MD. 20852

DECEMBER 19, 2000

DEAR FDA,

I AM WRITING TO OBJECT TO THE USE OF IONIZING RADIATION ON SEEDS FOR SPROUTING. IRRADIATION HAS THE POTENTIAL TO ADVERSELY EFFECT THE HEALTH OF MY FAMILY. I AM DISTURBED THE FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION APPROVED THIS PROCESS, PARTICULARLY FOR SEED THAT SPROUT, THE SPROUTS OF WHICH WILL NOT BE LABELED.

SPECIFICALLY, I OBJECT BECAUSE:

1) NO TOXICITY STUDIES HAVE BEEN DONE ON THE SPROUTS THAT GROW FROM IRRADIATED SEEDS. THE RESEARCH USED TO APPROVE THE IRRADIATION OF SPROUTING SEEDS WAS THE SAME FLAWED RESEARCH USED TO APPROVE THE IRRADIATION OF FOOD DIRECTLY. IT WAS NEGLIGENT TO APPROVE FOOD IRRADIATION WITHOUT ANY RESEARCH ON THE LONG-TERM EFFECTS OF ITS CONSUMPTION; IT IS EVEN MORE NEGLIGENT TO ASSUME THE EFFECTS OF IRRADIATION WILL BE THE SAME ON SPROUTING SEEDS.

2) THE FDA APPROVED THE IRRADIATION OF SPROUTING SEEDS AT A MAXIMUM DOSE OF 8 KILOGRAY, THOUGH DATA WERE SUBMITTED ON THE NUTRITIONAL CHANGES IN SPROUTING SEEDS IRRADIATED AT ONLY 6 KILOGRAY.

3) SPROUTS RESULTING FROM IRRADIATED SEEDS WILL NOT BE LABELED. I HAVE A RIGHT TO KNOW WHAT I'M EATING AND ANY ATTEMPT TO CIRCUMVENT THIS KNOWLEDGE IS UNACCEPTABLE.

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I DEMAND YOU RE-EVALUATE THIS DECISION. THANK
YOU FOR YOUR TIME

SINCERELY,
BRIAN L. NEALE

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DOCKETS MANAGEMENT BRANCH (HFA-35)
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