Kennedy **75**71 Via Guiseppe **S**alinas, CA 93907

FDA Commissioner 5630 Fishers Lane Room 1061 (HFA-305) Rockville, MD 20852

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RE: Docket No. 01P-0230

Dear FDA Commissioner,

I am very concerned about the potential approval of genetically engineered fish by the FDA. My concerns, unlike many peoples, are not for the effects of this as a food for humans, but instead for the potential for irreversible damage to the environment. And in the case that genetically engineered fish are approved, I strongly favor mandatory labeling of any such fish so that I can demonstrate my disapproval to the producers and sellers of such a product by refusing to purchase it.

Fish from fish farms have repeatedly escaped into the wild. The potential for escaped genetically engineered fish to become invasive species is very high, and very serious. Unlike synthetic pesticides and other chemicals, the effects of genetic manipulation do not degrade and eventually disappear. The potential to permanently alter the gene pool of wild organism is an impact that has not received sufficient attention. And the cascading effects of artificially altered species on related and interdependent species in the environment have not been sufficiently addressed. I am extremely concerned that once this Pandora's box of manipulated genes is opened, it will be impossible to avert unintended consequences for untold generations.

The approval of genetically engineered salmon and other fish is unacceptable. They pose significant, unexplored and permanent risks to the environment. I strongly urge the FDA not to approve the current applications by A/F Protein and other companies. I realize that the FDA was established to protect the American food supply from unnecessary risks, and my objections are not based on direct risks to the food supply, but rather on risks to the environment. I hope the agency gives my concerns, and those of other members of the public, serious consideration. I also believe that agencies besides the FDA should be involved in making decisions regarding the ultimate acceptability of this technology.

Sincerely yours,

Janning Kennedy

5/19/8

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