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The National Society of Arts and Letters

National Art Chairman
Mia Tschampel

1600 W. Turtle Dove Lane
Tucson, AZ 85742
1 520 - 297-5136

US Food & Drug Administration
Office of the Commissioner
Rockville, Md. 20857

November 8, 2001

Dear Dr. Bernard Schwetz:

Please know I am opposed to any further FOOD IRRADIATION approvals - especially for shellfish and ready-to-eat foods - until a truly comprehensive testing program on the HEALTH EFFECTS of irradiated foods is pursued carefully.

A wide range of health problems have been revealed by past experiments, in animals that ate irradiated food - i.e., premature death, rare cancers, genetic damage, reproductive problems including still births, fatal internal bleeding, nutritional deficiencies, and organ damage.

Recently, a unique chemical formed in irradiated food, called 2-DCB was found to cause genetic and cellular damage, in both rats AND HUMAN CELLS.

Thus, aren't there too many unanswered questions about the Safety and Wholesomeness of irradiated foods, to justify adding additional food types for irradiation?

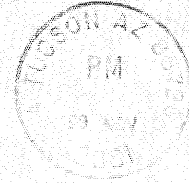
Also, the companies irradiating foods use a deceptive word, "PASTEURIZED", in promotional literature and television, radio, and internet advertising. This is NASTY and deceptive: can you stop them from deceiving the public? It is Sure Beam, ^{4 SAN DIEGO} and

98N-1038 Hawaii Bride, plus 3 other U.S.-based food irradiation companies who do this federally illegal deceptive advertising. Please, please, investigate. Thank you.

Sincerely, Mia Tschampel C5558



Mia Tschampel
1600 W Turtle Dove Ln
Tucson, AZ 85742-8948



attn: Dr Bernard Schwetz
U.S. Food & Drug Administration
Office of the Commissioner
14th & Parklawn Bldg.
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, Md 20857