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February, 2001

Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

FDA Docket No. OOP- 12 11/CP1.

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am writing to express my concern about your recent ruling that no testing or labeling of genetically engineered (GE) foods are necessary. As a consumer I feel that my right to choose what food I buy, serve, and consume is at risk. I must have the ability to tell if GE products are contained in the foods that I buy.

There is enough disagreement in the scientific community as to whether there is a significant difference in GE foods, and what effect those differences may have on my health and the environment.

As David T Suzuki Ph.D., award-winning scientist and geneticist, writes:

“History informs us that though we love technology, there are always costs, and since our knowledge of how nature works is so limited, we can’t anticipate how those costs will manifest. We only have to reflect on DDT, nuclear power, and CFCs, which were hailed as wonderful creations but whose long-term detrimental effects were only found decades after their widespread use.”

I do not know if genetically engineered foods are safe, and neither do you. Please act for the benefit of consumers, and not the large biotechnology companies, and allow me my freedom of choice.

Sincerely,

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