

From: linda laird <clproducts@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, December 18, 2009 12:39 AM
To: ATR-Agricultural Workshops <agriculturalworkshops@usdoj.gov>
Subject: Comments

I am writing because I am concerned about the lack of competition in agricultural markets.

I have lived in KS and understand how factory farming works and how filthy it makes the food chain. I am concerned about the possibility that if we have only a single source for grain it could be wiped out by a genetic change in a grain disease. I have seen the pollution of our groundwater from fields and storage facilities. Our rivers are too polluted to fish and swim in. Our frogs are mishapen.

The ground water is not safe for babies to drink in some communities. A single source of seeds is a monopoly. The butterflies are disappearing as we add pollution. Lobbyists are regulators and government workers and then lobbyists again. Farmers are sued if Monsanto seeds migrate to their fields. There are no non--modified seeds.

My family has odd diseases, Chrones, Sarcoidosis, Parkinsons. I have breast cancer, My husband had prostate cancer. Most of our farm friends have cancer. None of these were in previous generations.

It is your job to protect our food sources yet there is not enough testing to know whether many of the chemicals are harmful.

Please read the studies done by the Environmental Working Group and take them to heart. You must have children and will want safe grandchildren. Breaking up Monsanto would be a good step in keeping our environment and children safe.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

linda laird

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