

From: Senae Smith <naebfli@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, December 21, 2009 11:05 AM
To: ATR-Agricultural Workshops <agriculturalworkshops@usdoj.gov>
Subject: Comments Regarding Agriculture and Antitrust Enforcement Issues in Our 21st Century Economy

I am an at-home mother in Nashville, TN. I try to raise my children on foods that are nutritious and safely grown in order to keep them healthy and avoid illness and disease. We are very blessed to live in a community where an organic community garden has been established. As a garden volunteer and customer, I feel like we are involved in something healthy for our bodies, our community, and our planet. I'm concerned that most other families in our country do not have the same opportunity, time, or resources available to find affordable food, grown in a way that is healthy and not contaminated with pesticides. Certified organic produce at the grocery store is not affordable to families working to take care of their children, pay for their homes, utilities, cars, and children's educational needs. My hope is that soon, our country will take the health and safety of our families as well as the condition of our planet into consideration and make some crucial changes in the way we feed our nation. Shipping contaminated food cross-country to sell in large chain grocery stores is counterproductive. Not only is the food bad for our health, but the shipment of it is bad for our planet. I would like to see all families in our country have the opportunity to consume affordable, convenient, non-contaminated, locally grown food.

Thank you for the opportunity to express my concern on this matter. I look forward to following this investigation in the coming year.

Sincerely,
Senae
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