

Eileen Stommes, Deputy Administrator USDA,
AMS, TM, NOP,
Room 4007-S, Agstop 0275
P.O. Box 96456
Washington, DC 20090-6456

Fax - 202-690-4632

Re: Docket # TMD-94-00-2 National List - National Organic Program Proposed Rule 205.20

Dear Deputy Stommes,

I am very strongly supportive of the effort to develop industry- wide standards that would make it clear what "organic" means when it appears on a food label.

I am, however, concerned about the current effort to include irradiation, the use of sewage sludge, and genetically engineered foods under the "organic umbrella." For me, such an addition to some otherwise very good regulations dilutes, and almost destroys any value of or confidence I would place in the "organic" label.

I urge you in the strongest terms to adopt the position of the National Organic Standards Board and:

1. Prohibit genetic engineering in every phase of the organic food chain.
2. Prohibit the use of the organic label on any food item that has been irradiated.
3. Prohibit the use of the organic label on foods produced using municipal sewage sludge.
4. Livestock should be raised absent any of the above in their feed as well.

Ms. Stommes, this is more than just a safety issue. It's a consumer confidence issue as well. The use of "organic" where it clearly does not belong will destroy a fledgling industry.

Sincerely,

Address: _____

City, St, Zip

Phone