

March 7, 2014

Robert L. Edwards
CEO of Randalls/Safeway
Public Affairs Department
5918 Stoneridge Mall Road
Pleasanton, CA 94588

Dear Mr Edwards,

As a coalition of small local farmers, grocery stores, and public health, consumer and environmental advocates in Texas, we write to ask you to support small farmers, grocers, and consumers by agreeing to label GMOs on all your store brand products.

There is overwhelming public support for labeling GMO foods. Recent polls find that 93 percent of Americans think that foods containing genetically modified ingredients should be identified. Sixty-four countries around the world have GMO labeling laws. In addition, many Americans are concerned about the potential health effects and environmental impacts of GMO foods.

The Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations found that some 75 percent of plant genetic diversity has been lost as farmers turn to genetically uniform, mass-produced crop varieties. In 2010, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) warned that the loss of biodiversity will have a “major impact on the ability of humankind to feed itself in the future.” But due to the lack of adequate labeling standards, consumers with these concerns are too often left in the dark.

Further, the absence of GMO labeling makes it harder for small farmers and grocers to serve their customers on a level playing field. Failing to disclose controversial ingredients is anti-free market, and prevents Americans who want to avoid that ingredient from doing so.

Fundamentally, consumers have a right to know what is in their food, so they can make informed decisions about what they eat. We urge you to follow Whole Foods’ lead and label GMOs on your store-brand products.

Sincerely,

Texas Endorsing Organizations

TexPIRG
Texas Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association
San Jacinto Environmental Supplies
Greenling
Casa Montessori
The Montessori Center

Environment Texas
Koch Ranches Gourmet Country Store
Organic Horticulture Benefits Alliance
The Children's School
Hawthorne Montessori School
Highland Montessori School

Texas Association of Naturopathic Doctors
Nature's Way Resources
Straight From the Vine
Excelon Health
Vegeria Vegan Restaurant
Austin EcoNetwork & EcoNetworking
EatGreen DFW
People's RX
The Green Ingredient
Austin ND- Naturopathic Medicine
IMCTex
The Green Ingredient
Senor Veggie
Smith & Smith Farms
Soil Secrets of Texas
Texas Ready
Red Rabbit Cooperative Bakery
Tecolote Farm
Eastside Café Austin
Counter Culture
Urban Acres Market
Wendy Town Farms

Say No To GMOS Texas
Austin United Wellness Clinic
Imagine Real Health
Sustainable Food Center
Sweet Yams Organic Take-out
March Against Monsanto Austin
Anichini Moore Ranch & Farm
Alamiah Body Oils
Healthy Naturally
Health Through Nature
Full Circle Therapies
Green Vegetarian Cuisine at Pearl Brewery
Hemp360
River Bottom Farms
Gabriel Valley Farms
Coyote Creek Organic Feed Mill
Treasure City Thrift
Amelia's Farm
Eden East Austin
Green Grocer
Bouldin Creek Café
Koch Ranches, Inc.

National Endorsing Organizations

Biodynamic Association
National Young Farmers Association
Consumers Union
Food & Water Watch
GMO Inside
Moms Across America

Center for Biological Diversity
Organic Consumers Association
Pesticide Action Network
Slow Food USA
Teens Turning Green
U.S.PIRG