



New Pilot Program Coming in 2015:
**Voluntary, Community-Based
Solar Partnership**



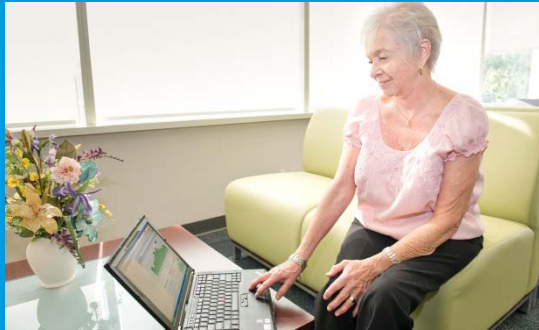
David Bates, Manager Project Development, Florida Power & Light
August 25, 2014

Introduction: A Commitment to Clean Energy



Modernizing old, oil-fired plants with high-efficiency natural gas

- *Reduced our use of foreign oil by 99% and saved customers \$6.8 billion on fuel since 2001*



Leveraging technology with the most advanced smart grid in U.S.

- *Giving customers more information and more control over their energy use than ever before*



Investing in zero-emissions nuclear and solar energy

- *Helping make a low-carbon system even cleaner by avoiding fossil fuel emissions*



Advancing Solar Energy on Multiple Fronts



Solar power plants

- *Three large-scale energy centers currently in operation*
- *Working to build more in the near future*



Solar education and research

- *Educational installations at 100+ schools and non-profit organizations*
- *High-tech research and training for installers*



Supporting solar customers

- *Designing FPL Energy Dashboard capabilities specifically for customers who own solar*
- *Facilitating interconnection of customer-owned power*

Museum of Discovery and Science



Investing in your community

FPL Solar Sites in Broward County

Solar Stations

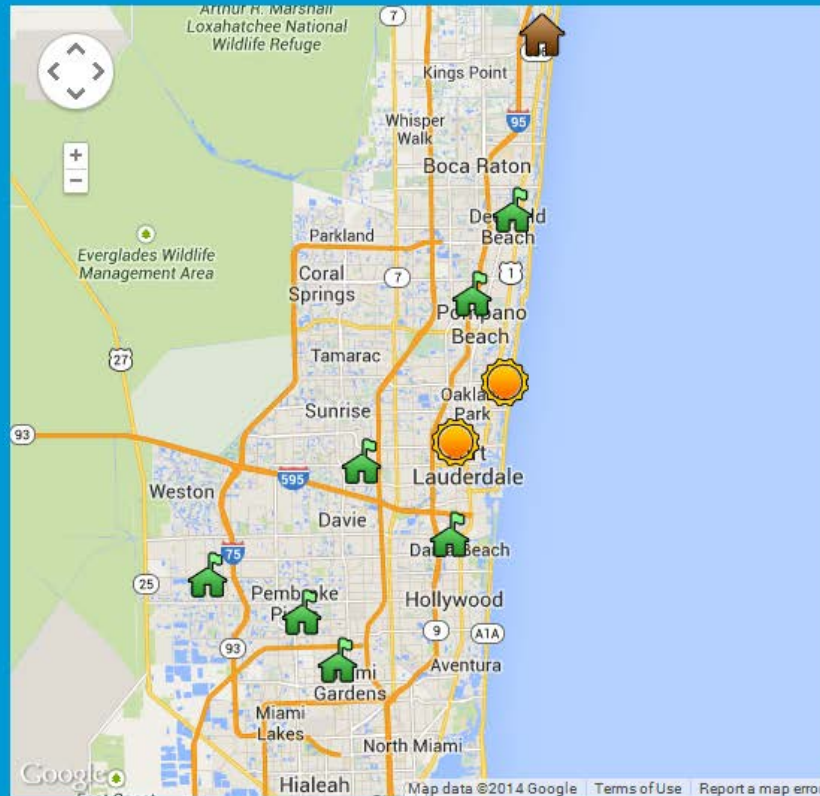
Select a location to see solar energy production and environmental benefits:

Broward County

- Attucks Middle School (Hollywood)
- Blanche Ely High School (Pompano Beach)
- Deerfield Beach Middle School (Deerfield Beach)
- Ft. Lauderdale Beach Community Center (Fort Lauderdale)
- Museum of Discovery and Science (Ft. Lauderdale)
- New Renaissance Middle School (Miramar)
- Panther Run Elementary (Pembroke Pines)
- Tropical Elementary (Plantation)

Charlotte County

- Habitat For Humanity (Punta Gorda)
- L.A. Ainger Middle School (Rotunda West)
- Liberty Elementary (Port Charlotte)



Voluntary, Community-based Solar Partnership Pilot

- One of several new ways we're working to advance solar in Florida
- Focus is on installing solar in communities
- **Open to all customers** regardless of location, property ownership, roof size, etc.
- **Completely voluntary** – customers who don't participate won't subsidize



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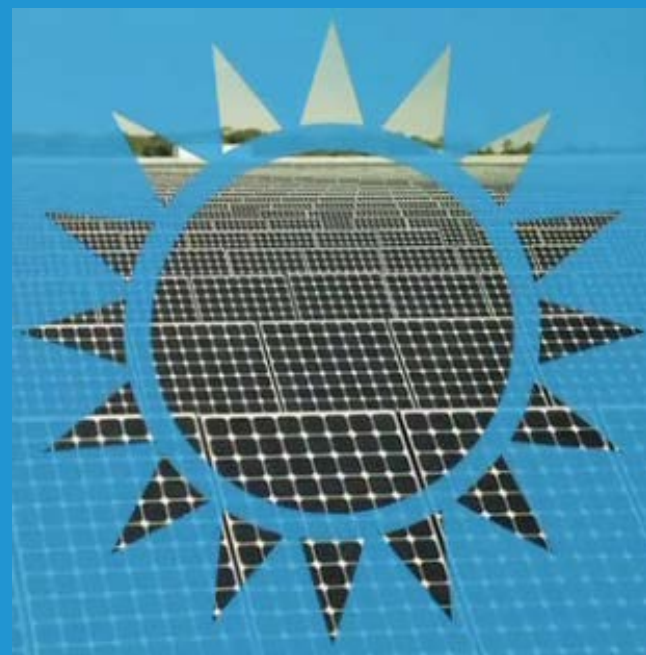
Voluntary, Community-based Solar Partnership Pilot *(continued)*

- Program will install **new solar arrays**, roughly 50 to 100 kW each, in FPL communities
 - ~10 to 15 times larger than typical residential rooftop installation
 - Requires ~10,000-20,000 sq. ft. of space – about half a football field or more
- Reviewing potential **Fort Lauderdale** locations to host one of first solar projects



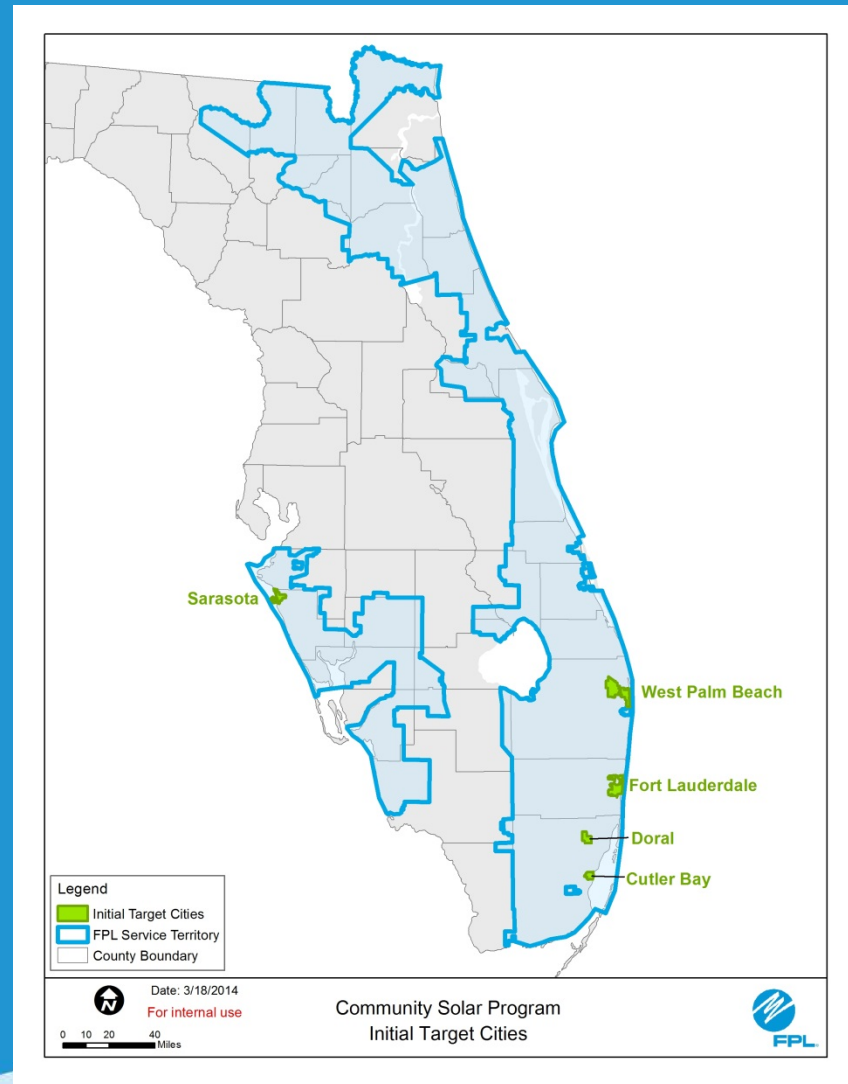
Voluntary, Community-based Solar Partnership Pilot *(continued)*

- Customers may **opt in for a flat \$9/month** per participating account **starting in 2015**
- Any **fuel savings** generated by solar arrays will be used **to install more solar**
- Number of installations depends on customer participation



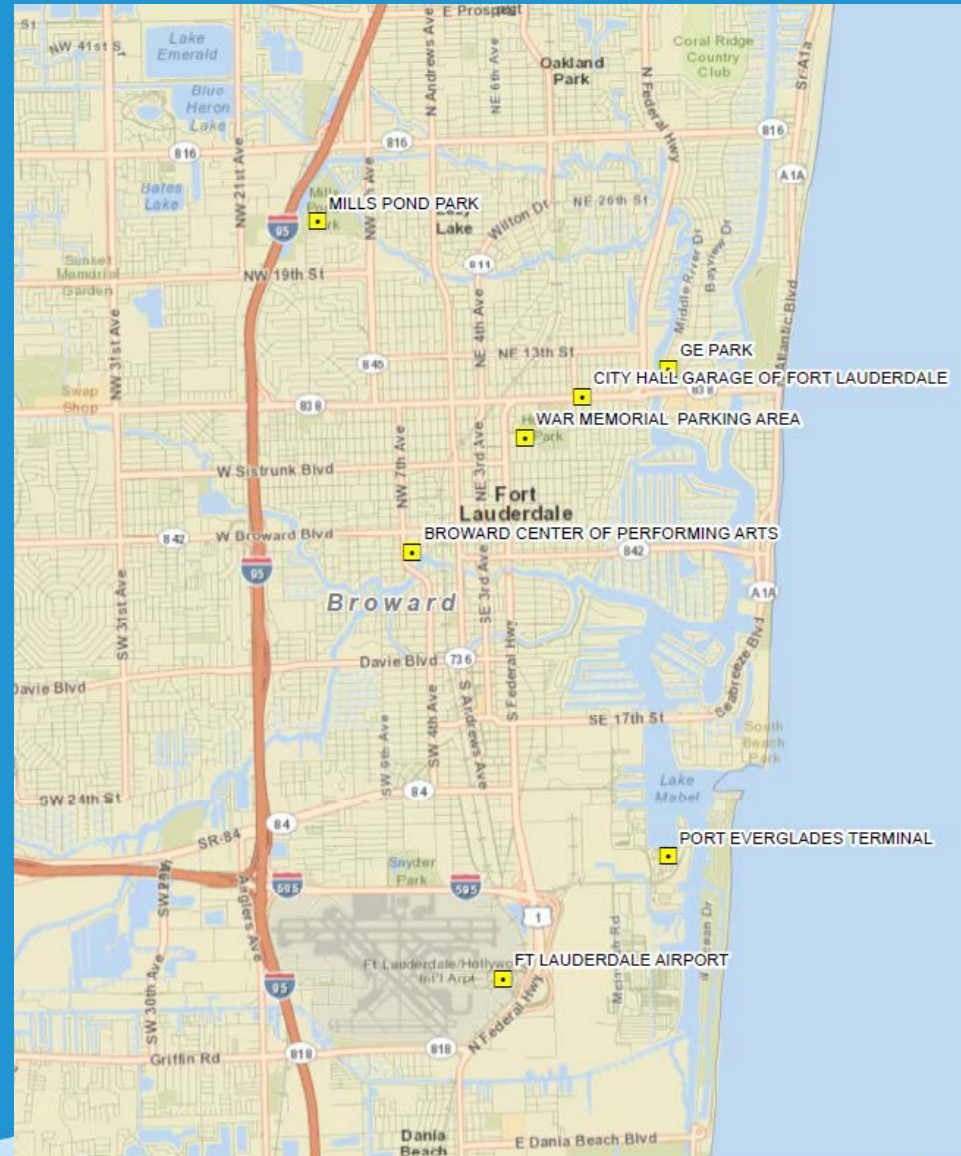
VSP Target Cities

- Cutler Bay
- Doral
- Ft Lauderdale
- Sarasota
- West Palm Beach



5 Potential Solar Sites Under Consideration

- George English Park
- War Memorial Coliseum
- Ft Lauderdale Executive Airport
- Mills Pond Park
- City Hall Garage



Date: 8/25/2014

For internal use

0 1,250,2,500 5,000
Feet

Voluntary Solar Program
Potential Fort Lauderdale Locations



Voluntary, Community-based Solar Partnership Pilot *(continued)*



- We're also partnering with several respected non-profits to help encourage participation
- During the pilot, **NextEra Energy's foundation will donate \$200,000 a year** to the program's non-profit partners
 - Dollars will be over and above our traditional support for these important groups
 - **Participating customers will get to vote for their preferred non-profits** to receive shares of the funding

7 And others TBA...

Next Steps

- Final Order Sept 26th
- Review potential sites
- Review draft agreement
- Gather comments on agreement
- Approval before City Commission
- Begin design and engineering end of year
- Construction starts 1st quarter 2015
- Ground breaking ceremony
- Commissioning upon completion
- Program begins mid-year 2015





It's about energizing
Florida together

Questions?



FOOD & WATER WATCH GROUP

---GMO--- PROPOSED RESOLUTION

LOCAL RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the City of Fort Lauderdale values its citizens as stated in its "Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale Vision" and recognizes that consumers want information about the food they and their families eat; and

WHEREAS, the City of Fort Lauderdale values education, transparency, and accessibility, and recognizes that the labeling of genetically engineered foods is a 'right to know' issue, serving to inform citizens; and

WHEREAS, there are 64 countries that enforce labeling laws for genetically engineered food; and

WHEREAS, the states of Connecticut, Maine, and Vermont have passed laws requiring the labeling of GE foods; and

WHEREAS, as of July 2014, more than 60 bills have been introduced in over 20 states to require GE labeling; and

WHEREAS, farmers who produce organic or non-genetically engineered crops are exposed to the risk of crop contamination from nearby genetically engineered crops; and

WHEREAS, farmers who unintentionally grow genetically engineered-patented seeds or who harvest crops that are contaminated with genetically engineered traits could lose their organic certification and face costly lawsuits; and

WHEREAS, a 2013 *New York Times* poll found that 93 percent of U.S. consumers wanted all genetically engineered ingredients to be identified;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that on the _____ day of _____ 2014, the City of Fort Lauderdale supports mandatory labeling of all genetically engineered products.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND EFFECTIVE on this _____ day of _____, 2014.

ATTEST:

Mayor

Date

Council President

Date

PLEASE SEND A COPY OF THIS SIGNED RESOLUTION TO:

1. Governor Rick Scott, State of Florida The Capitol 400 S. Monroe Street Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001
2. Local Representative Lois Frankel, United States House of Representatives, 1037 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515
3. Senator Bill Nelson, United States Senate, 716 Senate Hart Office Building Washington, DC 20510
4. Senator Marco Rubio, United States Senate 284 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510
5. Gina McCarthy, Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, Ariel Rios Building 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, DC 20460
6. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack, United States Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Ave., S.W., Washington, DC 20250
7. Margaret Hamberg M.D., Commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration, 10903 New Hampshire Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20993
8. Food & Water Watch, 1044 NE 15th Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33304

DR. GOETZ'S
---GMO---
PROPOSED
COMMUNICATION
&
RESOLUTION

SAB
MEETING
08/25/14

Proposed cover letter to accompany revised version 1

Mayor and Commissioners,

Subsequent to your request to re-evaluate our previously referred GMO labeling resolution, the SAB researched the issue in considerable depth, and discussed it at length among ourselves, as well as with representatives from the public on both sides of the issue.

We believe that the concerns of the public about the safety of GMOs should not be ignored.

However, we believe there are unintended adverse consequences to the mandatory labeling of GMO food and products. We therefore do not recommend it as a first resort.

In attempting to address the concerns of the public on safety, our research indicated that the FDA approval process for the safety of GMOs is not transparent and is not available for public review.

Specifically, it appears that the approval process is based solely on information provided to the FDA by companies seeking approval for their GMOs. More importantly, neither that information, nor the substance of the review and approval process by the FDA is available for scientific evaluation by the public.

We do not believe that such policy is in the best interests of the public health and welfare, nor is it consistent with free-market principles.

As a result, we have modified the resolution to reflect public concerns of safety by addressing the FDA approval process for the safety of GMOs to make it more transparent and available for public review.

This can be accomplished by internal administrative changes in policy within the FDA, and would not require changes in law.

That said, a review of the history of FDA policy and law development suggests that change will not be effected in its current policies unless strong public pressure is brought to bear to counteract lobbying by companies and entities that have an economic stake in preserving the status quo. For example, consider that it took in excess of 50 years for Congress and the FDA to address tobacco toxicity.

To that end, we refer the attached resolution for your consideration.

Whereas, the FDA approval process for GMOs is not transparent and is not performed in the Sunshine,

And, whereas, the FDA approval process for GMOs is dependent on safety information provided by the company requesting approval of the GMO,

And, whereas, the FDA does not divulge such safety information to the public,

And, whereas, transparency and the sharing of information with the public is required to ensure the public health and to promote the public welfare by allowing for prudent financial practices,

And, whereas, transparency and the sharing of information with the public is integral to the functioning of free markets,

And, whereas, the specific criteria for approval of GMOs is not known,

Therefore, be it resolved, that the city of Fort Lauderdale requests that the state of Florida join the city in demanding that the FDA approval process for GMOs should be administratively changed such that it is transparent, performed in the sunshine, and is based on independent safety information, and that all safety information related to the approval process is made public,

And, be it further resolved, that the specific criteria for the approval of GMOs should be jointly determined by the FDA and the National Academy of Sciences, and should be made public;

And, be it further resolved, that if the above administrative changes are not in effect within two years from the date of this resolution, then a national law requiring the mandatory labeling of all GMO products should be passed, and should be subsequently implemented within four years from the date of this resolution,

And, be it further resolved, that if the above administrative changes are not in effect within five years from the date of this resolution, then state of Florida should initiate with other states a class action-lawsuit against the FDA demanding such administrative changes, in addition to the mandatory labeling of GMOs, to ensure the public health and promote the public welfare.

COMMENTS ON LOCAL RESOLUTION

Factors to consider:

- Costs to consumers
- Costs to society – environmental and financial
- Cost-effectiveness of labeling
- Anti-choice results
- Detrimental economic effects
- Lack of scientific evidence of harm in humans
- Pseudo-science and scare tactics

WHEREAS, the City of Fort Lauderdale values its citizens as stated in its “Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale Vision” and recognizes that consumers need factual information about the food they and their families eat; and

Excellent. We definitely need more factual information. But who defines factual?

WHEREAS, the City of Fort Lauderdale values quality of life and understands potential long-term risks to public health and the environment from genetically engineered (GE) foods are unknown; and

In 20 years, no harm and no long-term risks to humans has been demonstrated. Benefits to society are immense.

WHEREAS, the City of Fort Lauderdale values education, transparency, and accessibility, and recognizes that the labeling of genetically engineered foods is a ‘right to know’ issue, serving to inform citizens; and

RTK isn’t an excuse or right to impose a lack of choice on others, or to increase the financial burden on others, particularly the less well to do.

WHEREAS, genetically modified organisms, or "GMOs" are plants or animals that have been genetically engineered with DNA from bacteria, viruses or other plants and animals, and these experimental combinations of genes from different species cannot occur in nature or in traditional crossbreeding, and are very unlike centuries old hybridization and crossbreeding techniques; and

There is nothing inherently good or bad about something that either occurs in nature, or something that is created or modified technologically. Antrax, snake venom, botulinum toxin, earthquakes, hurricanes, infectious diseases, malnutrition, malaria, and death, all occur in nature. Sanitation, purified water, vaccines, antibiotics, and most food and crops, (and renewable energy technologies) are all technological advances that have added 30+ years to human life.

WHEREAS, there are 64 countries that enforce labeling laws for genetically engineered food; and

Public opinion does not necessarily prompt good public policy. E.g. segregation and global warming.

WHEREAS, the states of Connecticut, Maine, and Vermont have passed laws requiring the labeling of GE foods; and

They have hedged. Implementation is dependent on other states adopting similar measures.

WHEREAS, as of July 2014, more than 60 bills have been introduced in over 20 U.S. states to require GE labeling; and

Profit loss measures since can't export to EU.

WHEREAS, GM food has only been in existence since the 1990's and the long-term consequences of this human experiment are unknown, independent, peer-reviewed research has been done on genetically engineered crops that has revealed problems with liver and kidney functions in rats, deformities and neurological problems in vertebrates, and lower nutrition content in certain genetically engineered crops; and

In 20 years, no harm and no long-term risks to humans has been demonstrated. Benefits to society can be immense, improving life expectancy, malnourishment, and economic security.

WHEREAS, farmers who produce organic or non-genetically engineered crops are exposed to the risk of crop contamination from nearby genetically engineered crops; and

This is not relevant to labeling. Farmers have developed methodologies for and practiced segregation of crops for years.

WHEREAS, farmers who unintentionally grow genetically engineered-patented seeds or who harvest crops that are contaminated with genetically engineered traits could lose their organic certification and face costly lawsuits; and

This is not relevant to labeling. No significant cases in 20+ years.

WHEREAS, some companies on the leading edge of this issue, including Whole Foods Market have committed to full transparency, and the labeling of all genetically engineered foods sold in U.S. and Canadian stores; and

Whole Foods is motivated by profits. It won't discount its non-GMO foods for the less well to do.

WHEREAS, a 2013 *New York Times* poll found that 93 percent of U.S. consumers wanted all genetically engineered ingredients to be identified;

Obscures that fact that 80-100% are NOT willing to pay a premium to effect this.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that on the _____ day of _____ 2014, the City of Fort Lauderdale supports mandatory labeling of all genetically engineered products.

ALTERNATIVES?

PASSED, APPROVED, AND EFFECTIVE on this _____ day of _____, 2014. ATTEST:

Mayor Date

Council President Date

PLEASE SEND A COPY OF THIS SIGNED RESOLUTION TO:

1. Governor Rick Scott, State of Florida The Capitol 400 S. Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001
2. Local Representative Lois Frankel, United States House of Representatives,
1037 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515
3. Senator Bill Nelson, United States Senate, 716 Senate Hart Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
4. Senator Marco Rubio, United States Senate 284 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
5. Gina McCarthy, Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency,
Ariel Rios Building 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, DC 20460

TIMELINE

DATE	EVENT	RESOURCE
01.07.2014	Commission Meeting [Regular]	Citizen Presentation
04.28.2014	SAB Meeting	Discussion
05.23.2014	Information Exchange	Email
05.29.2014	SAB Meeting	Presentation
06.03.2014	Commission Meeting [Regular]	Citizen Presentation
06.17.2014	Commission Meeting [Regular]	SAB Communication
06.19.2014	Update to SAB Communication	Email
06.20.2014	Information Exchange	Email
06.23.2014	SAB Meeting	Presentation
06.27.2014	Information Exchange	Email
07.18.2014	Information Exchange	Email
07.24.2014	July Agenda Packet	Email
07.25.2014	Information Exchange	Email
08.01.2014	Information Exchange	Email
08.08.2014	Information Exchange	Email
08.15.2014	Information Exchange	Email
08.15.2014	Possible Updates to Provided Link on GMO	Attachment

01.07.2014

Commission Meeting Citizen Presentation

References:

1. Backup
2. Video Link [Mark: 01h 29m 11s]
http://fortlauderdale.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view_id=2&clip_id=211&meta_id=27013

City Commission Regular Meeting
Date: January 7, 2014 - 6:00 PM

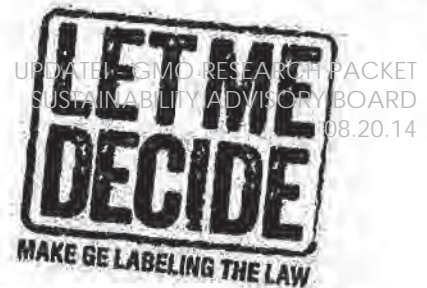
File #: 14-0038

Type: CITIZEN PRESENTATIONS

Title: VICKIE MACHADO - Labeling of Genetically Engineered Food - House Bill 1

Minutes note: Vickie Machado introduced Maura Schlackman and Adrienne Bolton, who represent Food and Water Watch, a national consumer advocacy organization working locally to ensure that food and water is safe, accessible and sustainable. They have 30,000 supporters in the state and roughly 1,000 in Fort Lauderdale, more than 600 of which have signed a petition in support of labeling genetically-engineered (GE) food. She presented a fact sheet titled "The Case for GE Labeling," a sample resolution and the referenced petition for the record. Everyone should have the right to decide what to feed their families. There are GE food labeling bills in both the Florida House of Representatives and Senate. She requested that the Commission adopt a resolution supporting House Bill 1 and Senate Bill 558. Schlackman said she took an interest in this matter because she grew up on an avocado farm. Genetically modified organisms (GMOs) encourage greater pesticide use and monocultures, harming the environment and endangering the food supply by making people dependent on a small-number of crops. GMO labeling laws are a step toward a more sustainable, transparent and accountable food system. She noted the countries and states that support GMO labeling laws. Florida is a major agricultural state and has a chance to be a leader by adopting this resolution. Bolton, local coordinator for Food and Water Watch and a registered dietitian, said people have a right to know what is in their food. A labeling law helps establish that right to know. She believes that is what Fort Lauderdale residents want. She urged the Commission to support this matter. In response to Commissioner Rogers, Bolton said this is a national, state and local issue. In response to Mayor Seiler, Machado said Connecticut, Maine and Hawaii have passed labeling laws. GE foods would not be prohibited; they just have to be labeled. Vice-Mayor Roberts said he believes this is a matter of transparency. Many European countries have been doing this for a long time. It is about truth in labeling. Commissioner DuBose noted that generally when resolutions are presented, the City Attorney's Office is allowed to first review them. He recommended that they reach out to the Broward League of Cities, which serves as an umbrella agency for all the cities in Broward County. Mayor Seiler said he does not oppose the transparency but was unsure whether this is a city issue or something that would be better handled with individual letters of support from the Commission. He suggested the City Attorney's Office review the proposal and asked Machado to follow up with the City in about 30 days.

JAN 7, 2014 CIT-5
PROVIDED BY
VICKI MACHADO



Lynna Kauckeck
Senior Organizer

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The Case for GE Labeling

FACT SHEET • AUGUST 2012

Genetically engineered (GE) crops are created by transferring genetic material from one organism into another to create specific traits, such as resistance to treatment with herbicides or to make a plant produce its own pesticide to repel insects.¹ Unlike traditional plant and animal breeding, which tries to develop better varieties by selecting traits from the same species, genetic engineering techniques can insert specific genes from any plant, animal or microorganism into the DNA of a different species.

The first GE crops became commercially available in the United States in 1996, and now GE varieties constitute the vast majority of corn, cotton and soybean crops grown in the country.² At this point, most GE food crops are genetically engineered to produce a soil bacterium called *Bacillus thuringiensis* (Bt) that repels insects, or to allow the crop to withstand treatment with an herbicide, like glyphosate (often sold as Roundup).³ More recently, biotechnology firms have developed genetically engineered animals, including food animals such as hogs and salmon.⁴

Proponents of the technology contend that these alterations are improvements because they add desirable traits. Yet companies submit their own safety-testing data, and independent research on GE foods is limited because biotechnology companies prohibit cultivation for research purposes in the restrictive licensing agreements that control the use of these patented seeds.⁵

Some of the independent, peer-reviewed research that has been done on biotech crops has revealed troubling health implications including deterioration of liver and kidney function and impaired embryonic development.⁷ However, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has no way to track adverse health effects in people consuming GE foods, and because there is no requirement that foods containing GE ingredients be labeled,⁸ consumers do not know when they are eating them.

Major Commercially Available GE Crops⁶:

- alfalfa
- canola
- corn
- cotton
- papaya
- soy
- squash
- sugar beet
- sweet corn

The FDA does not require the labeling of GE food products as such because the agency views GE foods as no different from conventional foods. The FDA does permit voluntary GE labeling as long as the information is not false or misleading.⁹ Food manufacturers are allowed to affirmatively label GE food or indicate that the food item does not contain GE ingredients (known as "absence labeling"). But virtually no companies disclose that they are using GE ingredients under this voluntary scheme. This means that consumers in the United States regularly consume foods that contain GE ingredients without knowing it.¹⁰

For consumers to have the opportunity to make informed choices about their food, all GE foods should be labeled. A 2008 CBS/*New York Times* poll found that more than half of American consumers would choose not to buy GE foods, and 87 percent wanted all GE ingredients to be labeled.¹⁶ A 2010 Consumers Union poll found that 95 percent of U.S. consumers favor mandatory labeling of meat and milk from GE animals.¹⁷

Labeling GE foods is not a novel idea. The European Union specifically addresses the new properties and risks of biotech crops and evaluates the safety of every GE crop.¹⁸ Additionally, the EU requires all foods, animal feeds and processed products with biotech content to bear GE labels.¹⁹ Australia, Brazil, China, Japan, New Zealand, Russia, Saudi Arabia, and South Korea all require labels on GE foods, although their labeling thresholds vary from zero tolerance to 5 percent GE content.²⁰ Without an affirmative label on foods containing GE ingredients, the only way for consumers to avoid GE foods is to buy organic. The USDA National Organic Program prohibits the use of GE material in any product that carries the "certified organic" label.²¹

Hidden GE Foods in Our Food Supply

Perhaps one of the reasons there is no requirement that GE food be labeled is that food companies do not want consumers to know exactly how much GE content there already is on supermarket shelves. Since most corn, cotton and soybeans are now genetically engineered, it can be assumed that ingredients made from these crops contain GE content. For example, corn starch, corn meal, corn syrup, glucose, dextrose, canola oil, cottonseed oil, soy oil, soy flour, soy lecithin and "protein extracts" — present in many processed foods — are all likely derived from GE crops.⁶ Since the partial approval of Roundup Ready sugar beets, 95 percent of sugar beets grown in the United States are genetically engineered, so products containing sugar made from beets are most likely GE foods.⁷

Other foods with "hidden" GE content are dairy products like milk and cheese that came from cows treated with rBGH, a GE growth hormone.⁸ Most feed consumed by livestock consists of GE grains and grasses⁹ — like Roundup Ready soybeans, corn and alfalfa — so dairy products and meat from these animals are considered GE foods as well.

Also, GE sweet corn, papayas and virus-resistant squash have been commercialized¹⁰ and may be sold in supermarkets without a label.

Certified organic foods cannot be genetically engineered or contain GE ingredients.

It took government regulation to make food processors put ingredient lists and nutrition facts on food packaging — labels that consumers are now accustomed to seeing and are using to make food choices. But the government has failed to require that consumers get to know other basic information about our food, like that it is genetically engineered.

Tell your state and federal lawmakers you want mandatory labeling of genetically engineered foods.

For more information: <http://www.foodandwaterwatch.org/food/genetically-engineered-foods/>

Endnotes

- 1 Shoemaker, Robbin (Ed.). U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Economic Research Service (ERS). "Economic Issues in Agricultural Biotechnology." AIB-762. 2001 at 9.
- 2 USDA ERS. "Adoption of Bioengineered Crops." Available at <http://www.ers.usda.gov/Data/BiotechCrops/> and on file. Accessed September 9, 2009.
- 3 Fernandez-Cornejo, Jorge. USDA ERS. "The Seed Industry in U.S. Agriculture." AIB-786. January 2004 at 2.
- 4 University of Guelph. "Enviropig™" Available at <http://www.uoguelph.ca/enviropig/> and on file. Accessed March 3, 2011; AquaBounty Technologies. "Press Room." Available at <http://www.aquabounty.com/PressRoom/>. Accessed February 8, 2011.
- 5 Pollack, Andrew. "Crop Scientists Say Biotechnology Seed Companies Are Thwarting Research." *The New York Times*. February 20, 2009.

- 6 Cowan, Tadlock. Congressional Research Service. "Agricultural Biotechnology: Background and Recent Issues." June 18, 2011 at 2.
- 7 de Vendomois, Joel Spiroux et al. "A Comparison of the Effects of Three GM Corn Varieties on Mammalian Health." *International Journal of Biological Sciences*, vol. 5, iss. 7. 2009 at 716 to 718; Malatesta, Manuela et al. "Ultrastructural Morphometrical and Immunocytochemical Analyses of Hepatocyte Nuclei from Mice Fed on Genetically Modified Soybean." *Cell Structure and Function*, vol. 27. 2002 at Abstract; Cisterna, B. et al. "Can a genetically-modified organism-containing diet influence embryo development? A preliminary study on pre-implantation mouse embryos." *European Journal of Histochemistry*. 2008 at 263; Agodi, Antonella et al. "Detection of genetically modified DNA sequences in milk from the Italian market." *International Journal of Hygiene and Environmental Health*. January 10, 2006 at Abstract; Mesnage, R. et al. "Cytotoxicity on human cells of Cry1Ab and Cry1Ac Bt insecticidal toxins alone or with a glyphosate-based herbicide." *Journal of Applied Toxicology*. 2012 at Abstract.
- 8 Fernandez-Cornejo, Jorge and Margriet Caswell. USDA ERS. "The First Decade of Genetically Engineered Crops in the United States." EIB No. 11. April 2006 at 3.
- 9 U.S. Food and Drug Administration. "Guidance for Industry: Voluntary Labeling Indicating Whether Foods Have or Have Not Been Developed Using Bioengineering; Draft Guidance." 2001. Available at <http://www.fda.gov/Food/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/GuidanceDocuments/FoodLabelingNutrition/ucm059098.htm>. Accessed December 15, 2010.
- 10 Fernandez-Cornejo and Caswell (2006) at 1.
- 11 Cowan, Tadlock. Congressional Research Service. "Agricultural Biotechnology: Background and Recent Issues." June 18, 2011 at 6; USDA ERS. "NEW Feed Grains Data; Yearbook Tables, Corn: Food, seed, and industrial use." March 15, 2012. Available at <http://www.ers.usda.gov/data/FeedGrains/Table.aspx?i=31>. Accessed April 10, 2012.
- 12 Cowan (2011) at 17.
- 13 *Ibid.* at 6.
- 14 USDA, National Resources Conservation Service. "Animal Diets and Feed Management." Nutrient Management Technical Note No. 8. January 2012 at 4.
- 15 Kaskey, Jack. "Monsanto to sell biotech sweet corn for U.S. consumers." *Bloomberg*. August 4, 2011; Cowan (2011) at 2.
- 16 CBS News Poll Database. "CBS News/New York Times Poll, Apr. 2008." Available at <http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2007/10/12/politics/main3362530.shtml?tag=cbsnewsLeadStoriesArea>. Updated April 2008. Accessed May 6, 2011.
- 17 Consumers Union. "FDA will not require labeling of meat or fish from genetically engineered animals." [Press Release]. January 15, 2009.
- 18 Shoemaker (2001) at 32.
- 19 European Parliament and Council, Regulation (EC) No 1829/2003 at Article 12.2.
- 20 Dr. Sato, Sugiuro. USDA Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS), Global Agriculture Information Network (GAIN). "Japan Biotechnology Annual Report 2008." September 19, 2011 at 1; Lagos, Joshua Emmanuel and Wu Bugang. USDA FAS, GAIN. "China-People's Republic of, Biotechnology—GE Plants and Animals Annual 2010." January 28, 2011 at 6; Crothers, Linda. USDA FAS, GAIN. "Australia, Biotechnology—GE Plants and Animals, Agricultural Biotechnology Report 2010." July 14, 2010 at 6; Lee-Jones, David. USDA FAS, GAIN. "New Zealand, Biotechnology—GE Plants and Animals, Annual Update for Biotechnology in Agriculture." July 15, 2010 at 8; Silva, Joao F. USDA FAS, GAIN. "Brazil Agricultural Biotechnology Annual 2011." July 13, 2011 at 6; Yassilleva, Yelena. USDA FAS, GAIN. "Russian Federation, Agricultural Biotechnology Annual, Annual 2011." July 18, 2011; Mousa, Hussein. USDA FAS, GAIN. "Saudi Arabia, Agricultural Biotechnology Annual, Saudi Arabia Agricultural Biotechnology 2011." July 18, 2011 at 2; Chung, SeungAh. USDA FAS, GAIN. "Korea—Republic of, Biotechnology—GE Plants and Animals Biotechnology Annual Report 2010." December 22, 2010 at 8.
- 21 7 CFR 205.2.

LET ME DECIDE
MAKE GE LABELING THE LAW

For more information:

WEB: www.foodandwaterwatch.org

E-MAIL: info@fwwatch.org

PHONE: (202) 683-2500 (DC) • (415) 293-9900 (CA)

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RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the City of _____ recognizes that consumers want accurate and thorough information about the food they feed their families; and

WHEREAS, the potential long-term risks to public health and the environment from genetically engineered foods are unknown; and

WHEREAS, safety studies on genetically engineered foods are limited because biotechnology companies prohibit cultivation for research purposes in their seed licensing agreements; and

WHEREAS, some independent, peer-reviewed research that has been done on genetically engineered crops has revealed problems with liver and kidney functions in rats, deformities and neurological problems in vertebrates and lower nutrition content in Roundup Ready crops; and

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the United States Department of Agriculture to ensure that genetically engineered crops are safe to grow, the Environmental Protection Agency to ensure that genetically engineered products will not harm the environment and the Food and Drug Administration to ensure that genetically engineered food is safe to eat; and

WHEREAS, the patchwork of federal agencies that regulates genetically engineered crops and animals in the United States has failed to adequately oversee and monitor genetically engineered products; and

WHEREAS, farmers who produce organic or non-genetically engineered crops run the risk of crop contamination from nearby genetically engineered crops; and

WHEREAS; farmers who unintentionally grow genetically engineered-patented seeds or who harvest crops that are contaminated with genetically engineered traits could lose marketing options and face costly lawsuits; and

WHEREAS, a 2008 CBS/*New York Times* poll found that 87 percent of U.S. consumers wanted all genetically engineered ingredients to be labeled;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that on the _____ day of _____ 2013, (name of town) supports mandatory labeling of all genetically engineered products.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND EFFECTIVE on this _____ day of _____, 2013.

ATTEST:

Mayor

Date

Commission President

Date

PLEASE SEND A COPY OF THIS SIGNED RESOLUTION TO:

1. Lisa Jackson, Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, Ariel Rios Building 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, DC 20460
2. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack, United States Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Ave., S.W., Washington, DC 20250
3. Margaret Hamberg M.D., Commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration, 10903 New Hampshire Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20993
4. State Senators and State Representatives
5. Senators Marco Rubio and Bill Nelson, United States Senate, Washington, DC 20510
6. United States Representative _____, Washington, DC 20515
7. Food & Water Watch, 1044 NE 15th Avenue / Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33304

04.28.2014 SAB Meeting Discussion

References:

1. Handouts
2. Minutes

HB1

2014

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to genetically engineered foods;
 3 creating s. 500.90, F.S.; providing definitions;
 4 providing a list of commercial commodities commonly
 5 cultivated in genetically engineered form; requiring
 6 the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to
 7 publish the list by a specified date and annually
 8 update the published list; providing mandatory
 9 labeling requirements for genetically engineered raw
 10 agricultural commodities and processed foods made with
 11 or derived from genetically engineered ingredients;
 12 exempting specified foods, commodities, ingredients,
 13 and other substances from the labeling requirements;
 14 authorizing the department to adopt rules; providing
 15 for enforcement of the labeling requirements;
 16 providing civil remedies and penalties; providing an
 17 effective date.

18
 19 WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that consumers should have
 20 the right to know whether the foods they purchase contain
 21 genetically engineered material, and

22 WHEREAS, manipulating genes and inserting them into
 23 organisms is an imprecise process that produces results that are
 24 not always predictable or controllable and could lead to adverse
 25 health or environmental consequences, and

26 WHEREAS, mandatory labeling of genetically engineered foods
 27 can provide a critical method for tracking the potentially
 28 dangerous health effects of consuming genetically engineered

HB1

2014

29 | foods, and

30 | WHEREAS, currently, there is no federal requirement
 31 | mandating disclosure of genetically engineered foods on food
 32 | labels, and

33 | WHEREAS, the vast majority of the public wants labels on
 34 | genetically engineered foods, and

35 | WHEREAS, countries around the world, including the European
 36 | Union member states, Japan, and other key United States trading
 37 | partners, have laws mandating disclosure of genetically
 38 | engineered foods on food labels, and

39 | WHEREAS, no international agreements prohibit the mandatory
 40 | labeling of genetically engineered foods, and

41 | WHEREAS, without mandatory labeling of genetically
 42 | engineered foods, consumers may unknowingly violate their own
 43 | dietary and religious principles, and

44 | WHEREAS, the cultivation of genetically engineered crops
 45 | can negatively impact the environment, in some cases
 46 | necessitating the use of increasingly toxic herbicides that can
 47 | damage agricultural areas, impair drinking water, and pose
 48 | health risks to consumers and farmworkers, and

49 | WHEREAS, consumers should have the choice to avoid
 50 | purchasing foods that could cause adverse health and
 51 | environmental effects, and

52 | WHEREAS, public confidence in organic food products may
 53 | erode as organic farmers' crops are regularly threatened with
 54 | accidental contamination by contaminated seed and neighboring
 55 | lands where genetically engineered crops abound, and consumers
 56 | should have the choice to avoid purchasing foods that could harm

HB 1

2014

57 | the state's organic farmers and food industry, NOW THEREFORE,

58

59 | Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

60

61 | Section 1. Section 500.90, Florida Statutes, is created to
62 | read:

63 | 500.90 Genetically engineered foods.-

64 | (1) As used in this section, the term:

65 | (a) "Cultivated commercially" means grown or raised by a
66 | person in the course of a business or trade.

67 | (b) "Enzyme" means a protein that catalyzes chemical
68 | reactions of other substances without itself being destroyed or
69 | altered upon completion of the reactions.

70 | (c) "Food facility" means an operation that stores,
71 | prepares, packages, serves, vends, or otherwise provides food
72 | for human consumption at the retail level, including an
73 | operation where food is consumed on or off the premises,
74 | regardless of whether there is a charge for the food.

75 | (d) "Genetically engineered" means food that consists of,
76 | is composed of, contains, or is produced from an organism or
77 | organisms in which the genetic material has been changed through
78 | the application of:

79 | 1. In vitro nucleic acid techniques, including recombinant
80 | deoxyribonucleic acid techniques and the direct injection of
81 | nucleic acid into cells or organelles. Such techniques include,
82 | but are not limited to, recombinant deoxyribonucleic acid or
83 | ribonucleic acid techniques that use vector systems and
84 | techniques involving the direct introduction into the organisms

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85 of hereditary material prepared outside the organisms such as
86 micro-injection, macro-injection, chemoporation,
87 electroporation, microencapsulation, and liposome fusion; or

88 2. Fusion of cells, including protoplast fusion, or
89 hybridization techniques that overcome natural physiological,
90 reproductive, or recombination barriers, where the donor cells
91 or protoplasts do not fall within the same taxonomic family, in
92 a way that does not occur by natural multiplication or natural
93 recombination.

94 (e) "Ingredient" means a substance that is used in the
95 manufacture, or contained in the final form, of a processed
96 food.

97 (f) "Processed food" means food other than a raw
98 agricultural commodity and includes food produced from a raw
99 agricultural commodity that has been subject to processing such
100 as canning, smoking, pressing, cooking, freezing, dehydration,
101 fermentation, or milling.

102 (g) "Processing aid" means:

103 1. A substance that is added to a food during the
104 processing of the food that is removed in the same manner from
105 the food before it is packaged in its finished form.

106 2. A substance that is added to a food during processing,
107 is converted into constituents normally present in the food, and
108 does not significantly increase the amount of the constituents
109 naturally found in the food.

110 3. A substance that is added to a food for its technical
111 or functional effects in the processing but is present in the
112 finished good at insignificant levels and does not have a

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113 technical or functional effect in that finished food.

114 (2)(a) The Legislature finds that the following raw
115 agricultural commodities are commonly cultivated commercially in
116 genetically engineered form:

117 1. Alfalfa.

118 2. Canola.

119 3. Corn.

120 4. Cotton.

121 5. Papaya.

122 6. Soy.

123 7. Sugar beets.

124 8. Zucchini and yellow summer squash.

125 (b) By January 1, 2016, and annually thereafter, the
126 department shall publish an updated list of additional raw
127 agricultural commodities that are commonly cultivated
128 commercially in genetically engineered form. The list must be
129 based on the most current available information.

130 (3)(a) Beginning January 1, 2016, a genetically engineered
131 raw agricultural commodity that is offered for retail sale must
132 include a clear and conspicuous statement with the words
133 "genetically engineered" on the front of the package or label of
134 such commodity. For such a commodity that is not separately
135 packaged or labeled, the statement must appear on a label on the
136 retail store shelf or bin where the commodity is displayed for
137 sale.

138 (b) Beginning January 1, 2016, a package offered for
139 retail sale containing processed food that is made with or
140 derived from a genetically engineered ingredient must include a

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141 | clear and conspicuous statement on the front or back of the
142 | package with the words "contains genetically engineered
143 | ingredients," followed by the name of the genetically engineered
144 | ingredient or ingredients. If an ingredients list appears on the
145 | package, the statement must appear underneath the ingredients
146 | list. For a processed food containing more than one genetically
147 | engineered ingredient, the genetically engineered ingredients
148 | listed after the statement must be listed in the same order in
149 | which they appear in the full ingredients list.

150 | (c) In lieu of compliance with paragraph (b), a package
151 | containing processed food that is made with or derived from an
152 | ingredient that may be genetically engineered must include a
153 | clear and conspicuous statement on the front or back of the
154 | package with the words "may contain genetically engineered
155 | ingredients," followed by the name of the genetically engineered
156 | ingredient or ingredients. If an ingredients list appears on the
157 | package, the statement must appear underneath the ingredients
158 | list. For a processed food containing more than one ingredient
159 | that may be genetically engineered, the genetically engineered
160 | ingredients listed after the statement must be listed in the
161 | same order in which they appear in the full ingredients list.

162 | (d) This subsection does not apply to:

163 | 1. A raw agricultural commodity that, on the date it is
164 | offered for retail sale, is not listed in paragraph (2) (a) or in
165 | the most recent list published pursuant to paragraph (2) (b).

166 | 2. A processed food that does not contain an ingredient
167 | derived from a raw agricultural commodity that, on the date the
168 | processed food is manufactured, is listed in either paragraph

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169 (2) (a) or in the most recent list published pursuant to
170 paragraph (2) (b).

171 3. Food consisting entirely of, or derived entirely from,
172 an animal that has not itself been genetically engineered,
173 regardless of whether the animal has been fed or injected with a
174 genetically engineered food or a drug that has been produced
175 through means of genetic engineering.

176 4. A raw agricultural commodity or ingredient that has
177 been grown, raised, or produced without the knowing and
178 intentional use of genetically engineered seed or food. The
179 person responsible for complying with this section must obtain,
180 from whoever sold the commodity or ingredient to that person, a
181 sworn statement that the commodity or ingredient has not been
182 knowingly or intentionally genetically engineered and has been
183 segregated from and has not been knowingly or intentionally
184 commingled with, goods that may have been genetically engineered
185 at any time. In providing such a sworn statement, a person may
186 rely on a sworn statement from his or her own supplier that
187 contains such an affirmation.

188 5. A processed food that would be subject to this section
189 solely because it includes one or more genetically engineered
190 processing aids or enzymes.

191 6. An alcoholic beverage that is subject to regulation
192 under chapters 561-568.

193 7. Until January 1, 2016 a processed food that would be
194 subject to this section solely because it includes one or more
195 genetically engineered ingredients, if:

196 a. No single genetically engineered ingredient accounts

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197 | for more than one-half of 1 percent of the total weight of the
198 | processed food.

199 | b. The processed food does not contain more than 10
200 | genetically engineered ingredients.

201 | 8. As determined by an independent organization, a food
202 | not knowingly and intentionally produced from or commingled with
203 | genetically engineered seed or genetically engineered food, if
204 | such a determination has been made pursuant to a sampling and
205 | testing procedure approved for this purpose in rules adopted by
206 | the department. Such rules may not approve a sampling and
207 | testing procedure unless it is consistent with sampling and
208 | testing principles recommended by internationally recognized
209 | standards organizations.

210 | 9. Food that has been lawfully certified to be labeled,
211 | marketed, and offered for sale as organic pursuant to applicable
212 | federal organic food production laws and regulations.

213 | 10. Food that is not packaged for retail sale and that is:

214 | a. A processed food prepared and intended for immediate
215 | human consumption; or

216 | b. Served, sold, or otherwise provided in a restaurant or
217 | other food facility that is primarily engaged in the sale of
218 | food prepared and intended for immediate human consumption.

219 | (4) (a) The department may adopt rules to administer this
220 | section.

221 | (b) The department may bring an action in a court of
222 | competent jurisdiction to enjoin a person violating this
223 | section.

224 | (c) The department may assess a civil penalty against a

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225 person violating this section in an amount not to exceed \$1,000
226 per day. Each day of violation is considered a separate
227 violation.

228 (d) An action to enjoin a violation of this section may be
229 brought in a court of competent jurisdiction by a person in the
230 public interest if the department has commenced an action
231 against the alleged violation and the action is commenced more
232 than 60 days after the person has given notice of the alleged
233 violation to the department and the alleged violator.

234 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2014.



Organic Consumers Association

Campaigning for Health,
Justice, Sustainability,
Peace, and Democracy

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- Children's Health

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- rBGH
- Millions Against Monsanto
- Cloning & Patenting
- Nanotechnology
- GM Wheat
- Fish

Food Safety

- USDA Watch
- Toxic Sludge
- Raw Milk
- Mad Cow
- Irradiation
- Perchlorate

Fair Trade/
Social Justice

- Buy Local Movement

Farm Issues

- NAIS
- Honey Bees

Politics & Democracy

Publications

Organic Consumers Association Statement on GMO Labeling Law Victory in Vermont



Vermont Lawmakers Pass Country's First No-Strings-Attached GMO Labeling Law
Organic Consumers Association, April 16, 2014

For related articles and more information, please visit OCA's [Millions Against Monsanto](#) and our [Genetic Engineering](#) page.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 16, 2014

CONTACT: [Organic Consumers Association](#), [Katherine Paul](#), 207.653.3090

FINLAND, Minn. – Today, by a vote of 28-2, the Vermont state Senate passed [H.112](#), a bill to require mandatory labeling of foods sold in Vermont that contain genetically modified organisms (GMOs). The bill also makes it illegal to call any food product containing GMOs "natural" or "all natural." Unlike bills passed last year in Maine and Connecticut, which require four or five other states to pass GMO labeling laws before they can be enacted, Vermont's law contains no "trigger" clauses, making it the first "clean" GMO labeling law in the country.

The bill now goes back to the House which is expected to agree to the Senate's amendments, then to Gov. Peter Shumlin who is expected to sign it.

Ronnie Cummins, national director of the Organic Consumers Association (OCA), issued the following statement:

Today's victory in Vermont has been 20 years in the making. Ever since genetically modified crops and foods entered the U.S. food supply in the early 1990s, without adequate independent pre-market safety testing and without labels, U.S. consumers have fought to require the labeling of foods containing GMOs.

Consumer demand for mandatory labeling of GMOs spawned a national grassroots movement that has persevered despite hundreds of millions of dollars spent by the biotech and food industries to lobby state lawmakers in Vermont, and to fund anti-labeling campaigns in California (2012) and Washington State (2013).

Today, consumers and a number of principled legislators in Vermont made it clear to Monsanto, Coca-Cola and other opponents of consumers' right to know. We will not back down. This movement is here to stay.

We expect that Monsanto will sue the state of Vermont in order to prevent enactment of H.112. We also expect that Monsanto will lose, and the law will go into effect on schedule, on July 1, 2016.

We expect that the Grocery Manufacturers Association, a multi-billion lobbying group representing more than 300 food, pesticide and drug makers, will try to pass their "[Safe and Accurate Food Labeling Act of 2014](#)," introduced last week by Rep. Mike Pompeo (R-Kan.), intended to strip Vermont, and all other states, of their right to pass GMO labeling laws. And we expect that Congress will not pass this law, dubbed the DARK (Deny Americans the Right to Know) Act, which seeks to deny consumers the right to know if their food has been genetically engineered, and deny states the right to enact laws designed to protect public health.

Vermont's landmark victory today will force food companies to either label GMOs in all states, or reformulate their products to be GMO-free in order to avoid stating "this product was produced using genetic engineering" on their packaging. When Oregon passes a citizens' ballot initiative to label GMOs in November, as we believe it will, the biotech and food industries will have lost, beyond the shadow of a doubt, their battle to keep consumers in the dark.

The OCA has worked closely over the past several years with the pro-labeling grassroots movement in Vermont. Today we congratulate Vermont activists for their passionate pursuit of this law, Vermont lawmakers for having the courage to pass the law, and Vermont citizens for being the first in the country to have the benefit of GMO labels on their food. And we reaffirm our commitment to work with Oregon and other states to pass similar laws, and to fight any and all attempts by industry and/or Congress to overturn these laws.

For press inquiries, please contact Katherine Paul by [email](#) or phone: 207.653.3090

New Business

Genetically Engineered Food Labeling

- Ms. Machado is the Florida organizer for Food and Water Watch. There are over 30,000 members in the State of Florida and Fort Lauderdale has over 600 members. She is asking for SAB support on helping their group in passing a local resolution to labeling genetically engineered foods. She has provided a sample resolution that mimics the resolution passed in Albuquerque NM and Cincinnati, OH which both have passed this resolution. Maine, Vermont and Connecticut have also passed a similar resolution. This deals with post-seed genetically modified food.
- Organic farmers do not want cross-pollination with crops that are genetically modified. It is important for consumers and farmers to know which are genetically modified so that they can make informed decisions.
- Chair Amor recommended that Ms. Machado use more up-to-date support articles. She felt that the resolution should be stronger and recommended that Ms. Machado return to the board at the next meeting with a stronger package that can be brought before Commission. Mr. Ayers agreed with this recommendation. Mr. Cook recommended that the resolution be more succinct and to put the backup with it.

Geoengineering Resolution

- Ms. Whitfield discussed geoengineering spraying in the sky and discussed the ordinance Pasadena passed in the 1990s not allowing helicopters to spray in their border. She talked about various spraying events occurring over the City of Fort Lauderdale. She would like to know what is being sprayed in the City.
- She discussed a resolution that the premier of British Columbia presented to stop geoengineering within Canadian borders.
- If there is support with the SAB, she will return next month with a draft resolution regarding geoengineering spraying and climate control. Chair Amor suggested that the resolution be changed to reflect American rather than Canadian terminology. Mr. Wood asked if the Clean Air Act would provide some legal recourse on this issue. Mr. Spence suggested that the board could file a Freedom of Information Act request to the Federal government to find out who is spraying over the City.

Board Communications

- Mr. Ayers suggested that since each member has done varying research on topics that are current, perhaps they could package this research with a cover letter to Commission to show them sustainability matters that the Board is considering. He would like to do a presentation of the UN climate report at the next meeting.

Old Business

Outcome of SAB Communications (April 15th)

- Ms. Steyn reported on the two SAB communications. The first communication on the Innovative Technology is pending. Commission would like to see the results of the completion of the pilot program at GTL wastewater treatment plant. In addition the future ESCO contractor will be tasked to provide recommendations on this procedure.

05.23.2014 Email Information Exchange

References:

1. Attachment

LINKS:

CONSPIRACY THEORISTS' VINDICATED: HAARP CONFIRMED WEATHER-MANIPULATION TOOL
<http://www.wakingtimes.com/2014/05/17/conspiracy-theorists-vindicated-haarp-confirmed-weather-manipulation-tool/>

PUBLIC PLAYGROUND GROWS FOOD TO FEED HUNGRY KIDS AFTER PLAYING ON THE JUNGLE GYM
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0cxrWKnvxZU>

SOLAR POWERED AQUAPONIC SYSTEM GROWS FISH AND VEGETABLES ANYWHERE
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0kD2gDzbuYc>

AQUAPONIC URBAN FARM GROWS VEGETABLES THROUGH THE WINTER SNOW
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_EqaYohUNas&feature=youtube_gdata_player

TAKEPART
<http://www.takepart.com/>

JAX'S FIRST PUBLIC PERMACULTURE PARK
<http://sustainablenorthflorida.org/first-public-permaculture-park-in-jacksonville/>

WHY AREN'T G.M.O. FOODS LABELED?
http://opinionator.blogs.nytimes.com/2011/02/15/why-arent-g-m-o-foods-labeled/?_php=true&_type=blogs&emc=eta1&r=0

THE ULTIMATE WEAPON OF MASS DESTRUCTION: "OWNING THE WEATHER" FOR MILITARY USE
<http://www.globalresearch.ca/the-ultimate-weapon-of-mass-destruction-owning-the-weather-for-military-use-2/5306386>

FLORIDA SEA TURTLE NESTING SEASON IS HERE
<http://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/FLDEP/bulletins/b91024>

SMART GROWTH AMERICA: DANGEROUS BY DESIGN 2014
<http://www.smartgrowthamerica.org/research/dangerous-by-design/dbd2014/national-overview/>

05.29.2014 SAB Meeting Presentation

References:

1. Handouts
2. Minutes

Genetic Engineered Foods 101



Vickie Machado
Food & Water Watch
Sustainability Advisory Board
May 29, 2014

www.foodandwaterwatch.org

food&waterwatch

What is “GE”?

- Genetically engineered (GE) plants and animals (also called genetically modified organisms (GMOs)) are altered with inserted genetic material to exhibit a desired trait.

DIFFERENT FROM HYBRIDS!

- Examples: herbicide-tolerant corn, insect-resistant cotton, Golden Rice, rBGH in milk, GE salmon.

www.foodandwaterwatch.org



No labeling is required!

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Approved Genetically Engineered Crops

Since GE corn was first commercialized in 1996, 96 GE crops have been approved for commercialization.

Herbicide-Tolerant	Insect-Tolerant	Other
RR Corn	Bt Corn	Amylase Corn
RR Soybean	Bt Cotton	High Oleic Acid Soybean
RR Alfalfa	Bt Soybean	Virus-resistant Papaya
RR Canola		Virus-resistant Squash
RR Sugarbeet		Virus-resistant Potato
RR Cotton		Delayed-ripening Tomato
LibertyLink Corn		Drought-resistant Corn
LibertyLink Rice		

Source: USDA

www.foodandwaterwatch.org



*Data from the USDA Petitions for Non-regulated Status Granted or Pending by APHIS as of January 10, 2012; Golden Rice Humanitarian Board

What's next? Concerns in Florida?

- GE oranges



- GE Apple



- GE Salmon



www.foodandwaterwatch.org

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Uncertain Safety: Public Health Risks & Contamination

- Lack of independent data because companies conduct tests/regulations.
- Independent research limited by restrictive licensing agreements controlling the use of patented seeds.
- Long-term human consumption studies have not been done, making consumers the guinea pigs.
- Organic Certification, market loss
 - Rejections at elevators for GE content costs farmers ~40 million a year (OTA)
- Loss of international markets
- Preventative measures – delayed planting, buffer strips
- Patent infringement lawsuits
- GE Papaya in South Florida—What might this do to aspiring organic farmers?

GE Myths Debunked

- GE crops do not yield more than non-GE crops.
- GE crops do not reduce costs for farmers.
- GE crops are not more sustainable and often require even more herbicide use.

www.foodandwaterwatch.org

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Why Aren't GE Foods Labeled?

FDA does not require the labeling of GE food products as such because the agency views GE foods as indistinct from conventional foods.

But polls consistently
show that consumers
want labels on GE foods



2008 CBS/*New York Times* poll- more than half of American consumers would choose not to buy GE foods, 87% wanted all GE ingredients to be labeled.

2010 Consumers Union poll- 95% of U.S. consumers favor mandatory labeling of meat and milk from GE animals.

2013 NYT poll- 93% of respondents wanted labeling of GE foods.

2014 1.4 million people have signed the Center for Food Safety's petition to require GMO labeling
(*Boston Globe* 5/27/14)

www.foodandwaterwatch.org

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State Labeling Initiatives

- 64 countries have labeling laws (courtesy of [The Center for Food Safety](#))
- In 2014 alone, there have been 60 bills in 23 states requiring labeling.
- Florida Bills are getting farther each year, last year: HB1, SB 0558.
 - HB1
 - 10 cosponsors
 - Bipartisan support
 - SB 0558
 - introduced on the agenda
- Passed GE Labeling Bills:
 - Maine
 - Connecticut
 - Vermont (2014)



Actions Needed

We want the City of Fort Lauderdale to show it's support by passing a local resolution.

Mandatory Labeling

Why Statewide and not national?

Realizing the power of large biotech corporations hold, we are looking to mobilize on a local level.

What would this include?

Anything labeled as "food"

www.foodandwaterwatch.org

food&waterwatch



Questions?

vmachado@fwwatch.org
www.foodandwaterwatch.org

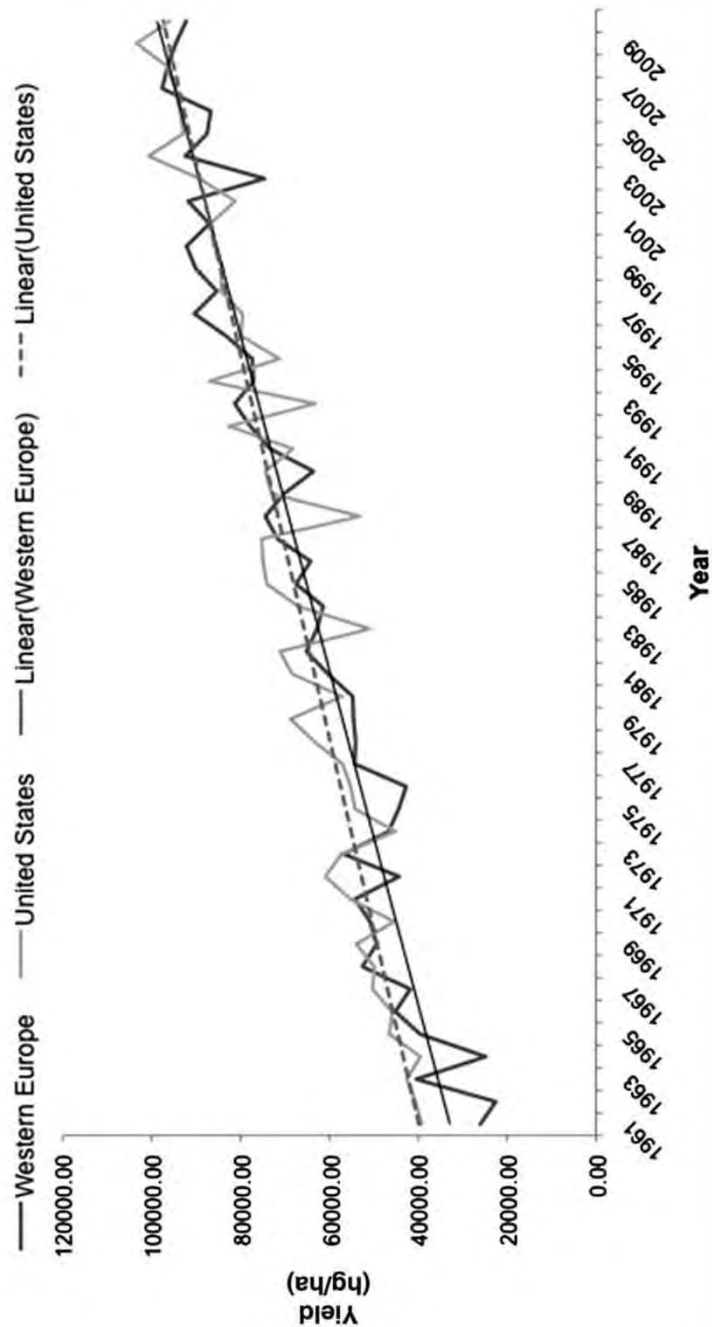
www.foodandwaterwatch.org

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Long-Term Yield Trends Unchanged

Trend Lines US and Western Europe 1961-2010



Source: Heinemann et al. 2013

Long-Term Yield Trends Unchanged

Source: USDA



www.foodandwaterwatch.org

(bu./acre)

food & water watch

Biotech Corn Seed More Expensive

(\$ per 80,000 kernels)



Source: USDA

www.foodandwaterwatch.org

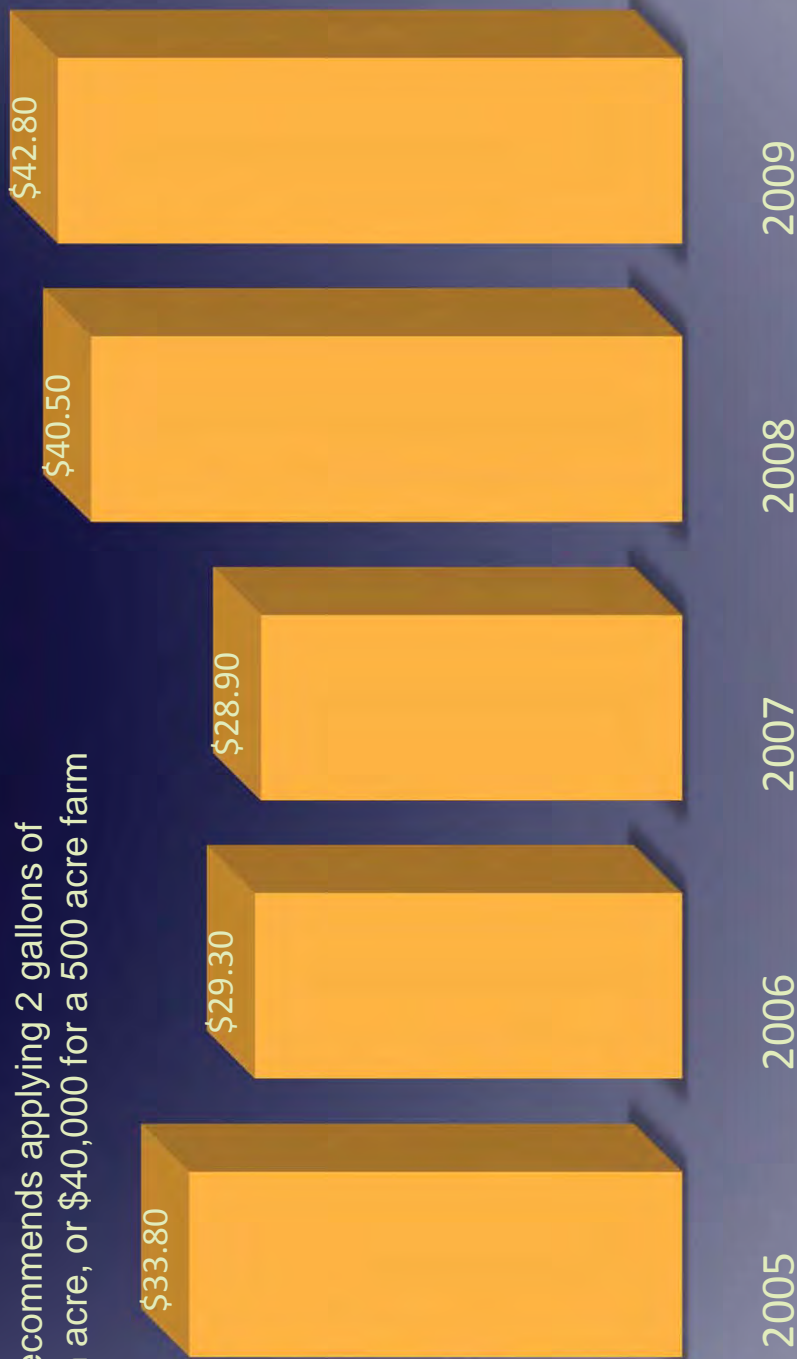
Non-GE Corn seed

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Roundup Herbicide Costs (\$/gallon)

Monsanto recommends applying 2 gallons of Roundup an acre, or \$40,000 for a 500 acre farm

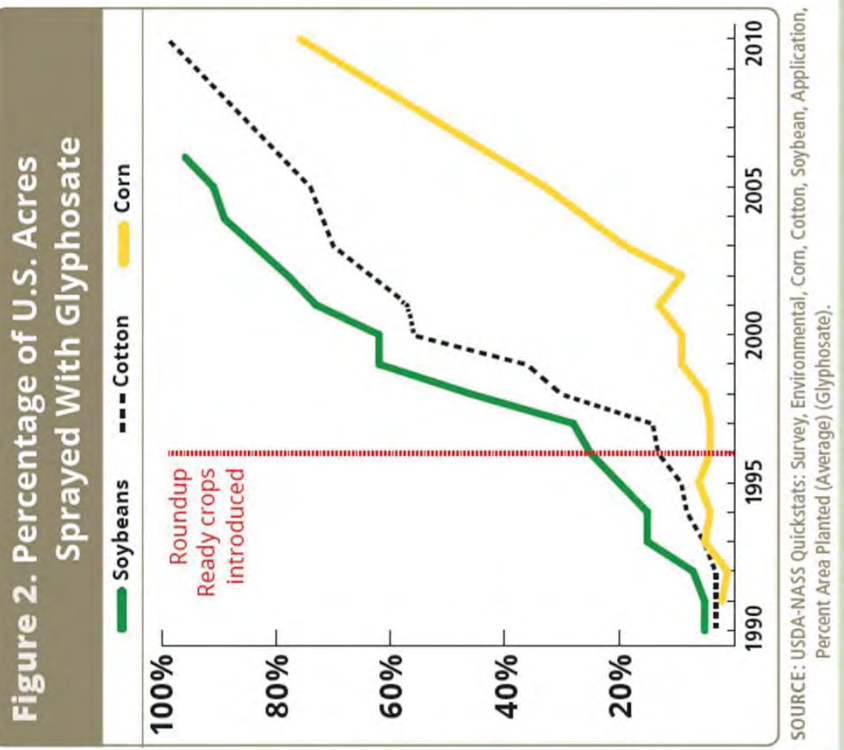
Source: USDA



www.foodandwaterwatch.org

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GE: Unsustainable



- HT crops have led to a herbicide use increase of **527 million lbs.** in U.S. from 1996-2011
- Ubiquitous Roundup application has spawned glyphosate-resistant weeds, driving farmers to apply even more toxic herbicides (2,4-D, atrazine) and more intensive management practices.

www.foodandwaterwatch.org

- Some future strategies for the Department include converting their fleet, continuing conversion all their parking meters to solar, multimodal connectivity for bikes, cars, mass transit and pedestrian. The Wave Streetcar is currently in design mode.
- Chair Amor discussed the green bike stripe issue and suggested that there should be a barrier in place. Ms. Alarcon responded that they must follow State laws for this aspect. They are researching to see best practices in other locations to see if state legislation can be changed.

City Sustainability Portal Project

- Ms. Stadlander presented a preview of the Green Your Routine website and the "Story Map" feature which is a GIS application allowing one to explore green topics within the City. It tells the story of sustainability in Fort Lauderdale – both public and private. There are three tabs to the website – Get Inspired – Get Informed – Get Involved.
- The Green Your Routine website that is currently on the City's website will have a comprehensive section on Climate Resiliency.
- The site allows citizens to upload their own photos and tell their own stories. There can be up to 99 thumbnails that people will be able to click on in each layer. Ms. Stadlander displayed several thumbnails and their links.
- Ms. Stadlander discussed the location on the site where people could find out about sustainable actions that they could do – sea turtles, butterfly gardens, etc.
- There are an additional 10-12 stories that are in development and she has 30-40 more under consideration.
- She will be providing a link to the Board so that they can review the Portal and give her feedback.

Genetically Engineered Food Legislation

- Ms. Machado is the Florida organizer for Food & Water Watch. She discussed Genetically Engineered (GE) foods (also termed Genetically Modified foods(GMO)). This is biotechnology to insert genes into food. She spoke about the fact that most foods are not labeled if they are GE.
- Since 2011, the FDA has approved 12 new genetically engineered crops. The first genetically engineered crop appeared in 1996. In Florida, they are interested in genetically engineering oranges and papaya. Long-term tests on their health effects on humans have not been performed. A second concern is that organic farmers could have cross-contamination from GE crops. She noted that GE crops do not produce more output than regular crops.
- She discussed having State labeling for GE crops and they are working on grassroots methods to have the discussion about adding GE labeling to crops within the State of Florida.

- Sixty bills in 23 states have been introduced and Connecticut has passed a bill but they require that adjoining states have to have labeling laws. Vermont is the only state that has passed a bill with no adjacency clauses. The effective date is 2016 for the Vermont law.
- The State of Florida had a bill in the House and Senate but neither has passed. Food & Water Watch is trying to pass local resolutions so that they can gain support for the bills to be reintroduced to the House and Senate.
- Mr. Ayers agreed that a local resolution would be a good beginning. Dr. Goetz was concerned with the "whereas" part of the resolution. Chair Amor asked for a motion to approve this resolution.

Motion made by Mr. Ayers and seconded by Ms. ?TBD. The Board voted and the motion passed with one dissent.

New Business/Discussion

- The two items on the agenda – Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change along with Sustainability Development Goals at the United Nations (Mr. Ayers) and National Climate Assessment (Chair Amor) - will be postponed to the next meeting.
- Ms. Whitfield's resolution on Geoengineering and the discussion of urban forest for complete streets will be put on the next meeting as well.

Old Business

- Chair Amor will postpone the City Achievements communication for the moment.

Board Communications

At the May 29th Sustainability Advisory Board meeting, the Board voted to support the local resolution proposed by the Food & Water Watch organization to label genetically engineered foods or genetically modified organisms and encourage the Commission to do the same.

Motion: The Board voted unanimously to present the communication to Commission.

Public Comment

- None

Committee Comments:

Dr. Goetz

He asked to put a discussion of hybrid/electric vehicles. He cited a study by the National Academy of Sciences that concluded over the lifecycle of hybrid/electric vehicles that there is more harm to humans and the environment than conventional gas vehicles. The second item he'd like to discuss is the rollback of sustainable energy mandates.

Ms. Whitfield

Passed out a Clean Sky ordinance from Maui, Hawaii.

Mr. Thitisawat

He is interested in the Board presentations and would like to present in the future.

06.03.2014

Commission Meeting Citizen Presentation

References:

1. Backup
 2. Video Link [Mark: 00h 39m 41s]
http://fortlauderdale.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view_i
-

JUN 3, 2014 CIT-3
VICKIE MACHADO

UPDATE! - GMO RESEARCH PACKET
SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY BOARD
08.20.14

LOCAL RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the City of Fort Lauderdale recognizes that consumers want accurate and thorough information about the food they feed their families; and

WHEREAS, the potential long-term risks to public health and the environment from genetically engineered foods are unknown; and

WHEREAS, safety studies on genetically engineered foods are limited because biotechnology companies prohibit cultivation for research purposes in their seed licensing agreements; and

WHEREAS, some independent, peer-reviewed research that has been done on genetically engineered crops has revealed problems with liver and kidney functions in rats, deformities and neurological problems in vertebrates and lower nutrition content in Roundup Ready crops; and

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the United States Department of Agriculture to ensure that genetically engineered crops are safe to grow, the Environmental Protection Agency to ensure that genetically engineered products will not harm the environment and the Food and Drug Administration to ensure that genetically engineered food is safe to eat; and

WHEREAS, the patchwork of federal agencies that regulates genetically engineered crops and animals in the United States has failed to adequately oversee and monitor genetically engineered products; and

WHEREAS, farmers who produce organic or non-genetically engineered crops run the risk of crop contamination from nearby genetically engineered crops; and

WHEREAS; farmers who unintentionally grow genetically engineered-patented seeds or who harvest crops that are contaminated with genetically engineered traits could lose marketing options and face costly lawsuits; and

WHEREAS, a 2013 *New York Times* poll found that 93 percent of U.S. consumers wanted all genetically engineered ingredients to be labeled;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that on the _____ day of _____ 2014, the City of Fort Lauderdale supports mandatory labeling of all genetically engineered products.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND EFFECTIVE on this _____ day of _____, 2014.

ATTEST:

Mayor

Date

Council President

Date

PLEASE SEND A COPY OF THIS SIGNED RESOLUTION TO:

1. Gina McCarthy, Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, Ariel Rios Building 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, DC 20460
2. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack, United States Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Ave., S.W., Washington, DC 20250
3. Margaret Hamberg M.D., Commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration, 10903 New Hampshire Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20993
4. Senator Bill Nelson, United States Senate, 716 Senate Hart Office Building Washington, DC 20510
5. Senator Marco Rubio, United States Senate 284 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510
6. Local Representative Lois Frankel, United States House of Representatives, 1037 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515
7. Food & Water Watch, 1044 NE 15th Avenue / Fort Lauderdale, FL 33304

June 3, 2014

UPDATE! - GMO RESEARCH PACKET
SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY BOARD
08.20.14

Dear Fort Lauderdale City Commissioner,

We are writing on behalf of our organizations urging you to support a state bill that requires labeling of all genetically engineered (GE) food.

Over the last 20 years, genetically engineered organisms in our country have created uncertainties and risks in our food system that need to be addressed. Genetic engineering uses recombinant DNA technology to transfer genetic material from one organism to another organism to produce specific traits. As new genetically engineered organisms, including crops and animals, continue to be introduced into our food system, a lack of precautionary measures threatens both the public's right to make educated decisions about their health and the way that farmers produce our nation's food.

The onslaught of genetically engineered food and the patenting of seeds by large biotechnology companies has diminished the ability of farmers to practice their own methods of seed selection, raised the price of seeds, and opened farmers up to patent infringement lawsuits. Genetic contamination, through the natural cross-pollination of GE crops with non-GE crops, is a serious threat to the farmers who have chosen against genetically engineered crops. The intensified use of agrochemicals in these GE production systems has also led to an increase in weed and insect resistance to herbicides and pesticides.

Unfortunately, once GE products are on the market, labeling these products as such is not required. This means that consumers are blindly eating and drinking GE ingredients every day and are not given the knowledge or choice to do otherwise. Several studies point to the health risks of GE crops and their associated agrochemicals. Many GE crops are designed to withstand stronger pesticides or even contain cells that naturally produce insecticides. But because FDA relies on data submitted by biotech companies and does no independent safety testing of its own, the potential long-term risks from eating GE food (like its allergenic potential) are unknown.

The State of Florida prides itself for being a major producer of food for the world as well as a leader in protecting its farmers and citizens. We strongly urge you to support consumer rights and propose a local resolution in support of the state bill for mandatory labeling of genetically engineered food.

Sincerely,

Food & Water Watch – Wenonah Hauter, Executive Director – Washington, D.C.

Community Organizations

Bicycle House Tallahassee – Scot Benton, President – Tallahassee, FL

CIAO! – Maurizio Bertoldi – Tallahassee, FL

Clairmont 'L' Condo Association – Doug Young, President – Tamarac, FL

Family Tree Community Center – Glenn Belay, Member of Board of Directors – Tallahassee, FL

Greater Frenchtown Revitalization Council – Miaisha Mitchell, Executive Director – Tallahassee, FL

Ivy-Daisy Garden Circle – Annette Krause, Chairperson – Tallahassee, FL

Krank it Up! – Justin Pogge, Owner – Tallahassee, FL

The Roosevelt 2.0 – Bryan Roberts, Managing Member – Tampa, FL

Highlands Gardens- Community Gardens – Maria Jackson, Manager – Hollywood

Environmental Organizations

Code Green Community – Eric Stewart, Director – Holiday, FL

Create Clearwater – Koreen Brennan, Coordinator – Clearwater, FL

Dream in Green – Miami, FL
Earth Learning – Mario Yanez, Director and Founder – Miami, FL
EarthSave Miami – J.M. Tucker, Chair – Miami Springs, FL
Environmental Coalition of Miami and the Beaches – Miami Beach, FL
Everglades Earth First! – Leah Rothschild, Editor – Lake Worth, FL
Florida Eco Network – Howard Dean, Founder & Director – Lake Worth
Keep Our School Beautiful – USF Tampa – Shaza Hussein, President – Tampa, FL
Oceans for Whales & Dolphins – Ruth Samuels, Director – West Palm Beach, FL
Operation Green Leaves Inc. – Nadine Pakire, Executive Director – Coral Gables, FL
Sierra Club Florida – Debbie Matthews, Chair – St. Petersburg, FL
South Florida Audubon Society – Doug Young, President – Fort Lauderdale, FL
Student Environmental Association – University of South Florida, Tampa – Joseph Michalsky, President – Tampa, FL
Tallahassee Sustainability Group – David Newman, Vice President – Tallahassee, FL
The Bridge – Rebecca Blanco, Chair – Dade City, FL
wiseBUYS the green – Irene Tetonis, Publisher – Coral Gables, FL
EarthSave Miami – Jeff Tucker, Chair – Miami

Faith-based Organizations

Center for Spiritual Living – Aurelie Laurence – Wilton Manors, FL
Christian Cultural Development Foundation – Robin Haines Merrill, Executive Director – Fort Lauderdale, FL
Green Living Energy Education Community Garden of Key West – Vicki Boguszewski – Key West, FL
Moon Path Chapter of Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans – Sophia Letourneau, Treasurer – Oakland Park, FL
Pax Christi St. Maurice – Art Kane, Director – Dania Beach, FL
Sowing Seeds Sewing Comfort Ministry – Minster Ivy – Tallahassee, FL
Sunshine State Interfaith Power and Light – Reverend Andy Bell, Director – Florida
The Center for Inspired Living – Susan Lerner, Minister – West Palm Beach, FL
The Oneness Project – Markus Edmiston, Founder – Fort Lauderdale, FL
Unitarian Universalist Church of Fort Lauderdale Board of Trustees – Myra Symons, President – Lauderdale Lakes, FL
Unity Church in the Gardens – Rhonda Rifelli, Office Manager – Jupiter, FL

Farmer's Markets and Farmers/Producers

Bearss Grove, LLC – Tampa, FL
Betton Hills Community Garden – Sue Hansen, Contact Agent – Tallahassee, FL
Coral Ridge Outdoor Green Market – Rachel O'Neill, Market Manager – Fort Lauderdale, FL
County Eight Farm – Dave Butler, Farmer – Cocoa, FL
Dream in Green – Gabriole Van Bryce, Executive Director – Miami, FL
Full Earth Farm – Katie Harris, Farm Manager – Quincy, FL
Gray Mockingbird Community Garden – Brian Kirsch – Lake Worth, FL
Harbison Cattle & Produce Farm – Troy Harbison – Anthony, FL
Heritage Hen Farm – Svetlana Simon, Farmer – Boynton Beach, FL
LNB Groves, Inc. – Andena Joy – Homestead, FL
Marando Farms – Chelsea Marando, Owner – Fort Lauderdale, FL
North Magnolia Farmers Market – Troy Harbison – Ocala, FL
Paradise Farms – Gabriele Maruski, President – Homestead, FL
Salvation Army Garden – David Newman, Farm Hand – Tallahassee, FL
Shadowood Farm, Inc. – Robert Fenton, President – Palm City, FL

Sweetwater Organic Farm – Andrea Harms, Program Director – Tampa, FL
The Family Garden – Jordan Brown – Bell, FL
The Good Earth Farm, Inc. – Nancy Fried, Owner – Loxahatchee, FL
Turkey Hill Farm – Louse Divine, Owner – Tallahassee, FL
Willow Herbal Delight Gardens – Willow LaMonte, Founder – Valrico, FL
Market in Palm Beach – Hector Iribarne, Founder – Pembroke Pines
Criswell Farms LLC – Kevin Quigley, Farmer – Fort Lauderdale

UPDATE! - GMO RESEARCH PACKET
SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY BOARD
08.20.14

Food System and Farming Organizations

AGvocacy – Dina Clingman-Bell – Lake Worth, FL
Broward County Community Outreach – Chelsea Marando, President – Fort Lauderdale, FL
Farm Fresh Miami – Erica Lisman, Founder – Miami, FL
Farmworkers Association of Florida – Jeannie Economos, Pesticide Health Project Coordinator – Apopka
Farmworkers Self-Help, Inc. – Margarita Romo, Executive Director – Dade City, FL
Flagler Village Community Garden – Chad Scott, President – Fort Lauderdale, FL
Florida Right to Know – Trish Sheldon, Director – Florida
Food Activists Revolutionizing Meals (FARM) – Colleen Mulcahey & Marla Greer, Members – Tampa, FL
Gaia's Guardians Permaculture – Bill Bilodeau, Coordinator – St. Petersburg, FL
GMO Free Florida – Trish Sheldon, Director – Florida
Little Haiti Community Garden – Miami, FL
Localecopia – Rick Hawkins, Co-founder – Palm Beach, FL
Local Food South Florida – Mike Moskos – Hialeah, FL
Los Olas Vegans – Alys Marks, Co-Founder – Fort Lauderdale, FL
Millions Against Monsanto – Trish Sheldon, Director – Florida
North Florida Culinary Incubator – Shacafrika Simmons, Director/Chef – Tallahassee, FL
Once Upon a Carrot – Cindy Hill, Founder – Miami Beach, FL
Palm Beach Gardens Raw Food Group – Viveca Park, Organizer – Palm Beach, Florida
Raw Food Meetup Fort Lauderdale – Fort Lauderdale, FL
Red Hills Small Farm Alliance – Louise Divine, Co-Founder – Tallahassee, FL
Slow Food First Coast – Richard Villadoniga, Founder – St. Augustine, FL
Slow Food Glades to Coast – Diane Campion, Leader – Wellington, FL
Slow Food Tampa Bay – Christine Hale, Secretary – St. Petersburg, FL
St. Pete Locally Grown – Tina Levy, Market Manager – St. Petersburg, FL
Suncoast Co-Op – Eric Stewart, Florida Director – Holiday, FL
Tallahassee Food Network – Nathan Balentine, Founding Partner – Tallahassee, FL
The Palm Beach County Vegetarian Society – Melanie Wolf – Palm Beach County, FL
Urban Oasis Project – Art Friedrich – Miami, FL
Vital Longevity Raw Food Group – Susan Lerner, Founder – West Palm Beach, FL
Youth L.E.A.D. – Erin Healy, CEO/Founder – Miami, FL
Broward Food System Cooperative – Michael Madfis, Vice President, - Fort Lauderdale

Health Organizations

All People's Day – Susan Berkowitz-Schwartz, Founder/President – Delray Beach, FL
Allergy and Asthma Diagnostic Treatment Center – Ron Saff, MD – Tallahassee, FL
Annie Appleseed Project – Ann Fonfa, Founder – Delray Beach, FL
Authentic Health Now – Sandy Allen, Co-Founder – Plant City, FL
Code Pink – Suki De Jong and Hillary Keyes – Boynton Beach, FL
healthhopehealing.org – Lenny Horton, CEO – Florida City, FL
Hippocrates Health Institute – Brian Clement, Director – West Palm Beach, FL
James D. O'Neill, DC – St. Petersburg, FL
The Connection Partners, Inc. – Sharon Joy Kleitsch, Founder – St. Petersburg, FL

Arts and Humanity Organizations

Art Student League – Jessica Ciani, Vice President – Tallahassee, FL
Artist Coalition Annukai
Life Wired – Torrey Ella, Artist
Palm Beach Photographic Center – Fatima, NeJame, CEO – Palm Beach, FL
South of Soho Cooperative Art Gallery – Jeff Zenick, Artist - Tallahassee

Political Parties

Ecology Party of Florida – Cara Campbell, Chair – Fort Lauderdale, FL
Green Party of Florida – Bonnie Redding, Secretary – Indian Rocks Beach, FL

Public Interest Organizations

Awake Tampa – Joseph Jay, Facilitator – Tampa, FL
Florida Consumer Action Network – Bill Newton, Executive Director – Tampa, FL
Florida New Majority – Tim Heberlein, Political Director – Tampa, FL

Social Justice Organizations

Aurora's Voice – Pablo Del Real, Founder – Delray Beach, FL
Nourish 9 Billion – Christopher Stampar, Co-Coordinator – Miami, FL
Sistuh, Inc. – Jalecia Thomas, Treasurer – Tallahassee, FL
War Vs. Human Needs – Melodi Willis, Activist – Broward and Palm Beach Counties, FL

Miscellaneous

Florida School of Holistic Living – Emily Ruff, Director – Orlando, FL
Foundation Learning Alliance – Jennifer Tinker, CEO – Lake Worth, FL
Phi Theta Kappa – Emily Torres, President, Tallahassee, FL

Businesses

20 Shekels Bread – Marni Atherton, Owner – Clearwater, FL
Abby's Health and Nutrition – Victor Karydis, Store Manager – Tampa, FL
Advantage Cargo – Shawn Rather, Owner – Fort Lauderdale, FL
AMD Supply, LLC – Michael Cooper, Director – Medley, FL
Around the Clock Emergency Services, LLC – Michael Cooper, Director – Boca Raton, FL
Athena's Garden Herbal Emporium – Linda Tice, Owner – Tallahassee, FL
Baci Gelati – Alessandra Ruospo, Owner – Fort Lauderdale, FL
Bali-Hi Trading Company – Elaine Grace, Owner – Tallahassee, FL
Bandidos Burrito Co. – Tallahassee, FL
Bedner's Farm Fresh Market – Marie Bedner, Owner – Boynton Beach, FL
Bella Bella Italian Restaurant – Tallahassee, FL
Be Well Massage – Bryan Weinstein – Boca Raton, FL
BirdSauce – David Wray, President – Tallahassee, FL
Black Dog Café – Carla Reid, Owner – Tallahassee, FL
BM Organics – Charles Weber, Owner – Fort Lauderdale, FL
Bread and Roses Food Co-op – Simon Bevis and William Relova – Tallahassee, FL
Café Italia – Hollywood, FL
Canopy Road Café – Casey Sellers, Manager – Tallahassee, FL
Catch A Wave Surf and Ski Shop – Paul Dunbar – Miami, FL
Cheyenne's Country Thangs – Lisa Hunt, Owner – Lutz, FL
Chia Growers – Jeffrey Walters, CEO
Cooper Magnolia, Inc. – Matt Thomas, President – Riverview, FL

Dfd, Inc. – Eric Hodgson, President – Fort Lauderdale, FL
Dickerson Landscape – William Dickerson, President – Tallahassee, FL
Dynamic Fitness Programs Inc. – Kelly Doyle, Owner – Fort Lauderdale, FL
Edible Gardening – Karin Fields, Owner – Fort Lauderdale, FL
Edible Landscape – Rebecca Siplak and Paul Beich, Co-Owners – Panacea, FL
Escopazzo Restaurant – Giancarla Bodoni, Owner and Chef – Miami Beach, FL
Face Restaurant – Rimy Thomann, Owner – Hollywood, FL
Figure 8 Drafting, LLC – Wes Shaffer, Owner – Tallahassee, FL
Fisher Honey Bees – Judi Fisher, Owner – Land O Lakes, FL
Fit & Functional – Sherman Rosier, Owner – Tallahassee, FL
Florida Running Company – Coston Perkins – Miami, FL
Fool Moon Treasures – Diane Sams, Product Development – Tallahassee, FL
Fran Biz, Inc. – Kenneth Gordon, CEO – Tampa, FL
Global Organics – Ronni Blumenthal, Vice-President – Sarasota, FL
Going Green Tampa – Lisa Custer, Founder – Land O Lakes, FL
Gold Coast Hurricane Shutters, Inc. – Michael Cooper, President – Davie, FL
Got Sprouts – Sean Herbert, Owner – Riviera Beach, FL
Gramlings, Inc. – Stan Gramling, President – Tallahassee, FL
Green World Path – Dori Bon, Director of Sales, Outreach and Humanitarian Programs – Brooksville, FL
Grove Ink Tattoo – Noel Garcia, Owner – Miami, FL
Health & Fitness – Stephanie Brock, Owner – Fort Lauderdale, FL
Herbal Passion Alchemy – Jose Gomez, Owner
Holistic Happy Hour, LLC – Kerry Hanan, Owner – Tampa, FL
Holistic Synergy, LLC – Denise Johnson, Owner – Miami, FL
Homegrown Coop – Emily Ruff, Director – Orlando, FL
Immune Solution – Jackie Page, Owner – Madeira Beach, FL
InterNatural Marketing – Dina Clingman-Bell – Lake Worth, FL
Ivory Palm Jewelry – Erica Rincan, Owner – Hollywood, FL
Java Planet – Mike Simmons, Co-Owner – Tampa, FL
Java Planet Organic Coffee Roasters – Jennifer Simmons, Owner – Tampa, FL
Jeffrey Feller DC, PA – Jeffrey Feller, Doctor – Coral Springs, FL
Joe's Bike Shop – Peter Burchell, Mechanic – Tallahassee, FL
Kim's Alterations – Keith Baxter, Owner – Tallahassee, FL
Kool Beanz Café – Keith Baxter, Owner – Tallahassee, FL
La Vie en Raw Café – Sabina Torriorre – Coral Gables, FL
Living Green Chiropractic & Wellness, LLC – Lindsay Taylor, Owner – Plantation, FL
M & M Monogramming – Liz Snowden, Owner – Tallahassee, FL
Mayhem Sweets & Treats – Andrea May, Owner – Tallahassee, FL
Mr. Frogs – Eli Parker, Owner – Miami, FL
My Secret Chef – Pamila Manley CC, CFSE, Owner/Chef – Tallahassee, FL
Narcissus Mix at Midtown – Jaymie Forman, Manager – Tallahassee, FL
Native Nurseries of Tallahassee Inc. – Donna Legare, Co-Owner – Tallahassee, FL
Nature's Food Patch – Clearwater, FL
Nature's Remedy – Fort Lauderdale, FL
Neuromuscular Care Center – Mike Malie, Owner – Fort Lauderdale, FL
New Age Piercings – Noel Garcia, Owner – Miami, FL
Nutrition Smart – Miryam Salazar-Arreaza, Director of Marketing – Miami, FL
NY Roma Pizza – Tomas Euvin, Owner – Miami, FL
Ocean Grown, Inc. – John Hartman, President & CEO – Fort Pierce, FL
Old Glory Tattoo – Brandon Bender, Owner – Tallahassee, FL
Paisley Café, LLC – Kiersten Worrell, Owner – Tallahassee, FL

Penny Lane Emporium – Armando Zuppa, Owner – Fort Lauderdale, FL
Pepe’s Plants – Jasm “Pepe” Tormo, President – Davie, FL
Pizza Fusion – Kris Adam, Owner – Fort Lauderdale, FL
Plant City Commons, Inc. – Bob Abbenzeller, President – Plant City, FL
Posthaste Compounding Pharmacy – Lisa Feiler, Owner – Hollywood, FL
Rani’s Boutique – Marie Jergensen, Manager – Miami, FL
Raw! Raw! To Go – L. Garrison, Owner – Clearwater, FL
RawOne Food – Sandesha Taylor, CEO – Hollywood, FL
Rawsome Eats – Nina Kauder, Owner – Boynton Beach, FL
Riverside Market Café – Julian Siegel, Owner – Fort Lauderdale, FL
Rollin Zoinks, Inc. – Tammy Young – Tampa, FL
SFIA Health Screenings – Lisa Feiler, Owner – Coral Springs, FL
Smiley Kid Dental Care – Dr. Oana Romasan, Owner – Wilton Manors, FL
Snooties BBQ – Joe Hire, Pitmaster – Tampa, FL
Sooo Crafty – Judith Fernandez, Owner
Spectrum Healing Associates – Andy Bernay-Roman, Co-Director – Jupiter, FL
Stockton Aloe 1, Inc., Amanda Hale, Vice President – Pompano Beach, FL
Sweet Patina – Mignon Deshaies, Owner – Tallahassee, FL
Sweet Pea Café – Rachel Kaufmann, Owner – Tallahassee, FL
TauEarth Environmental, LLC – Javier Illanes, Founder – Sunrise, FL
Terra Verde Farms of Florida – R. Francesca Golub, President – Jupiter, FL
The Bookstore in the Grove – Coconut Grove, FL
The Crepevine – Arthur Silbur, General Manager – Tallahassee, FL
The Emporium Pastries – Sapir Rom, Owner
The Healthy Chef – Sherell White, Owner – St. Petersburg, FL
The Last Carrot – Erin Compton, Owner – Miami, FL
The Market Company – Claire Tomlin, Owner – Miami, FL
The Maya Hatcha – Vivian Jordan – Coconut Grove, FL
The Naturally Healthy Pet – Basil Cousins, Owner – Tallahassee, FL
The Veggie Bin – Amie Keslar, Co-Owner – Avondale, FL
Tomato Land – Linda Reagan, Co-Owner – Tallahassee, FL
Upper Room Art Gallery – Robin Haines Merrill, Director – Fort Lauderdale, FL
Urban Tea Gardens – Shelby Jonnatti, Owner – Tampa, FL
Vegetable Venue – Lisa Witzen, Sales – Hollywood, FL
Village Market – Jon Gelpey – North Palm Beach, FL
Vogue Cleaner – Tallahassee, FL
Whatever Pops – James Morgan, Owner – Tampa, FL
Whimsicals by Joy – Joy Green, Owner – Havana, FL
Whitehaus Media Group – Lori Suarez – Fort Lauderdale, FL
Yum Market Cafe – Jessica Faber, President – Oakland Park
Seeds of Life Bistro – Cristina Spinell, Owner/Chef – Wilton Manors

06.17.2014

Commission Meeting

SAB Communication

References:

1. Backup
2. Video Link [Mark: 03h 07m 22s]
http://fortlauderdale.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view_id=2&clip_id=267&meta_id=35981

DRAFT

**CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
 SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY BOARD
 CITY HALL CONFERENCE ROOM
 100 NORTH ANDREWS AVENUE – 8th FLOOR
 FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA 33301
 May 29, 2014 – 6:30 PM**

MEMBERS	APPT By	ATTENDANCE	Cumulative Attendance 1/2014 through 12/2014	
			PRESENT	ABSENT
1. Valerie Amor, Chair	M	P	5	0
2. Alena Alberani, Vice Chair	II	P	3	2
3. Daniel Ayers	M	P	5	0
4. Steven Cook	I	P	5	0
5. Vicki Eckels	IV	P	4	1
6. William Goetz	I	P	1	0
7. Darin Lentner	IV	P	3	2
8. Jim Moyer [6:37 pm]	III	P	5	0
9. Mate Thitisawat	C	P	4	1
10. Cheryl Whitfield	III	P	5	0
11. Jim Wood	II	P	1	1

ALSO PRESENT

Transportation & Mobility Department
 Diana Alarcon, Director of Transportation & Mobility
 Karen Mendrala, Livability Planner

Sustainability Division of Public Works Department

Dr. Nancy J. Gassman, Assistant Public Works Director – Sustainability Division
 Heather Steyn, Sustainability Specialist
 Rivana Stadlander, Administrative Assistant I

CALL OF ORDER/ROLL CALL

Chair Amor called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm, roll was called, and it was determined a quorum was present. Mr. Moyer arrived at 6:37pm.

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE CITY COMMISSION

At the May 29th Sustainability Advisory Board meeting, the Board voted to support the local resolution proposed by the Food & Water Watch organization to label genetically engineered foods or genetically modified organisms and encourage the Commission to do the same.

MOTION

The Board voted unanimously to present the communication to Commission.

EXHIBIT

Food and Water Watch’s Proposed Resolution

LOCAL RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the City of Fort Lauderdale recognizes that consumers want accurate and thorough information about the food they feed their families; and

WHEREAS, the potential long-term risks to public health and the environment from genetically engineered foods are unknown; and

WHEREAS, safety studies on genetically engineered foods are limited because biotechnology companies prohibit cultivation for research purposes in their seed licensing agreements; and

WHEREAS, some independent, peer-reviewed research that has been done on genetically engineered crops has revealed problems with liver and kidney functions in rats, deformities and neurological problems in vertebrates and lower nutrition content in Roundup Ready crops; and

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the United States Department of Agriculture to ensure that genetically engineered crops are safe to grow, the Environmental Protection Agency to ensure that genetically engineered products will not harm the environment and the Food and Drug Administration to ensure that genetically engineered food is safe to eat; and

WHEREAS, the patchwork of federal agencies that regulates genetically engineered crops and animals in the United States has failed to adequately oversee and monitor genetically engineered products; and

WHEREAS, farmers who produce organic or non-genetically engineered crops run the risk of crop contamination from nearby genetically engineered crops; and

WHEREAS; farmers who unintentionally grow genetically engineered-patented seeds or who harvest crops that are contaminated with genetically engineered traits could lose marketing options and face costly lawsuits; and

WHEREAS, a 2013 *New York Times* poll found that 93 percent of U.S. consumers wanted all genetically engineered ingredients to be labeled;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that on the _____ day of _____ 2014, the City of Fort Lauderdale supports mandatory labeling of all genetically engineered products.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND EFFECTIVE on this ____ day of _____, 2014.

ATTEST:

Mayor

Date

Council President

Date

PLEASE SEND A COPY OF THIS SIGNED RESOLUTION TO:

1. Gina McCarthy, Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, Ariel Rios Building 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, DC 20460
2. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack, United States Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Ave., S.W., Washington, DC 20250
3. Margaret Hamberg M.D., Commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration, 10903 New Hampshire Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20993
4. Senator Bill Nelson, United States Senate, 716 Senate Hart Office Building Washington, DC 20510
5. Senator Marco Rubio, United States Senate 284 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510
6. Local Representative Lois Frankel, United States House of Representatives, 1037 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515
7. Food & Water Watch, 1044 NE 15th Avenue / Fort Lauderdale, FL 33304

06.19.2014

Email

Update to SAB Communication

References:

1. Attachment

The Sustainability Advisory Board (SAB) Communication: Genetically Modified Food Labeling was presented to City Commission on June 17th. The outcome of this item is pending and will require further information. Per City direction, referenced in the video link of the meeting, members of the SAB should take into consideration of all factors and points of view of this matter.

Based upon these instructions, please note the Farm Bureau Federation of Broward County will present to SAB members new information on genetically engineered food at the upcoming meeting scheduled for Monday, June 23rd.

In order to support the SAB discussion of this item, City staff reached out to Division of Food Safety of the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. The State provided useful information and data that we compiled in this packet for your interest.

Resources

1. City Commission Meeting Video Link:
http://fortlauderdale.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view_id=2&clip_id=267&meta_id=35981
2. U.S. Federal Drug and Administration – Genetically Engineered Animals Link:
<http://www.fda.gov/animalveterinary/developmentapprovalprocess/geneticengineering/geneticallyengineeredanimals/default.htm>
3. University of Florida, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences
Link:
<http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/pdffiles/FS/FS08400.pdf>
4. Pew Charitable Trust, Pew Initiative on Food and Biotechnology Link:
http://www.pewtrusts.org/uploadedFiles/wwwpewtrustsorg/Reports/Food_and_Biotechnology/hhs_biotech_0901.pdf

06.20.2014 Email Information Exchange

References:

1. Attachment

SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY BOARD
INFORMATION EXCHANGE
WEEK OF JUNE 23RD

UPDATE! - GMO RESEARCH PACKET
SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY BOARD
08.20.14

Source	Topic	Link/Attachment
SAB	TIDBIT: WILLIAM ENGDAHL ON GMO CORPORATE TACTICS	http://gizadeathstar.com/2014/06/ tidbit-william-engdahl-gmo- corporate-tactics/

06.23.2014 SAB Meeting Presentation

References:

1. Handouts
2. Minutes

1350 I St NW Suite #300
Washington, D.C. 20005

June 23, 2014

City of Fort Lauderdale
Fort Lauderdale Sustainability Advisory Committee
100 N Andrews Ave
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301

To the members of the Fort Lauderdale Sustainability Advisory Committee-

The proposed resolution before the Sustainability Committee seems innocuous on its face, but could have vast unintended consequences. Because of its potential to negatively impact consumers, and its lack of any corresponding benefit, we urge you to oppose this resolution.

I serve as the Director of State Affairs for the Grocery Manufacturers Association (GMA), an association representing 300 leading food, beverage and consumer product companies.

Genetically modified (GM) crops are safe for human consumption and pose no threat to the environment. Foods with GM ingredients make up over 80% of our food supply. Consumers currently have the option of buying certified organic products if they choose to avoid GM ingredients. But mandatory labeling forces all farmers, their customers, manufacturers, distributors, and retailers to segregate ingredients all the way through the supply chain, even when they are not seeking to recoup those costs by marketing their products as certified organic. Those who choose to pay more for products that carry this premium can make that choice today, but mandatory GM labeling could force everyone to pay higher prices for food.

The current resolution explains that genetically engineered food ingredients are not well studied. This, and the resolution statements that follow, encapsulate all of the anti-GM movement's favorite myths about GM crops. Independent research is allowed and has been conducted extensively on GM crops. GM crops have been commercially produced for 20 years, and every credible study, as well as numerous U.S. and global food safety agencies have found that GM ingredients are safe and that there are no negative health effects associated with their use. Italian scientists recently analyzed nearly 1800 scientific studies on GM crops, and found overwhelming scientific consensus that there are no harmful effects from GM ingredient consumption.

In September of 2012, a paper was published in a respected journal, Food and Chemical Toxicology, that claimed to link unusual rates of tumors and deaths in rats to the feeding of GM corn. But the methodology of the study was widely criticized and, on November 28th, the journal retracted the paper. There is now no serious scientific evidence that GM crops do any harm to the health of human beings. And urban legends to the contrary, food producers do not lose organic certification for inadvertent inclusion of GM ingredients, nor have they been sued for inadvertently cultivating GM crops.

Many of the most influential regulatory agencies and organizations that study the safety of the food supply, including the U.S. Food & Drug Administration, the American Medical Association, the World Health Organization, Health Canada, the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the National Academy of Sciences, have found genetically modified food ingredients are safe and there are no negative health effects associated with their use.

Stigmatizing safe crops has the potential to reduce investment in this necessary technology. Currently available GM crops are not limited to corn and soybeans but include beets, alfalfa, cotton, and papaya. GM technology in some cases protects the crop from diseases and certain types of pests. A potential crop saving use of GM technology is right in Florida's own backyard. Orange greening disease is wiping out the orange crop. One use of GM technology would combine a gene from the only plant to date that is naturally resistant to the disease (spinach) with the orange tree. This solution would directly benefit Florida's economy.

In order to be constructive, the resolution should be altered to support a federal solution. A solution of this type is currently available in H.R. 4432. This congressional resolution would do four things; create consistency by reinstating the Food and Drug Administration's authority to regulate food and beverage, reduce consumer confusion by creating voluntary labeling standards for the presence of or absence of GM food ingredients, require the safety review of all GM products coming on to the market (which is technically currently voluntary although every GM crop in use has gone through it) and define the term 'natural.'

I ask that you oppose the proposed resolution because of the consumer confusion it will create, the increased costs, and lack of consumer choice for Florida families.

Very Truly Yours,

Kelsey Johnson
Director, State Affairs
GMA

DRAFT

GMO Discussion

Ms. Steyn handed out a letter from the Grocery Manufacturer's Association that came in today (6/23).

Dr. Gassman updated the Board about the direction the Commission provided to SAB Communication presented during the June 17th City Commission Meeting [Regular] (deferred from that day's Conference Agenda meeting). It generated a great deal of discussion and some of the Commissioners expressed concern about receiving Resolutions that seem to deviate away from the action plans and priorities of the Commission. They felt it was not consistent with the Sustainability Action Plan itself. The Resolution was sent back to the SAB based on a variety of comments, but particularly because the Mayor felt the Board did not vet all sides of the issue and that it was not thoroughly vetted prior to making the recommendation to Commission. The Mayor was contacted by the Farm Bureau who had not been contacted in relation to the resolution and the SAB did not have the opportunity to hear a counterpoint from that specific group. They request that the Board hears alternative voices on the topic and to give the Board the opportunity to better discuss all sides of the story prior to making a recommendation to Commission. The City did not do a vote or take a stance on the issue.

Mr. Cook felt that these are 2 issues. Mr. Ayers asked if the Commissioners were aware of all of the documents distributed amongst the Board on this issue. Dr. Goetz discussed the FDA on genetically engineered foods (animals) and notes that there is a similar document on plants. The FDA would ask that the company who wishes to put their genetically modified product on the market, they provide safety information to the FDA. He noted that 90% of cotton and soybeans are genetically derived and have been on the market for over 20 years and he has not found any issues with these products.

Mr. Fred Segal, President of the Broward County Farm Bureau and chair of the Broward Soil and Water District. He asks that the Board consider a slight modification of their resolution to support HR 4432 which would eliminate confusion of a state-by-state hodgepodge labeling law. This would be a uniform national labeling law and would require the FDA to conduct a safety review to evaluate any new GMO traits before they are introduced to commerce and this would empower FDA to mandate the labeling of GMO ingredients if they determine there is a health issue with a GMO trait. He discussed the various aspects of HR 4432.

Mr. Cook asked if HR 4432 would ban states from banning GMO products. Mr. Segal agreed that it would prevent a state from requiring different labeling than a national label. His concern is that if there are a lot of local ordinances, the distributors of food products will not go to the added expense of labeling to match a local ordinance. When Mr. Segal was in Washington, DC three weeks ago, there was a good chance of this ordinance passing in Congress but residents need to contact their congress representatives in support.

Chair Amor questioned whether this Bill HR 4432 is purely voluntary and Mr. Segal agreed. She noted that they are not passing legislation – just a recommendation. Ms. Whitfield would rather support a local government action rather than something at the State or Federal level.

Mr. Segal asked the Board to take a look at the Bill and consider it. Ms. Machado agrees that her resolution was geared toward the Federal level and it was her error which she thought would be corrected by the City Attorney's office.



Mr. Moyer felt that the resolution should be tabled so that they can review all sides. Mr. Ayers asked that everyone gathers their articles and puts them all into one file of information and after all the data has been gathered, they can come back and either reaffirm their decision or decide to modify it.

Public Comment (for 20 minutes max): (start 7:45pm)

Ms. Lazaro? (Hallandale Beach City Commissioner) noted that the bills died in the State legislation but she feels that they will be coming out strong in the new session. She agreed that a resolution needs to be passed and she will be bringing it to her commission. They are hoping that Fort Lauderdale and the County supporting the resolution first. She asked that municipalities to move this resolution forward. She asked that the SAB push this resolution forward so that it will be passed by the City Commission.

Ms. Machado (Food & Watch, Florida) clarified that this is a local resolution – not a local ordinance. She stated that this is an accessibility issue since labeling GMO will allow citizens choices in purchases. Ms. Eckels stated that the language for the resolution should be standardized so that several municipalities would be willing to pass it.

Mr. Madfis agreed with much of the discussion. He would like the resolution to be reworked and that it is critical for the City to pass the resolution since the City is a leader in Broward in many areas.

Ms. Musado? had 60 signatures for the GMO resolution for the transparency and labeling.

Ms. Sheldon? (GMO-free Florida) discussed some examples of specific health issues related to GMO foods. She supports farmers that do not use GMO seeds. She noted that 65 countries have banned or required labeling for GMO foods.

Ms. Eckels noted that Ms. Machado will be bringing back a revised resolution. Dr. Goetz would like that any scientific information on this topic be sent to Ms. Steyn for distribution to the Board.

End time: 8:08pm

06.27.2014 Email Information Exchange

References:

1. Attachment

SOURCE	TITLE	LINK/ATTACHMENT
SAB	BACKGROUND DOCUMENT: PUBLIC HEARING ON THE LABELING OF FOOD MADE FROM THE AQUADVANTAGE SALMON	http://www.fda.gov/downloads/food/guidanceregulation/guidancedocumentsregulatoryinformation/labelingnutrition/ucm223913.pdf
SAB	BATTLE BREWING OVER LABELING OF GENETICALLY MODIFIED FOOD	http://www.nytimes.com/2012/05/25/science/dispute-over-labeling-of-genetically-modified-food.html?emc=eta1&_r=0
SAB	BIOTECHNOLOGY CONSULTATIONS ON FOOD FROM GE PLANT VARIETIES	http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/fdcc/?set=Biocon
SAB	BIOTECHNOLOGY GENETICALLY ENGINEERED PLANTS FOR FOOD & FEED	http://www.fda.gov/Food/FoodScienceResearch/Biotechnology/default.htm
SAB	CONSULTATION PROCEDURES UNDER FDA'S 1992 STATEMENT OF POLICY - FOODS DERIVED FROM NEW PLANT VARIETIES	http://www.fda.gov/Food/GuidanceRegulation/GuidanceDocumentsRegulatoryInformation/ucm096126.htm
SAB	CONSULTATIONS OF FOOD FROM GENETICALLY ENGINEERED (GE) PLANT VARIETIES	http://www.fda.gov/food/foodscienceresearch/biotechnology/submissions/ucm225108.htm
SAB	DRAFT GUIDANCE FOR INDUSTRY: VOLUNTARY LABELING INDICATING WHETHER FOODS HAVE OR HAVE NOT BEEN DEVELOPED USING BIOENGINEERING; DRAFT GUIDANCE	http://www.fda.gov/Food/GuidanceRegulation/GuidanceDocumentsRegulatoryInformation/ucm059098.htm
SAB	EARLY FOOD SAFETY EVALUATION ARYLOXYALKANOATE DIOXYGENASE (AAD1) PROTEIN	http://www.fda.gov/downloads/food/biotechnology/submissions/ucm222232.pdf
SAB	FDA AND REGULATION OF GMOS	http://www.americanbar.org/content/newsletter/publications/aba_health_esource_home/aba_health_law_esource_1302_bashshur.html
SAB	FDA FACTS: FOOD FROM GENETICALLY ENGINEERED PLANTS	http://www.fda.gov/downloads/food/populartopics/ucm385844.pdf
SAB	FDA'S ROLE IN REGULATING SAFETY OF GE FOODS	http://www.fda.gov/ForConsumers/ConsumerUpdates/ucm352067.htm
SAB	FOODS DERIVED FROM GENETICALLY ENGINEERED PLANTS	http://www.fda.gov/food/foodscienceresearch/biotechnology/ucm346858.htm
SAB	FROM CHEMTRAILS TO CHEMBOMBS, AERIAL AEROSOL EXPLOSIONS ARE THE NEW DISPERSION METHOD WORLDWIDE	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dMSRPem4n7s&feature=youtu_gdata_player
SAB	GENETICALLY MODIFIED FOODS: QUESTIONS REMAIN	http://www.nytimes.com/2014/02/10/opinion/genetically-modified-foods-questions-remain.html?emc=eta1
SAB	GLOBAL SPRAYING - WEATHER MODIFICATION GOING MAINSTREAM - IT'S ALL VERY FUNNY	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GRkK92mhZ80&feature=youtu_gdata_player
SAB	NACTO - URBAN BIKEWAY DESIGN GUIDE	http://nacto.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/03/NACTO_UrbanBikeway_DesignGuide_LRez.pdf
SAB	QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ON FOOD FROM GENETICALLY ENGINEERED PLANTS	http://www.fda.gov/food/foodscienceresearch/biotechnology/ucm346030.htm
OTHER*	REPUBLICATION OF THE SÉRALINI STUDY: SCIENCE SPEAKS FOR ITSELF	http://www.gmoseralini.org/republication-seralini-study-science-speaks/
SAB	SAFER FRUITS AND VEGETABLES: FDA AIMS TO SET PRODUCTION STANDARDS	http://www.fda.gov/ForConsumers/ConsumerUpdates/ucm262031.htm
SAB	SEEDS OF DESTRUCTION, THE HIDDEN AGENDA OF GENETIC MANIPULATION	http://www.globalresearch.ca/seeds-or-destruction-the-hidden-agenda-or-genetic-manipulation/7716
SAB	PDF VERISION OF THE ABOVE	https://www.keepandshare.com/doc/3541311/seeds-of-destruction-the-hidden-agenda-of-genetic-manipulation-william-f-engdahl-2007-pdf-f

TITLE	LINK/ATTACHMENT
SAB SÉRALINI AFFAIR	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/S%C3%A9ralini_affair
SAB STATEMENT OF POLICY - FOODS DERIVED FROM NEW PLANT VARIETIES	http://www.fda.gov/Food/GuidanceRegulation/GuidanceDocumentsRegulatoryInformation/Biotechnology/ucm096095.htm
SAB STRONG SUPPORT FOR LABELING MODIFIED FOODS	http://www.nytimes.com/2013/07/28/science/strong-support-for-labeling-modified-foods.html?emc=eta1&r=0
SAB TAKING EFFECTIVE ACTION AGAINST THE UNSTOPPABLE	http://www.nytimes.com/2014/06/25/business/economy/carbon-cuts-now-wont-stop-climate-change-but-could-limit-damage.html?emc=eta1
SAB THE GLOBAL ECONOMIC CRISIS AND THE GLOBALIZATION OF POVERTY	http://www.globalresearch.ca/the-global-economic-crisis-and-the-globalization-of-poverty/24710
SAB PDF VERSION OF THE ABOVE	https://www.keepandshare.com/doc/3542325/the-globalization-of-poverty-and-the-new-world-order-michel-chossudovsky-2003-pdf-february-1
SAB THE GMO DRUM BEATS LOUDER	http://www.bakingbusiness.com/Features/Innovations/2014/3/The%20GMO%20drum%20beats%20louder.aspx?cck=1
SAB THE 'TEETH' OF FDA'S FOOD SAFETY LAW	http://www.fda.gov/ForConsumers/ConsumerUpdates/ucm267460.htm
SAB WHY LABEL GENETICALLY ENGINEERED FOOD?	http://www.nytimes.com/2013/03/15/opinion/why-label-genetically-engineered-food.html?emc=eta1
SAB WIRED MAGAZINE: COLD FUSION SLOWLY CREEPING INTO THE MAINSTREAM...AND BUSINESS	http://gizadeathstar.com/2014/06/wired-magazine-cold-fusion-slowly-creeeping-mainstream-business/

* Member of the general public

07.18.2014
Email
Information Exchange

References:

1. Attachment

SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY BOARD
INFORMATION EXCHANGE
WEEK OF JULY 14th

SOURCE	TITLE	LINK/ATTACHMENT
CITY	FY 2015 CITY COMMISSION ANNUAL ACTION PLAN	ATTACHMENT
PUBLIC	EARTH OPEN SOURCE: GMO ARTICLE	http://earthopensource.org/files/pdfs/GMO_Myths_and_Truths/GMO_Myths_and_Truths_1.3.pdf
SAB	FOR BIGGEST CITIES OF 2030, LOOK TOWARD THE TROPICS	http://nyti.ms/1neCiI5
SAB	FY 2015 CITY PROPOSED BUDGET	http://www.fortlauderdale.gov/documents/budget.htm
SAB	PROPOSED FEMA FLOOD ZONES	http://gis.fortlauderdale.gov/ProposedFemaFloodZones/
SAB	STUDY OF ORGANIC CROPS FINDS FEWER PESTICIDES AND MORE ANTIOXIDANTS	http://nyti.ms/1zuUKWI

07.25.2014
Email
Information Exchange

References:

1. Attachment

SOURCE	TITLE	LINK/ATTACHMENT
SAB	AN OVERVIEW OF THE LAST 10 YEARS OF GENETICALLY ENGINEERED CROP SAFETY RESEARCH	http://www.geneticliteracyproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/Nicola-20131.pdf
SAB	FOOD DOCUMENTARIES: LET'S GO TO THE MOVIES WITH CATHERINE AUSTIN FITTS	https://solari.com/blog/lets-go-to-the-movies-with-catherine-austin-fitts/
SAB	FREE PUBLIC OUTREACH WORKSHOP ON THE EFFECTS OF NOISE POLLUTION ON WILDLIFE: MARINE LIFE AND BIRDS	Attachment
SAB	GENETICALLY MODIFIED FOOD CONTROVERSIES	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Genetically_modified_food_controversies
SAB	GMO FINISH LABEL	Attachment
SAB	GMO OPPONENTS ARE THE LEFT'S VERSION OF GLOBAL WARMING DENIERS	http://www.skepticalraptor.com/skepticalraptorblog.php/gmo-opponents-leftsversion-global-warming-deniers/
SAB	HARRY BLAZER – FOUNDER MONTANA VISTAS	http://www.aimcongress.com/en/article/harry-blazer-founder-montana-vistas/
SAB	LABELING OF GENETICALLY ENGINEERED FOODS	http://www.ext.colostate.edu/pubs/foodnut/09371.pdf
SAB	LABELS FOR GMO FOODS ARE A BAD IDEA	http://www.scientificamerican.com/article/labels-for-gmo-foods-are-a-bad-idea/
SAB	MAHARISHI UNIVERSITY OF MANAGEMENT	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maharishi_University_of_Management
SAB	MAHARISHI VEDIC APPROACH TO HEALTH	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maharishi_Vedic_Approach_to_Health

GMO Citations

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07.24.2014
July SAB Agenda Packet
Email

References:

1. Attachment



MEETING AGENDA

Date: July 28, 2014
Place: City Hall | Eighth Floor
 100 N Andrews Ave
 Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301
Time: 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM
Staff Liaison: Heather Steyn

- I. 6:30 PM | Call to Order
- II. 6:45 PM | Approval of Minutes for June 24th
 - See Attachment
- III. 6:50PM | Staff Liaison Report {Ms. Steyn}
 - Save the Tree Event
 - ESCO Contractors Selected
 - 2015FY CAAP Confirmed
- IV. 7:00 PM | Presentations by SAB Members
 - National Climate Assessment {Chair Amor}
- V. 7:10 PM | Presentation(s) on City Initiatives
 - Permitting Solar Equipment in the City {Mr. Hernandez | City & Mr. Huneke | County}
 - PENDING** FPL Pilot Program: Community Solar { FPL Representative}
- VI. 7:40 PM | New Business
- VII. 7:50 PM | Old Business
 - Proposed Communication
GMO Labeling Resolution {Ms. Machado}
 - Proposed Communication
Geoengineering Resolution {Ms. Whitfield}
- VIII. 8:15 PM | Comments
 - Public
 - Committee
- IX. 8:20 PM | Items for Next Meeting
- X. 8:30 PM | Adjournment

Sustainability Advisory Board Members

Valerie Amor, Chair	Darin Lentner
Alena Alberani, Vice Chair	Jim Moyer
Daniel Ayers	Mate Thitisawat
Steven Cook	Cheryl Whitfield
Vicki Eckels	James Wood
William Goetz	

Upcoming Events

Household Hazardous Waste & Electronics Drop-Off Events	8/2	Click Here
Urban Land Institute Stakeholder Meetings & Uptown Urban Village	8/12 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM & 8/13 4:30 PM - 5:30 PM	Broward MPO Trade Centre South Building 100 W. Cypress Creek Road Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309
City Commission Meeting (Return for Session)	8/19	Click Here
SE Florida Regional Compact AAA Workshop	8/28	Attachment
6th Annual Southeast Florida Regional Climate Leadership Summit	10/1 & 10/2	Click Here

Potential Discussions Items/Presentations Future Meetings*

We Are Wild Program	August
City Recycling Codes	September
City Fleet Program	October
Additional Topics for Consideration	
· Alternative Fuel Vehicles	
· Life Cycle of Recycling Clothing	
*subject to change	

The purpose of the Sustainability Advisory Board is to identify and recommend affordable strategies to the City Commission associated with conservation, renewable energy, and energy efficiency to establish the City of Fort Lauderdale as a leader in environmental sustainability. Two or more Fort Lauderdale City Commissioners or members of a City of Fort Lauderdale Advisory Board may be in attendance at this meeting.

If you desire auxiliary services to assist in viewing/ hearing the meetings or reading agendas and minutes, please contact the City Clerk's office at 954.828.5002 two days prior to the meeting and arrangements will be made to provide you with these services.



LOCAL RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the City of Fort Lauderdale values its citizens as stated in its “Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale Vision” and recognizes that consumers need factual information about the food they and their families eat; and

WHEREAS, the City of Fort Lauderdale values quality of life and understands potential long-term risks to public health and the environment from genetically engineered (GE) foods are unknown; and

WHEREAS, the City of Fort Lauderdale values education, transparency, and accessibility, and recognizes that the labeling of genetically engineered foods is a ‘right to know’ issue, serving to inform citizens; and

WHEREAS, genetically modified organisms, or “GMOs” are plants or animals that have been genetically engineered with DNA from bacteria, viruses or other plants and animals, and these experimental combinations of genes from different species cannot occur in nature or in traditional crossbreeding, and are very unlike centuries old hybridization and crossbreeding techniques; and

WHEREAS, there are 64 countries that enforce labeling laws for genetically engineered food; and

WHEREAS, the states of Connecticut, Maine, and Vermont have passed laws requiring the labeling of GE foods; and

WHEREAS, as of July 2014, more than 60 bills have been introduced in over 20 U.S. states to require GE labeling; and

WHEREAS, GM food has only been in existence since the 1990’s and the long-term consequences of this human experiment are unknown, independent, peer-reviewed research has been done on genetically engineered crops that has revealed problems with liver and kidney functions in rats, deformities and neurological problems in vertebrates, and lower nutrition content in certain genetically engineered crops; and

WHEREAS, farmers who produce organic or non-genetically engineered crops are exposed to the risk of crop contamination from nearby genetically engineered crops; and

WHEREAS, farmers who unintentionally grow genetically engineered-patented seeds or who harvest crops that are contaminated with genetically engineered traits could lose their organic certification and face costly lawsuits; and

WHEREAS, some companies on the leading edge of this issue, including Whole Foods Market have committed to full transparency, and the labeling of all genetically engineered foods sold in U.S. and Canadian stores; and

WHEREAS, a 2013 *New York Times* poll found that 93 percent of U.S. consumers wanted all genetically engineered ingredients to be identified;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that on the _____ day of _____ 2014, the City of Fort Lauderdale supports mandatory labeling of all genetically engineered products.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND EFFECTIVE on this _____ day of _____, 2014.

ATTEST:

Mayor Date

Council President Date

PLEASE SEND A COPY OF THIS SIGNED RESOLUTION TO:

1. Governor Rick Scott, State of Florida The Capitol 400 S. Monroe Street Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001
2. Local Representative Lois Frankel, United States House of Representatives, 1037 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515
3. Senator Bill Nelson, United States Senate, 716 Senate Hart Office Building Washington, DC 20510
4. Senator Marco Rubio, United States Senate 284 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510
5. Gina McCarthy, Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, Ariel Rios Building 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, DC 20460

6. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack, United States Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Ave., S.W., Washington, DC 20250
7. Margaret Hamberg M.D., Commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration, 10903 New Hampshire Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20993
8. Food & Water Watch, 1044 NE 15th Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33304

COMMENTS ON LOCAL RESOLUTION

Factors to consider:

- Costs to consumers
- Costs to society – environmental and financial
- Cost-effectiveness of labeling
- Anti-choice results
- Detrimental economic effects
- Lack of scientific evidence of harm in humans
- Pseudo-science and scare tactics

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There is nothing inherently good or bad about something that either occurs in nature, or something that is created or modified technologically. Anthrax, snake venom, botulinum toxin, earthquakes, hurricanes, infectious diseases, malnutrition, malaria, and death, all occur in nature. Sanitation, purified water, vaccines, antibiotics, and most food and crops, (and renewable energy technologies) are all technological advances that have added 30+ years to human life.

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07.28.2014
SAB Meeting

References:

1. Handouts

Position paper on GMO labeling

William F. Goetz, MD

July 23, 2014

I am in agreement with the National Academies of Science, the American Medical Association, the EU Directorate General for Research and Innovation, and the United Nations that GMO foods are as safe as other foods currently on the market.

I believe the primary issues for labeling are those of cost-effectiveness, and of economic and social costs to society.

We have no specific idea of how much labeling will cost consumers, farmers, and companies. Estimates run from a few dollars per year to 10% of a family's food bill. I would intuit that the costs to society would run into the billions of dollars, if not more.

As an aside, the certification process alone will generate millions in profits for John Fagan (more on him later), not to mention income from book sales and personal appearances.

We don't know whether a significant enough number of people will even look at the labels to justify the costs. Current research into this suggests that not many will look (perhaps 25% at most), and for even fewer will it be a significant factor in what to purchase (at most 20% of that 25%).

While a large number may favor labeling, surveys also indicate that most of those are not willing to pay a premium to implement the process. In addition, public opinion is not synonymous with good science or good policy. For instance, just short of a majority of Americans do not believe in global warming.

Since non-GMO foods cost more, and labeling will add to those costs, it is primarily the more well to do who will be able to significantly factor such labeling into their purchases. One needs only venture into Whole Foods and look at the customers to understand the inequitable demographics.

Consumers already have the choice of buying only organic foods, which, by definition, do not contain GMOs.

In countries with mandatory labeling, companies have removed GMO foods from shelves. Consumer choice is actually decreased by labeling,

There is also a cost in money and health to society as a whole. For instance, GMO crops have clearly been shown to be of significant economic benefit in developing countries. In addition, GMO crops can improve the health of malnourished populations. Anti-GMO pseudo-science and scares have prohibited the saving of the sight and lives of hundreds of thousands.

Basically, there is no proof that such labeling will improve human health. Not to mention no proof that GMOs are detrimental to human health. GMO foods and crops have been around for decades, and have been proven to be safe. It is estimated that 70% of processed foods contain GMOs.

Please see the following links to a Scientific American article and to a Colorado State University website that expand on my comments:

<http://www.scientificamerican.com/article/labels-for-gmo-foods-are-a-bad-idea/?print=true>; <http://www.ext.colostate.edu/pubs/foodnut/09371.pdf>.

To meet NON-GMO standards would require retroactive and prospective testing of virtually every food or drink product consumed by humans (see list of standards).

Application, testing and certification of only a small fraction of such products would produce millions in profits for the certification agency. The NON-GMO certification entity is Genetic ID, a subsidiary of John Fagan's company, Global ID Group.

Fagan authored GMO Myths and Truths. He is currently dean at the Maharishi University of Management. The school ranks in the bottom quartile of American colleges. Their last commencement speaker was Jim Carrey. The Maharishi concepts for health are non-scientific and border on the cult.

I question Fagan's motives, narratives, and interpretation and analysis of the GMO literature. They are clearly biased. And that's not to mention his shaky credentials, unusual affiliations, and profit motive. He has considerable skin in the game. That he is cited as a primary expert is concerning.

As a physician knowledgeable in evidence-based medicine, a major concern of mine (second only to anti-vaccine efforts) is the pass given to homeopathic medicines (a contradiction in terms), herbal medicines, vitamin supplements, and alternative medicines in general.

Unlike GMO foods, these products have a well-documented history of killing people. A book by Paul Offit, "Do You Believe in Magic," lays this out nicely. Offit is the chief of pediatric infectious diseases at the University of Pennsylvania Medical School and Hospital.

The book is written in easily understandable terms, and is completely evidence-based. It casts light on the disturbing legislative prohibitions, which disallow the FDA from requiring premarketing efficacy and safety studies, and proof of benefits exceeding harms, for those products.

In truth, the prohibitions are the result of well-documented lobbying (read: conspiracy) by the health-food/alternative and homeopathic medicine/herbal/vitamin supplement sectors (multi-billion dollar industries) that convinced Congress (read: campaign contributions and pseudo-science) to strip the FDA of authority to regulate these items.

There is undisputed documentation in the high impact medical literature that these products and efforts have resulted in thousands of deaths.

The adverse health effects of the failure of the free market and of pseudo-science have also been well documented for global warming, fossil fuels, and the anti-vaccine movement, among others. These efforts have directly resulted in tens of thousands of preventable deaths, and millions of episodes of preventable illnesses. Anti-GMO advocates would do well to practice self-examination and self-comparison to the global warming deniers.

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Many hospitals now require their hospital workers to take the flu vaccine (or to wear masks). Research is making it more widely evident that it is unethical for health care providers to refuse to take the flu vaccine. Families with elders and children would do well to consider such ethics.

Regarding vitamins, it is now known that megavitamins are a cause of cancer and heart disease; and that women who take multivitamins die earlier than those who do not.

A report on the adverse health and environmental effects of energy from fossil fuels has been previously distributed. Pollution kills in excess of 30,000 Americans per year. Adverse health costs range from \$135-850B, but subsidies to the fossil fuel industries exceed \$500B.

Please note that I do not find it contradictory to favor GMOs, but to abhor Monsanto's trade practices; to support the FDA, but be skeptical about the efficacy and safety of approved medicines and devices; to lobby for increased FDA regulatory authority, but to insist on transparency in those proceedings; to support free market principles, but insist on appropriate governmental intervention where free markets fail; to support subsidies for renewable energy, but not for fossil fuels. Please see this link on free market principles and failures:
http://www.themodestproposal.com/?page_id=131.

Spending our time, efforts, and money on unproven efforts to correct an unproven (actually, disproved) problem will result in increased health problems, and inequitable if any benefits. I would suggest we take a more evidence-based and cost-effective approach to human health and sustainability.

Excepting research, we should devote our limited resources to areas that have been proven to have a significant positive, cost-effective influence on human health and sustainability for the most number of humans in an equitable manner - sanitation, potable water, food distribution, drug distribution (e.g. AIDS meds and vaccines), mosquito netting, contraception, renewable energy, carbon caps, etc.

I believe that a resolution directed solely at requirements for GMO labeling would be of dubious value; would waste precious time, efforts, and money; would not be cost-effective in promoting human health; would be damaging to human health; would be socially and economically inequitable; and would be damaging to board credibility and wasteful of board time and efforts.

If we are going to pass any resolution, it is my suggestion that we should devote our efforts towards promoting mandatory FDA requirements for transparent pre-marketing proof of efficacy, proof of benefits exceeding harms, and proof of safety for GMOs, homeopathic medicines, herbal medicines, health food supplements, and vitamin supplements. That said, only the last four have been proven to harm and kill humans.

I would support a directed and inclusive resolution as described above, but not one limited solely to the mandatory labeling of GMOs. I would suggest that the board reconsider its support for the resolution as it now stands.

08.01.2014
Email
Information Exchange

References:

1. Attachment

UPDATED! - GMO RESEARCH PACKET (v2)
SUSTAINABILITY ADVISORY BOARD
08.20.14

SOURCE	TITLE	LINK/ATTACHMENT
PUBLIC SUBMISSION	EMAIL REGARDING GMO	Attachment
SAB	GENETICALLY MODIFIED PLANTS AND HUMAN HEALTH	http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2408621/pdf/290.pdf
SAB	SAFETY OF GENETICALLY ENGINEERED FOODS	http://www.nap.edu/download.php?record_id=10977#
SAB	GENETICALLY MODIFIED PLANTS AND HUMAN HEALTH	http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2408621/
SAB	GREEN GMO LOCAL RESOLUTION WG COMMENTS	Attachment
SAB	MICHIO KAKU ADMITS TO HAARP & GEOENGINEERING USE!	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WYS4sc21mhA&feature=youtu.be_gdata_player
SAB	ORGANIC FOOD: BUYING MORE SAFETY OR JUST PEACE OF MIND? A CRITICAL REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE	http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/10408690490911846#tabModule
SAB	POSITION PAPER ON GMO LABELING - WILLIAM F. GOETZ, MD	Attachment
SAB	THE POTENTIAL IMPACTS OF MANDATORY LABELING FOR GENETICALLY ENGINEERED FOOD IN THE UNITED STATES	http://www.cast-2523773989aTR

Heather Steyn

From: Becky Castellano <becky.castellano@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 29, 2014 8:52 PM
To: SustainabilityAdvisoryBoard@fortlauderdale.gov
Subject: GMO labeling

Dear SAB Members,

I am writing to encourage you to support labeling of GMO's. As an educated consumer, I believe I have the right to know where my food comes from and how it was grown. My son is an organic farmer here in South Florida and we are, as a family, very diligent in our efforts to produce and support good, safe and sustainable fruits, vegetables, herbs and honey, free of pesticides, herbicides.

The companies responsible for the creation of GMO products use aggressive tactics and copious amounts of money to avoid any transparency in labeling. They have also stated in public meetings, that we as consumers are not educated enough to understand GMO science and therefore are unable to make intelligent choices. Their political influencing efforts, combined with the millions of dollars spent to prevent GMO labelling, certainly raises every red flag and leads millions of us to be distrustful and therefore vigorously opposed to their efforts.

These companies employ legions of lawyers to drive farmers out of business or into submission to use their seeds and chemicals. Their "Roundup Ready" crops are already failing to respond to mutating pests and weeds thus requiring the use of tons of new and not so new pesticides and herbicides that are, not so surprisingly, also manufactured by them. These are NOT companies who have our health and welfare in mind.

So please, it is a very small ask to put on a label simply stating "This product may contain Genetically Modified Organisms" and then let me, the consumer, choose which product I buy and which food providers I support.

Rebecca Castellano

Mobile: +1 954-536-6135
E: becky.castellano@gmail.com

COMMENTS ON LOCAL RESOLUTION

Factors to consider:

- Costs to consumers
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- Cost-effectiveness of labeling
- Anti-choice results
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http://www.themodestproposal.com/?page_id=131.

Spending our time, efforts, and money on unproven efforts to correct an unproven (actually, disproved) problem will result in increased health problems, and inequitable if any benefits. I would suggest we take a more evidence-based and cost-effective approach to human health and sustainability.

Excepting research, we should devote our limited resources to areas that have been proven to have a significant positive, cost-effective influence on human health and sustainability for the most number of humans in an equitable manner - sanitation, potable water, food distribution, drug distribution (e.g. AIDS meds and vaccines), mosquito netting, contraception, renewable energy, carbon caps, etc.

I believe that a resolution directed solely at requirements for GMO labeling would be of dubious value; would waste precious time, efforts, and money; would not be cost-effective in promoting human health; would be damaging to human health; would be socially and economically inequitable; and would be damaging to board credibility and wasteful of board time and efforts.

If we are going to pass any resolution, it is my suggestion that we should devote our efforts towards promoting mandatory FDA requirements for transparent pre-marketing proof of efficacy, proof of benefits exceeding harms, and proof of safety for GMOs, homeopathic medicines, herbal medicines, health food supplements, and vitamin supplements. That said, only the last four have been proven to harm and kill humans.

I would support a directed and inclusive resolution as described above, but not one limited solely to the mandatory labeling of GMOs. I would suggest that the board reconsider its support for the resolution as it now stands.

08.08.2014
Email
Information Exchange

References:

1. Attachment

SOURCE	TITLE	LINK/ATTACHMENT
SAB	EARTHJUSTICE, CENTER FOR FOOD SAFETY SEEK TO DEFEND BIG ISLAND GMO BAN	http://www.civilbeat.com/2014/08/earthjustice-center-for-food-safety-seek-to-defend-big-island-gmo-ban/
SAB	GMO - SEEDS OF DESTRUCTION - LECTURE BY F. WILLIAM ENGDahl	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=69bLqOgbZVk

Friendly reminder! The deadline for all GMO submissions is soon approaching. If you have additional information you would like to provide, please email our way.

08.15.2014
Email
Information Exchange

References:

1. Attachment

SOURCE	TITLE	LINK/ATTACHMENT
SAB	Monsanto Wants 14-Year Reuters Veteran Reporter Fired for Talking About GMO Dangers	http://www.infowars.com/monsanto-wants-14-year-reuters-veteran-reporter-fired-for-talking-about-gmo-dangers/
SAB	Bill seeks to block mandatory GMO food labeling by states	http://mobile.reuters.com/article/idUSBREA381HK20140409?irpc=932
SAB	Blog	http://onrappoport.wordpress.com/2012/11/14/prop-37-the-top-7-reasons-not-to-believe-the-vote-count/
SAB	Market Failure: The Case Against Unfettered Markets	http://www.themodestproposal.com/?page_id=131
SAB	Guidance to Industry for Foods Derived from New Plant Varieties	http://www.fda.gov/food/guidanceregulation/guidancedocumentsregulatoryinformation/biotechnology/ucm096095.htm#main
SAB	Green GMO	Attached

Proposed cover letter to accompany revised version 1

Mayor and Commissioners,

Subsequent to your request to re-evaluate our previously referred GMO labeling resolution, the SAB researched the issue in considerable depth, and discussed it at length among ourselves, as well as with representatives from the public on both sides of the issue.

We believe that the concerns of the public about the safety of GMOs should not be ignored.

However, we believe there are unintended adverse consequences to the mandatory labeling of GMO food and products. We therefore do not recommend it as a first resort.

In attempting to address the concerns of the public on safety, our research indicated that the FDA approval process for the safety of GMOs is not transparent and is not available for public review.

Specifically, it appears that the approval process is based solely on information provided to the FDA by companies seeking approval for their GMOs. More importantly, neither that information, nor the substance of the review and approval process by the FDA is available for scientific evaluation by the public.

We do not believe that such policy is in the best interests of the public health and welfare, nor is it consistent with free-market principles.

As a result, we have modified the resolution to reflect public concerns of safety by addressing the FDA approval process for the safety of GMOs to make it more transparent and available for public review.

This can be accomplished by internal administrative changes in policy within the FDA, and would not require changes in law.

That said, a review of the history of FDA policy and law development suggests that change will not be effected in its current policies unless strong public pressure is brought to bear to counteract lobbying by companies and entities that have an economic stake in preserving the status quo. For example, consider that it took in excess of 50 years for Congress and the FDA to address tobacco toxicity.

To that end, we refer the attached resolution for your consideration.

Whereas, the FDA approval process for GMOs is not transparent and is not performed in the Sunshine

And, whereas, the FDA approval process for GMOs is dependent on safety information provided by the company requesting approval of the GMO,

And, whereas, the FDA does not divulge such safety information to the public,

And, whereas, transparency and the sharing of information with the public is required to ensure the public health and to promote the public welfare by allowing for prudent financial practices,

And, whereas, transparency and the sharing of information with the public is integral to the functioning of free markets,

And, whereas, the specific criteria for approval of GMOs is not known,

Therefore, be it resolved, that the city of Fort Lauderdale requests that the state of Florida join the city in demanding that the FDA approval process for GMOs should be administratively changed such that it is transparent, performed in the sunshine, and is based on independent safety information, and that all safety information related to the approval process is made public,

And, be it further resolved, that the specific criteria for the approval of GMOs should be jointly determined by the FDA and the National Academy of Sciences, and should be made public,

And, be it further resolved, that if the above administrative changes are not in effect within two years from the date of this resolution, then a national law requiring the mandatory labeling of all GMO products should be passed, and should be subsequently implemented within four years from the date of this resolution,

And, be it further resolved, that if the above administrative changes are not in effect within five years from the date of this resolution, then state of Florida should initiate with other states a class action lawsuit against the FDA demanding such administrative changes, in addition to the mandatory labeling of GMOs, to ensure the public health and promote the public welfare.

COMMENTS ON LOCAL RESOLUTION

Factors to consider:

- Costs to consumers
- Costs to society – environmental and financial
- Cost-effectiveness of labeling
- Anti-choice results
- Detrimental economic effects
- Lack of scientific evidence of harm in humans
- Pseudo-science and scare tactics

WHEREAS, the City of Fort Lauderdale values its citizens as stated in its “Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale Vision” and recognizes that consumers need factual information about the food they and their families eat; and

Excellent. We definitely need more factual information. But who defines factual?

WHEREAS, the City of Fort Lauderdale values quality of life and understands potential long-term risks to public health and the environment from genetically engineered (GE) foods are unknown; and

In 20 years, no harm and no long-term risks to humans has been demonstrated. Benefits to society are immense.

WHEREAS, the City of Fort Lauderdale values education, transparency, and accessibility, and recognizes that the labeling of genetically engineered foods is a ‘right to know’ issue, serving to inform citizens; and

RTK isn’t an excuse or right to impose a lack of choice on others, or to increase the financial burden on others, particularly the less well to do.

WHEREAS, genetically modified organisms, or “GMOs” are plants or animals that have been genetically engineered with DNA from bacteria, viruses or other plants and animals, and these experimental combinations of genes from different species cannot occur in nature or in traditional crossbreeding, and are very unlike centuries old hybridization and crossbreeding techniques; and

There is nothing inherently good or bad about something that either occurs in nature, or something that is created or modified technologically. Anthrax, snake venom, botulinum toxin, earthquakes, hurricanes, infectious diseases, malnutrition, malaria, and death, all occur in nature. Sanitation, purified water, vaccines, antibiotics, and most food and crops, (and renewable energy technologies) are all technological advances that have added 30+ years to human life.

WHEREAS, there are 64 countries that enforce labeling laws for genetically engineered food; and

Public opinion does not necessarily prompt good public policy. E.g. segregation and global warming.

WHEREAS , the states of Connecticut, Maine, and Vermont have passed laws requiring the labeling of GE foods; and

They have hedged. Implementation is dependent on other states adopting similar measures.

WHEREAS, as of July 2014, more than 60 bills have been introduced in over 20 U.S. states to require GE labeling; and

Profit loss measures since can't export to EU.

WHEREAS, GM food has only been in existence since the 1990's and the long-term consequences of this human experiment are unknown, independent, peer-reviewed research has been done on genetically engineered crops that has revealed problems with liver and kidney functions in rats, deformities and neurological problems in vertebrates, and lower nutrition content in certain genetically engineered crops; and

In 20 years, no harm and no long-term risks to humans has been demonstrated. Benefits to society can be immense, improving life expectancy, malnourishment, and economic security.

WHEREAS, farmers who produce organic or non-genetically engineered crops are exposed to the risk of crop contamination from nearby genetically engineered crops; and

This is not relevant to labeling. Farmers have developed methodologies for and practiced segregation of crops for years.

WHEREAS, farmers who unintentionally grow genetically engineered-patented seeds or who harvest crops that are contaminated with genetically engineered traits could lose their organic certification and face costly lawsuits; and

This is not relevant to labeling. No significant cases in 20+ years.

WHEREAS, some companies on the leading edge of this issue, including Whole Foods Market have committed to full transparency, and the labeling of all genetically engineered foods sold in U.S. and Canadian stores; and

Whole Foods is motivated by profits. It won't discount its non-GMO foods for the less well to do.

WHEREAS, a 2013 *New York Times* poll found that 93 percent of U.S. consumers wanted all genetically engineered ingredients to be identified;

Obscures that fact that 80-100% are NOT willing to pay a premium to effect this.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that on the _____ day of _____ 2014, the City of Fort Lauderdale supports mandatory labeling of all genetically engineered products.

ALTERNATIVES?

PASSED, APPROVED, AND EFFECTIVE on this ____ day of _____, 2014. ATTEST:

Mayor Date

Council President Date

PLEASE SEND A COPY OF THIS SIGNED RESOLUTION TO:

1. Governor Rick Scott, State of Florida The Capitol 400 S. Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001
2. Local Representative Lois Frankel, United States House of Representatives,
1037 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515
3. Senator Bill Nelson, United States Senate, 716 Senate Hart Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
4. Senator Marco Rubio, United States Senate 284 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
5. Gina McCarthy, Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency,
Ariel Rios Building 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, DC 20460

Position paper on GMO labeling

William F. Goetz, MD

July 23, 2014

I am in agreement with the National Academies of Science, the American Medical Association, the EU Directorate General for Research and Innovation, and the United Nations that GMO foods are as safe as other foods currently on the market.

I believe the primary issues for labeling are those of cost-effectiveness, and of economic and social costs to society.

We have no specific idea of how much labeling will cost consumers, farmers, and companies. Estimates run from a few dollars per year to 10% of a family's food bill. I would intuit that the costs to society would run into the billions of dollars, if not more.

As an aside, the certification process alone will generate millions in profits for John Fagan (more on him later), not to mention income from book sales and personal appearances.

We don't know whether a significant enough number of people will even look at the labels to justify the costs. Current research into this suggests that not many will look (perhaps 25% at most), and for even fewer will it be a significant factor in what to purchase (at most 20% of that 25%).

While a large number may favor labeling, surveys also indicate that most of those are not willing to pay a premium to implement the process. In addition, public opinion is not synonymous with good science or good policy. For instance, just short of a majority of Americans do not believe in global warming.

Since non-GMO foods cost more, and labeling will add to those costs, it is primarily the more well to do who will be able to significantly factor such labeling into their purchases. One needs only venture into Whole Foods and look at the customers to understand the inequitable demographics.

Consumers already have the choice of buying only organic foods, which, by definition, do not contain GMOs.

In countries with mandatory labeling, companies have removed GMO foods from shelves. Consumer choice is actually decreased by labeling,

There is also a cost in money and health to society as a whole. For instance, GMO crops have clearly been shown to be of significant economic benefit in developing countries. In addition, GMO crops can improve the health of malnourished populations. Anti-GMO pseudo-science and scares have prohibited the saving of the sight and lives of hundreds of thousands.

Basically, there is no proof that such labeling will improve human health. Not to mention no proof that GMOs are detrimental to human health. GMO foods and crops have been around for decades, and have been proven to be safe. It is estimated that 70% of processed foods contain GMOs.

Please see the following links to a Scientific American article and to a Colorado State University website that expand on my comments:

<http://www.scientificamerican.com/article/labels-for-gmo-foods-are-a-bad-idea/?print=true>; <http://www.ext.colostate.edu/pubs/foodnut/09371.pdf>.

To meet NON-GMO standards would require retroactive and prospective testing of virtually every food or drink product consumed by humans (see list of standards).

Application, testing and certification of only a small fraction of such products would produce millions in profits for the certification agency. The NON-GMO certification entity is Genetic ID, a subsidiary of John Fagan's company, Global ID Group.

Fagan authored GMO Myths and Truths. He is currently dean at the Maharishi University of Management. The school ranks in the bottom quartile of American colleges. Their last commencement speaker was Jim Carrey. The Maharishi concepts for health are non-scientific and border on the cult.

I question Fagan's motives, narratives, and interpretation and analysis of the GMO literature. They are clearly biased. And that's not to mention his shaky credentials, unusual affiliations, and profit motive. He has considerable skin in the game. That he is cited as a primary expert is concerning.

As a physician knowledgeable in evidence-based medicine, a major concern of mine (second only to anti-vaccine efforts) is the pass given to homeopathic medicines (a contradiction in terms), herbal medicines, vitamin supplements, and alternative medicines in general.

Unlike GMO foods, these products have a well-documented history of killing people. A book by Paul Offit, "Do You Believe in Magic," lays this out nicely. Offit is the chief of pediatric infectious diseases at the University of Pennsylvania Medical School and Hospital.

The book is written in easily understandable terms, and is completely evidence-based. It casts light on the disturbing legislative prohibitions, which disallow the FDA from requiring premarketing efficacy and safety studies, and proof of benefits exceeding harms, for those products.

In truth, the prohibitions are the result of well-documented lobbying (read: conspiracy) by the health-food/alternative and homeopathic medicine/herbal/vitamin supplement sectors (multi-billion dollar industries) that convinced Congress (read: campaign contributions and pseudo-science) to strip the FDA of authority to regulate these items.

There is undisputed documentation in the high impact medical literature that these products and efforts have resulted in thousands of deaths.

The adverse health effects of the failure of the free market and of pseudo-science have also been well documented for global warming, fossil fuels, and the anti-vaccine movement, among others. These efforts have directly resulted in tens of thousands of preventable deaths, and millions of episodes of preventable illnesses. Anti-GMO advocates would do well to practice self-examination and self-comparison to the global warming deniers.

Regarding vaccines, the initial research linking the MMR vaccine with autism was fabricated; the author was barred from the health care field, and subsequently served time for fraud. The CDC and other preventative health groups have definitively found no link between autism and vaccines. Anti-vaccine efforts don't prevent autism. They kill people by making them susceptible to preventable infectious diseases.

Many hospitals now require their hospital workers to take the flu vaccine (or to wear masks). Research is making it more widely evident that it is unethical for health care providers to refuse to take the flu vaccine. Families with elders and children would do well to consider such ethics.

Regarding vitamins, it is now known that megavitamins are a cause of cancer and heart disease; and that women who take multivitamins die earlier than those who do not.

A report on the adverse health and environmental effects of energy from fossil fuels has been previously distributed. Pollution kills in excess of 30,000 Americans per year. Adverse health costs range from \$135-850B, but subsidies to the fossil fuel industries exceed \$500B.

Please note that I do not find it contradictory to favor GMOs, but to abhor Monsanto's trade practices; to support the FDA, but be skeptical about the efficacy and safety of approved medicines and devices; to lobby for increased FDA regulatory authority, but to insist on transparency in those proceedings; to support free market principles, but insist on appropriate governmental intervention where free markets fail; to support subsidies for renewable energy, but not for fossil fuels. Please see this link on free market principles and failures:
http://www.themodestproposal.com/?page_id=131.

Spending our time, efforts, and money on unproven efforts to correct an unproven (actually, disproved) problem will result in increased health problems, and inequitable if any benefits. I would suggest we take a more evidence-based and cost-effective approach to human health and sustainability.

Excepting research, we should devote our limited resources to areas that have been proven to have a significant positive, cost-effective influence on human health and sustainability for the most number of humans in an equitable manner - sanitation, potable water, food distribution, drug distribution (e.g. AIDS meds and vaccines), mosquito netting, contraception, renewable energy, carbon caps, etc.

I believe that a resolution directed solely at requirements for GMO labeling would be of dubious value; would waste precious time, efforts, and money; would not be cost-effective in promoting human health; would be damaging to human health; would be socially and economically inequitable; and would be damaging to board credibility and wasteful of board time and efforts.

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I would support a directed and inclusive resolution as described above, but not one limited solely to the mandatory labeling of GMOs. I would suggest that the board reconsider its support for the resolution as it now stands.

08.15.2014
Possible Updates to Provided
Link on GMO

References:

1. Attachment

Possible Updates to Provided Link on GMO

Questions & Answers on Food from Genetically Engineered Plants

<http://www.fda.gov/food/foodscienceresearch/biotechnology/ucm346030.htm>

Statement of Policy - Foods Derived from New Plant Varieties

<http://www.fda.gov/food/guidanceregulation/guidancedocumentsregulatoryinformation/biotechnology/ucm096095.htm>

Consultation Procedures under FDA's 1992 Statement of Policy - Foods Derived from New Plant Varieties

<http://www.fda.gov/Food/GuidanceRegulation/GuidanceDocumentsRegulatoryInformation/ucm096126.htm>

Regulation of Foods Derived From Plants

<http://www.fda.gov/newsevents/testimony/ucm161037.htm>

LOCAL RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the City of Fort Lauderdale values its citizens as stated in its "Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale Vision" and recognizes that consumers want information about the food they and their families eat; and

WHEREAS, the City of Fort Lauderdale values education, transparency, and accessibility, and recognizes that the labeling of genetically engineered foods is a 'right to know' issue, serving to inform citizens; and

WHEREAS, there are 64 countries that enforce labeling laws for genetically engineered food; and

WHEREAS, the states of Connecticut, Maine, and Vermont have passed laws requiring the labeling of GE foods; and

WHEREAS, as of July 2014, more than 60 bills have been introduced in over 20 states to require GE labeling; and

WHEREAS, farmers who produce organic or non-genetically engineered crops are exposed to the risk of crop contamination from nearby genetically engineered crops; and

WHEREAS, farmers who unintentionally grow genetically engineered-patented seeds or who harvest crops that are contaminated with genetically engineered traits could lose their organic certification and face costly lawsuits; and

WHEREAS, a 2013 *New York Times* poll found that 93 percent of U.S. consumers wanted all genetically engineered ingredients to be identified;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that on the _____ day of _____ 2014, the City of Fort Lauderdale supports mandatory labeling of all genetically engineered products.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND EFFECTIVE on this _____ day of _____, 2014.

ATTEST:

Mayor

Date

Council President

Date

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1. Governor Rick Scott, State of Florida The Capitol 400 S. Monroe Street Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001
2. Local Representative Lois Frankel, United States House of Representatives, 1037 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515
3. Senator Bill Nelson, United States Senate, 716 Senate Hart Office Building Washington, DC 20510
4. Senator Marco Rubio, United States Senate 284 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510
5. Gina McCarthy, Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, Ariel Rios Building 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, DC 20460
6. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack, United States Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Ave., S.W., Washington, DC 20250
7. Margaret Hamberg M.D., Commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration, 10903 New Hampshire Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20993
8. Food & Water Watch, 1044 NE 15th Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33304