From: Jannatpour, Vivienne
To: Frye, Renata; Nielsen, Tina;
Subject: FW: GMO beets
Date: Friday, July 17, 2009 11:14:11 AM

From: CATHY ALLEN [mailto:bouldercathy@msn.com]
Sent: Friday, July 17, 2009 11:09 AM
To: Boulder County POS Info
Subject: GMO beets

PLEASE do NOT allow any more GMOs to be planted in Boulder County. I think we are becoming more aware of the repercussions of allowing these plants to be grown. It would be a crime to allow any more here in Boulder County, for what we stand for as a mecca of organic farming and environmental awareness. It would be nice to not allow ANY GMOs grown, period. Can we rescind allowing GMO corn at some point? Can the public vote on this issue?

Thank you,

Cathy Allen
262 Spruce
Boulder
303-449-9596

Dear Elected Officials,

NO GMO's on Boulder Open Space!

Megan Kishner
913 Collyer Street
Longmont, CO 80501

Please STOP genetically modified foods---such as sugar beets---from being grown in Boulder County. These plants do cross-pollinate, infecting organic plants. Not enough is known about these types of modified plants to allow them to be grown anywhere near other plants.
Thank You
Dixie Elder
530 Alpine St.
Longmont CO 80501

Dixie Elder &
Peter F. Johnson
Danger Grrl &
Random

Dear County Open Space:

First of all I appreciate everything you have done to make Boulder County Open Space the visionary example for the entire US to strive for. It is a thankless job at times. It seems like one of these times is here again. GMO seeds and food is a controversial. It has the backing of big agri-industry (Monsanto in particular) behind it and a revolving door between the FDA and agribusiness. In spite of this and pressure from the US government the European has banned the use of GMO seeds. With good reason, they are dangerous to the health of our environment and food supply.

I hope you have the strength of vision to once again set the leading example for Boulder County and the country by banning the use of GMO seeds on county open space land. I understand this means reversing an earlier decision to allow GMO corn to be grown. The science in spite of the big propaganda dollars being spent by the agri-industry is becoming more emphatic against GMO crops. I believe if put to a vote even today the majority of county residents would vote to ban GMO seeds on county open space.

Boulder County has a reputation of being at the forefront of adopting emerging environmental issues that with time have become more mainstream. Let's not only keep the County's reputation intact, but let's have the vision to add to it. I ask that you have the vision to continue to be at the forefront of adopting such important environmental and health issues and continue to set the example for our county, state and country.

Kent Kasica

285 Abbey Place

Boulder CO 80302

From: Andrew Brightbill <drewbrightbill@gmail.com>
Date: July 20, 2009 9:48:07 AM MDT
To: POSinfo@bouldercounty.org
Subject: Opposed to GMO's in Boulder

To whom it may concern,

I am a Boulder resident throwing one more vote against the proposed approval of GMO sugarbeets. I realize we currently have GMO corn in our area, which is alarming enough. I would like to see BOulder move toward banning GMO corn as well.

When a company has created a patented seed that can spread and contaminate other farms, thus putting those farmers at risk of being sued for patent violation if their crops contain any of those seeds, I believe we have entered very frightening times. In my view, this is not justice. I urge you to please oppose GMO sugarbeets and move toward banning GMO corn.

With all sincerity,

Drew Brightbill
Boulder Resident

I do not want gmo sugar beets on any land in Boulder.

Loretta Beckman

Dear Ms. Domenico,

On August, 25th, the Boulder County Commissioners will vote on a petition by 6 Boulder County farmers to grow genetically modified sugar beets on public land. I am writing to let you know that I strongly opposed to allowing Boulder County farmers to grow genetically modified ANYTHING on public land. This goes against many of the principles the community of Boulder cares about. Clearly, you know that most people in the city of Boulder support and embrace a healthy lifestyle, including natural and organic foods. Many people support local farmers who sell their products in the farmer's markets – most of which is organic. If the Boulder County Commissioners allow the growth of GMO sugar beets on public land, there will be a significant risk of cross- contamination.

That said, there is also a $2 billion, thriving natural products industry in Boulder. By allowing the growth of GMO sugar beets on public land, you would be contradicting everything this industry stands for and undermining Boulder' leadership role and position in this important and influential industry.

What is there to gain by allowing this? Very little. And there is so much to lose.

Please vote NO to GMO sugar beets growing on public land!

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Laura Coblentz

Laura Coblentz

VP Marketing & Innovation

Pharmaca Integrative Pharmacy

4940 Pearl East Circle, Suite 301

Boulder, CO 80301

lcoblentz@pharmaca.com

ph: 303-867-3165

My family has farmed here locally for several generations along with most of the other emails of farmers on this list. As far as I know and for as long as I can remember Sugarbeets only produce pollen and seed the second season of growth. In all the decades of growing beets for our family I do not ever remember any beets producing seed in our fields the following year after a first year beet crop, it just has not happened. Comparing Roundup Beets to Roundup Corn would be a big mistake they are different plants entirely so do not make that mistake. The only place I have seen sugarbeets produce seed was in a controlled environment / sugarbeet seed field and currently most of the sugarbeet seed production is on the west coast of the United States. If the end product is still the same old sugar molecule to make cake and cookies with I do not think it should matter that the sugarbeet plant can tolerate Roundup. There also has not been as many migrant workers to work beets in recent years so allowing Roundup beets also will help keep a family farm and an industry here along the Front Range for a longer period of time.

Thanks,
Jim Hergenreder

PS I have sent this BCC to a few more farmers so they can comment if they want.

1056 Columbia Place
Boulder, CO 80303-3213
July 7, 2009

Boulder County Commissioners
Courthouse
Boulder, CO

Re: Genetically Modified Organism Crops (GMOs) on County Agricultural Lands

As our elected commissioners, you are the protectors of county residents, public lands, wildlife and native plants on these lands. This is a huge responsibility that covers the present *and into the future* beyond your lives and mine. Residents, including yourselves, don't know enough about these genetically modified crops. As stewards of our public lands, you must not allow such wide use of GMOs. The GMOs are relatively new so why rush into their use when the whole story has not yet been told?

Monsanto has had reports of deleterious effects on GMOs on monarch butterflies. GMOs are also implicated in crop cross-contamination which again was not a good result. Monsanto's Roundup itself is toxic as a general use herbicide. Now there are genetically modified crops resistant to Roundup being considered for open space agricultural use. GMOs have not been studied enough to know what long-term use of GMOs has on humans, wildlife, and native vegetation.

Thank you for your consideration and rejection or GMOs,

Rose Mary Highman

Please!

You know why. Just say NO.

Thanks,
Mark
Boulder CO

Dear Commissioners,

I'm writing to urge you to keep GMO sugar beets off county land.
The farmers signed this contract with a non-GMO clause and we need to hold to it. We cannot afford to pollute the soil, land, water, and impinge on our local native pollinators through the use of GMO products. We can also NOT afford to give Monsanto this carte blanche in our county.
You are doubtless aware of how Monsanto bullies small farmers all over the country so Monsanto can control seeds nationally as well as globally. We must not let them do this in Boulder.

I am aware of the difficult straits the farmers are in. I urge you to work with the public, who has every sympathy for them, so that we can find a way to help them. I am aware that they are part of a Sugar Beet Cooperative, which imposes heavy fines if its members do not grow the requisite amount of this crop. However, so many of us feel so strongly about this-- there must be a way to help these farmers. Don't let them down by doing the easy but unthinkable, letting them plant GMO beets.
Please structure help into your decision. We must and can help them and together we can find a viable solution.
This can be a model for the nation, in the way Monsanto is countered here. I assume you have been doing research to find out how other counties have helped their farmers who have been backed into similar situations by Monsanto. I also assume you have been getting all the help you need in this regard from the Center for Food Safety.
If not, their website is: www.centerforfoodsafety.org

Thank you very much.

Yours Truly,

Pamela Sherman

From: Stephen Sherman [spsherm@msn.com]

Sent: Monday, July 06, 2009 12:31 PM

To: Boulder County Board of Commissioners

Subject: GMO Sugar beets on openspace

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Completed

Hello.

I am writing to add my voice to the many others urging you to not amend the contract and allow GMO beets on public land.

I am sure you are aware of the issues, so I won't repeat them here.

However, I hope you have considered a different alternative. Rather than see this as the farmers who are renting the land needing to plant, and the only decision being let them or not. I would strongly suggest the county offer to release them from their contract and let them go elsewhere. This give the farmers options for dealing with GMO crops elsewhere as they see fit, and it preserves a strong county stand against GMO crops on public land. Something that is essential for maintaining food/plant diversity in our environment.

This issue is very important to me, and I will remember it come the next election cycle.

Thank you for listening.

Dear Open Space Citizen's Advisory Board,

Please do not recommend planting of GMO Sugar Beets on Open Space.
And if you can, Please stop allowing GMO corn corps on our Open Space.

Open Space is for the preservation of Boulder County's natural wildlife.
The purpose of preservation is to allow native plants, animals and ecosystems to survive and be appreciated by County residents.
I do not appreciate my tax dollars going to private enterprise.
Especially, I cannot support actions such as GMO farming that will alter our natural habitat in destructive ways.

Please express my concerns to the County Commissioners.
I sincerely hope you are concerned about maintaining County Open Space in a manner that truly supports the health and subsequent diversity of our land; and, that you are not supportive of using County Open Space to support private enterprises.
Perhaps Boulder County can find ways to support our farmers by supporting organic technology.

Sincerely,
Angela Green
80301

Dear Ms. Nielsen

I have noted with interest the discussion arising from the pending request for use of Boulder County Open Space for cultivation of Roundup Ready sugar beets.

I am a Monsanto retiree, now living in Lyons. During my career with Monsanto, I served as global regulatory manager for the Roundup family of herbicide brands from 1997 until my retirement in 2007, with direct responsibility for US brand and crop use pattern approvals. During that tenure, I submitted the original application for a FFDCA food tolerance for glyphosate residues in sugar beets and the FIFRA application for a label to provide for the herbicide treatment over-the-top of the crop. Those applications were evaluated and granted by EPA's Office of Pesticide Programs under their "safer pesticide" program, leading to the present US-wide regulatory approvals for use of glyphosate based herbicides for weed control in sugar beet cultivation. I was also closely involved in the similar US EPA approvals for Roundup Ready lines of corn, canola, and to a lesser degree, soybeans and cotton. I have therefore a great deal of experience and knowledge about these matters, both in supporting such uses of glyphosate herbicides and in responding to issues raised by groups that question their safety, effectiveness, etc.

I have read the BCPOS white paper that provides background on this matter, and have found it to be a balanced and thoughtful summary. I recognize that expanding grower contracts to provide for use of this technology on publicly-owned lands involves many stakeholders who vie to be heard and have their viewpoints heeded. There have no doubt been many varied opinions offered.

I am no longer employed by Monsanto, nor has the company asked me to comment or advocate for this use with Boulder County officials, and I have no particularly pertinent factual comments to add beyond those that have already been made by SIBC, growers, and other agricultural stakeholders, plus the facts and views presented in the White Paper. Rather obviously, I do believe it to be a safe and effective technology, and have no concerns about approval of the pending request. However, I do have considerable first-hand knowledge about the Federal and State approval systems, as well as the characteristics, safety, and usage of glyphosate-based herbicides in various cropping systems, including those with the Roundup Ready trait. If questions arise during your deliberations about safety or residue testing, what has been evaluated and required for approvals, different glyphosate brand names, resolving conflicting information, or other factual matters. I am more than willing to offer my assistance to Boulder County staff. Beyond my own knowledge, I also know many technical experts at Monsanto involved in with this technology and can get quick access to present-day information from them without the need of making cold calls to general contact numbers, if that is helpful.

Respectfully,

Stephen J Wratten

303-823-2435