## 2.7.17 STATEMENT TO THE PIMA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

You may have thought otherwise, but you now know you have veto power over Monsanto's federal trade zone application. That means the responsibility to make the right decision for the future of Pima County lies in your hands.

If you didn't know much about Monsanto before, that's common. Monsanto has done everything it can do to keep Americans in the dark for 20 years. But the growing number of people who have learned about the business practices of Monsanto know that it has fixed the system by infiltrating colleges and schools, government regulatory agencies, and the judicial system so that it can get its claws into a community. And, then once the people and even elected representatives see how Monsanto ruins an area with the toxic business it does, it's too late. When the people fight back and pass initiatives, say, to prohibit biotech corporations from operating in that area or simply to let the public know what chemical pesticides Monsanto is spraying and when, Monsanto files lawsuits and keeps the issue tied up in the courts. We saw that in a movie that was sold out at The Loft on Sunday.

In your deliberations at the Nov. 22nd meeting, one of the main arguments for giving Monsanto its foreign trade zone status was so that it would give you a memorandum of understanding so we would know what Monsanto is doing on its property. That's like thinking it will work out well if you enter into an agreement with a sociopath. That MOU is not binding. Do not have the hubris to think you can successfully make a deal with Monsanto and not have our community suffer the same plights as other communities, like those in Hawaii, have suffered.

This is so much more than a decision about increasing the tax base. This is no time to be shortsighted. Monsanto is trying to use its greenhouse as a cover to get its foreign trade zone status and then use the rest of its more than 140 acres as a testing ground for experimental crops sprayed with experimental chemicals that will get into our air, water, and food. Uphold your duty to protect Pima County and the health of its residents and use your power to kill its foreign trade zone application!

Melissa Diane Smith
Author of *Going Against GMOs*
520[redacted]

CLERK'S NOTE:
COPY TO SUPERVISORS
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

DATE 2-7-17 BR

February 1, 2017

Dear Board of Supervisors;

As the Executive Director of the Rocky Mountain Seed Alliance and former Director of Native Seeds/ SEARCH, I urge the Pima County Board of Supervisors not to support Monsanto's application for Foreign Trade Zone status for it's 155-acre property near Twin Peaks and Sanders Road in Avra Valley.

I understand the difficulty in making a decision to jeopardize the move into Pima County of a large, job-creating and tax-generating corporation. In the end, those of you who actually vote on this issue probably will not be held personally responsible, either for lost tax revenue for Pima County, potential genetic contamination to local agriculture, dangerous chemical residues or resulting bad publicity. You do live in the county, however. This is your home. Your children may live here for a long time. What kind of a world do you want them to live in?

Facing an uncertain future, people all over the world are looking for authenticity and safety. People everywhere are shortening supply lines. A paradigm shift is upon us. Smaller farms growing fresher foods from locally adapted seeds are proving to be more ecological, more resilient, more sustainable and in the end more stimulating to local economies. The best and brightest and healthiest people want to move to places like this. Surely you understand the value of the World City of Gastronomy designation from UNESCO, an agency of the United Nations, bestowed upon Tucson last year. Tucson has become a recognized food cuisine destination fostering much needed tourism revenue for our state.

We know now the promise that Big Ag will feed the world and enrich local communities is a myth. The model it represents externalizes costs and leaves local economies poorer. Ken Meter, economist at The Crossroads Institute, estimated a $5 per week shift alone toward the purchase of locally grown food in Southern Arizona by Southern Arizona families would bring an additional $280 million a year to our economies. Has Pima County explored what this would mean for local tax revenues? Pima County should be known as the leader in this effort. Tax breaks for the world's most hated corporation would represent the opposite. Please think about the long-term consequences of your decision.

Thank you.

Bill McDorman
Executive Director – Rocky Mountain Seed Alliance
[redacted]

Feb 7, 2017

To: Board of Supervisors

Re: "No" on Monsanto FTZ designation

I implore you to vote "no" on the upcoming vote regarding Monsanto. You have heard hours of public testimony about the threats, risks, and potential envoronmental liabilities Monsanto could represent for Pima County.

You have before you an unprecedented opportunity to hit a home run. From the November 22 Board meeting, through every board meeting since then and all five district meetings on this subject, the public has voiced landslide opposition to Monsanto's plans in Pima Count, with the proportion of speakers in opposition to Monsanto running at 95% or greater at each meeting.

It may be a long time before you come across another issue where you have conservatives, liberals, and independents all coming together in 95% agreement on anything. You have the chance to endear yourselves to the hearts and minds of the voters you represent by taking a stand on this issue to side with your constituents in Pima County.

I am reminded of an anecdote from the district meeting in Green Valley on this subject, where one member of the public stood up and spoke so fondly of what retired Supervisor Ray Caroll had done for the community in opposing the Rosemont mine. I thought to myself, what a wonderful thing, for any of us, to be remembered fondly for our good work after our retirement. I think all of us would want that for ourselves, would we not? I certainly would love to be remembered fondly like that after my own retirement one day.

You have that same opportunity here. Day after after, week after week, month after month, meeting after meeting, you have heard from members of the public who are Republicans, Democrats, and Independent voters coming together to say "no" on Monsanto. I can't think of a better way for you to enhance your status with the 95% voters of all stripes with one vote, can you? (Conversely, I think that when 95% of the public has spoken in unity on an issue, a vote against the will of the public makes it difficult, to say the least, to ever convince your constituents again that you truly represent their needs come re-election.)

According to an article in the Arizona Daily Star 1/28/17 (attached, *Pima County Board Has Veto Power over Monsanto's Tax Breaks*), the board *does* in fact have veto power over the proposed Monsanto tax break. According to Sun Corridor Inc.'s own website (and we all know Supervisor Bronson is listed as in the Chairman's Circle of Sun Corridor Inc.), on the FTZ page, a power point presentation describes Pima County as the *"gatekeeper"* on obtaining the FTZ designation. You have the power to say "no" to supporting the FTZ designation. According to Monsanto's own Amanda McLleran, who spoke at the district meetings, Monsanto has not decided whether the project will move forward in the absence of the FTZ designation. (She said they are waiting to see this process play out.) This means

your vote on this issue is critical to whether the project would potentially go forward.

On a final note, I can't help but mention an article in the Arizona Daily Independent 2/1/17 (attached, *Monsanto's Roundup Barred From Supervisor's Meeting but Okay for High Schoolers*) that notes that if I wanted to bring in a bottle of Roundup, Monsanto's flagship pesticide that is sprayed on fields of its crops that people eat, to show you at the meeting, I would not be allowed to do so because the product presents a "security risk." Pocket knives and pepper spray may be allowed, but the Monsanto Roundup product is considered too dangerous. The implication is clear: Roundup®, with its active ingredient glyphosate, is too dangerous to be near the Board of Supervisors, but it's okay to use a mile from a high school, and even closer to other residents of the Avra Valley. (I also note that according ot the same article there are ongoing disputes with Saguaro National Park and Tucson Water over aerial spraying of glyphosate which has sickened Avra Valley residents and their pets, and killed a rancher's cattle forage.)

As a business owner myself, I'm not opposed to business. But I am opposed to businesses with a bad track record of unethical practices. So as far as Pima County is concerned, I would go as far to say, let's bring in *anyone* but Monsanto. What I think would be even better would be to look at other ways to support Pima County. For instance, if everyone in Pima County shifted $5 of their weekly food budget to locally grown food, that would bring in $260 Million annually into Pima County. Instead of giving away tax dollars to Monsanto, I'd rather my tax dollars go to a public service campaign in support of locally grown foods, as one idea for food for thought, pardon the pun. All that to say, there are other ways to accomplish your goals for Pima County without risks to the health, safety, and welfare of the public in the way that Monsanto's practices have brought to numerous other municipalities that are now embroiled in litigation in 2017 for the clean up of the environmental damage from Monsanto's presence.

Do the right thing, let's sidestep the Monsanto risks from the get-go. Step up to the plate, swing for the fences, and go home a hero. Vote "no" on Monsanto. Let's recognize this danger for what it is and say no to this Faustian bargain.

Sincerely,

Cori McGraw

Concerned citizen, voter, and business owner in Pima County

Attachments:

1 ) January 28, 2017 Arizona Daily Start article *Pima County Board Has Veto Power over Monsanto's Tax Breaks*

2) Feb 1, 2017 Arizona Daily Independent, *Monsanto's Roundup Barred From Supervisor's Meeting but Okay for High Schoolers*

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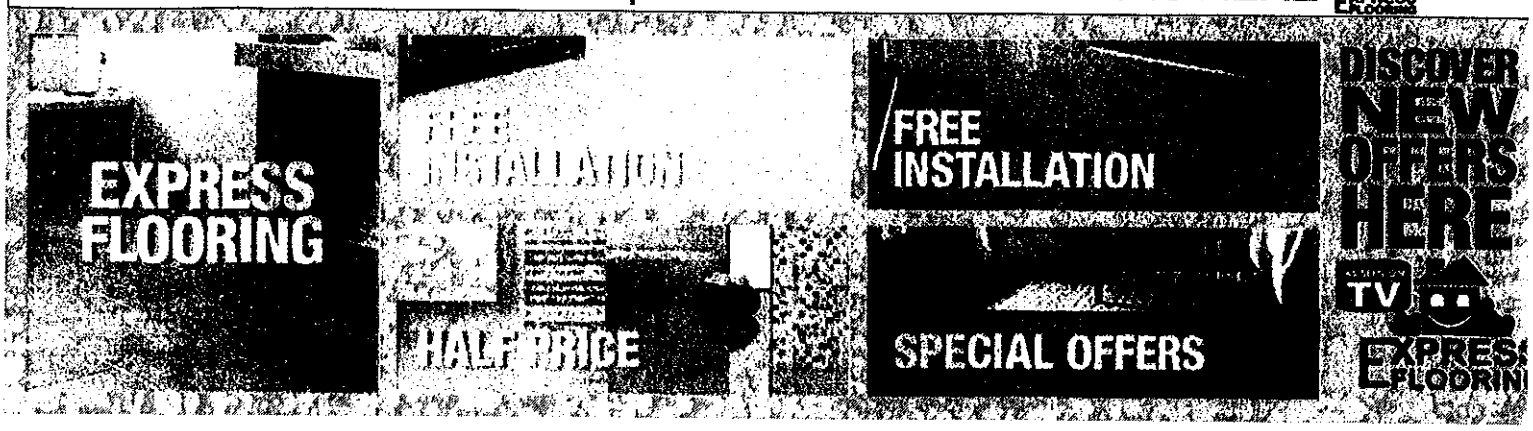
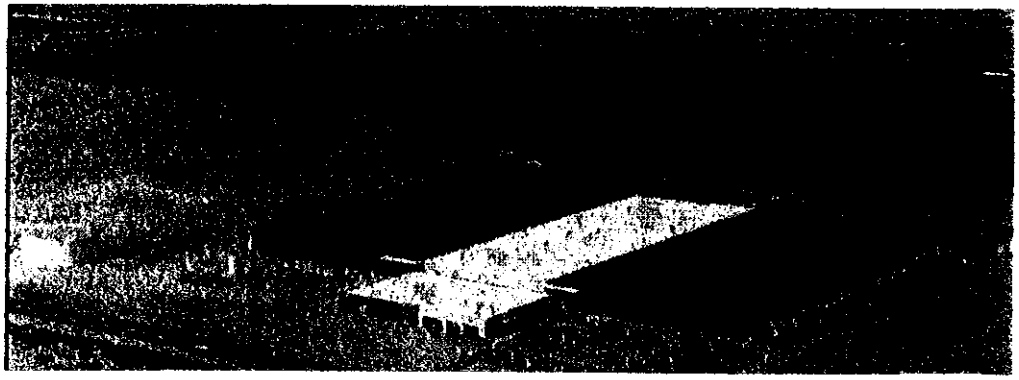


http://tucson.com/news/local/govt-and-politics/pima-county-board-has-veto-power-over-monsanto-s-tax/article_490a1b51-f1d6-5b47-894b-9c8d2e357eb6.html

# Pima County board has veto power over Monsanto's tax breaks

By Tony Davis Arizona Daily Star Jan 28, 2017 Updated Jan 31, 2017



Courtesy of Monsanto

This artist's rendering shows Monsanto's planned Avra Valley greenhouse, which would develop new corn seeds.

MORE INFORMATION

Monsanto's Pima County plan: Questions and answers

To the surprise of at least two Pima County supervisors, their board has veto power over whether Monsanto Co.'s greenhouse will get tax breaks from a proposed foreign trade zone designation.

For Monsanto to get the property tax breaks, it needs the federal government to designate its 155-acre, Avra Valley-area greenhouse site as part of a larger foreign trade zone in Pima County. For that to happen, all government agencies with taxing authority affected by the designation must send letters saying

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they don't object, said Tim Truman, a spokesman for the International Trade Association, a division of the U.S. Commerce Department.

If Monsanto obtains an FTZ designation, Pima County could lose property tax revenue because the designation would reduce the company's property tax burden by two-thirds. So far, two other entities that could be impacted by the Monsanto project, the Marana Unified School District and the Joint Technical Education District (JTED), have agreed to send in letters of non-objection. A fourth entity, Pima Community College, hasn't.

Pima County supervisors are scheduled to vote on Feb. 21, after delaying a decision last November.

Truman's statement was much firmer than one made Jan. 18 by a county official at a Monsanto public meeting. Patrick Cavanaugh, Pima County's deputy economic director, at the time described the importance of the supervisors' upcoming vote as "a great unknown."

The need for letters of no objection is spelled out in a November 2016 document that Truman emailed to the Star last week. It says an FTZ applicant must submit copies of letters from "all affected parties" indicating that they support or don't object to the proposal. The document is labeled "guidance," a term that typically carries no force of law. But it also says the letters are required.

The document does offer a potential "out" for Monsanto. If the company agrees to pay taxing entities enough so they don't lose money from the FTZ designation, they won't need to send letters of no objection. Such an agreement is known as a PILOT, for payment in lieu of taxes.

So far, however, that waiver applies to only one of the four entities. JTED has approved a PILOT agreement to get as much money from Monsanto as it would have without the tax break.

The Marana school district has accepted a $500,000 donation from Monsanto, far less than its take under a PILOT agreement.

Monsanto spokeswoman Charly Lord said the company intends to enter an agreement with Pima Community College to not receive any tax benefits from the college.

County Administrator Chuck Huckelberry has proposed a PILOT agreement with Monsanto in which, for 10 years, the company would pay the difference between the taxes the county would have received without Monsanto's FTZ tax break.

But the county would have to refund the difference if Monsanto met certain goals.

Monsanto questioned on tax breaks, herbicides, GMOs at Tucson public meetings

Pima County delays vote on Monsanto tax incentives

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Critics decry tax breaks as Monsanto plans Marana greenhouse

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These include at least $90 million total investment, at least 50 full-time and part-time jobs, average annual wages of at least $44,000, employee health and dental insurance coverage and 401(k) plans. Because the refunds will take tax revenue from the county, it would still have to send the no objection letter.

Two Pima County supervisors said they were unaware that the county's letter is legally required for Monsanto to get the designation. This requirement puts additional pressure on supervisors before deciding, said Supervisor Richard Elías, a Democrat who opposes the tax breaks for Monsanto, and Supervisor Steve Christy, a Republican who hasn't taken a stand.

"If the FTZ designation is going to be determined positively or negatively by the Pima County board, it places much more importance or emphasis on the decision the board makes," Christy said.

Until now, he added, "My feeling was that it was just rudimentary approval or disapproval and had no bearing on the status of Monsanto."

Now, the board's action "becomes more than a piece of the puzzle. It could have real impact," Elías said.

Denial of the FTZ designation wouldn't stop the greenhouse project, particularly since Monsanto already bought the land. The county lacks authority to do that. Monsanto spokeswoman Lord declined to say if the company would kill or reassess its plans for the greenhouse if the supervisors vote not to send a no-objection letter.

"We're going to use the information we've gathered from these public listening sessions, what we've learned from farming groups in the area, input we've received from business leaders and the Chamber of Commerce along with what the board decides next month to make our final decision," Lord said.

Cavanaugh, the county economic official, gave a more uncertain view of supervisors' potential impact at the Jan. 18 public meeting.

He told the gathering the impact of an unfavorable supervisors' vote was unknown, because the county has received only "guidance" from the feds and "no firm rules that we've been able to locate."

Cavanaugh later said he made the comment because the November 2016 federal guidance doesn't specify that an FTZ application would be rejected if all impacted taxing entities fail to send in the letters.

Although the document says the letters are required, "generally in regulations you have very specific direction as to what the outcome is," he said. The document also doesn't say what

happens if two entities provide letters and two don't, he said.

But when asked by the Star what would happen if one or more entities refused to send such letters, trade association spokesman Truman reaffirmed his earlier statement. He said the FTZ board, a federal entity that decides on such designations, "only processes applications that include letters of non-objection from all affected taxing entities."

On Tuesday, Cavanaugh said he's no longer unsure of what would happen if all four entities didn't sign PILOT agreements or send in no-objection letters.

On that day, he had Deputy County Attorney Regina Nassen call Andrew McGilvray, executive director of the FTZ board in Washington, D.C. He learned that if some affected parties submit letters or PILOT agreements and others don't, "The FTZ staff would not move the application forward for consideration at all," Cavanaugh said.

On Wednesday, Huckelberry issued a memo saying the same thing: That if all affected entities don't submit letters of no objection, "no property tax savings or FTZ benefit would be issued to the applicant."

Contact reporter Tony Davis at tdavis@tucson.com or 806-7746. On Twitter@tonydavis987

Tony Davis

Ron Paul's Gold Warning

Short interview with 22-year Congressman, Ron Paul, has many on edge. See his warning.

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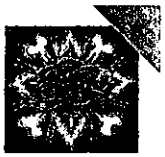

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# Monsanto's Roundup® Barred From Supervisors Meeting But Okay For High Schoolers

Tucson Hispanic
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Southern Arizona • Mexico

BY: ADI NEWS SERVICES FEBRUARY 1, 2017

Roundup®, the world's most used and most controversial herbicide, will not be allowed in the Board of Supervisor's meeting room. Pima County policy prohibits "weapons" including "items which are not designed for use as weapons but which may be used in a harmful manner" from numerous areas. "Personal-sized chemical deterrents which are carried for personal protection" are allowed, along with" pocket knives with blades less than three inches."

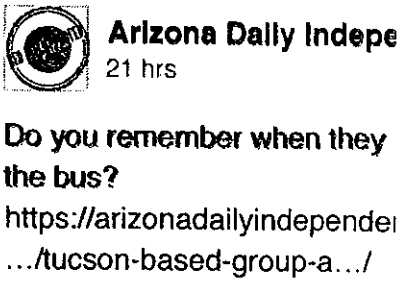
Albert Lannon from the Avra Valley Coalition had asked Huckelberry for permission to bring a sealed container of Roundup® to use as a visual aid while addressing the BOS during the Call to the Public. Ignoring the initial request, Huckelberry's response to a second request was brief:

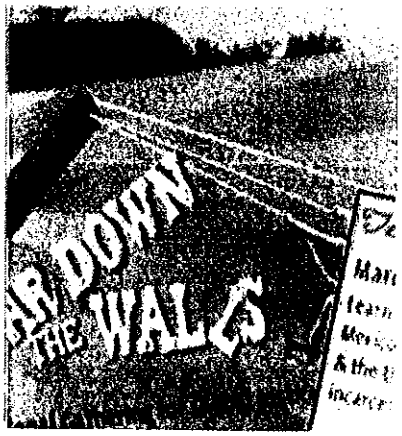
After consulting with our Security staff you will not be allowed to bring this into the Board hearing room.

The implication is clear: Roundup®, with its active ingredient glyphosate, is too dangerous to be near the Board of Supervisors, but it's okay to use a mile from a high school, and even closer to other residents of the Avra Valley. There are ongoing disputes with Saguaro National Park and Tucson Water over aerial spraying of glyphosate which has sickened Avra Valley residents and their pets, and killed a rancher's cattle forage.

There is high public interest in the Pima County Board of Supervisors February 21 vote whether or not to support Monsanto's request for Foreign Trade Zone (FTZ) status for a planned Avra Valley GMO corn seed factory. When the issue was brought to the BOS by the County Administrator November 22 after months of secret meetings, more than 50 people spoke in opposition. The Supervisors postponed the vote to February 21 and ordered five public meetings and the convening of a Science Advisory Committee. FTZ status would cut Monsanto's property taxes by two-thirds.

According to emails obtained by the Arizona Daily Independent, Huckelberry told Star reporter Tony Davis last October that the secrecy was not to thwart expected opposition by Supervisor Ally Miller. He did not, however, explain why he thought it was necessary. Emails also show collusion between Sun Corridor Inc. (formerly TREO), Huckelberry, County Communications Director Mark Evans, and Supervisor Sharon Bronson in creating attacks on Bronson's opponent in the 2016



FEBRUARY 6, 2017

Arizona

election, Kim DeMarco. County staff are barred by law from trying to influence elections. Sun Corridor Inc., a public-private economic development organization, just received over one-half-million dollars from the BOS. Bronson serves on its Chairman's Circle.

Speakers at the packed Monsanto meetings in January were overwhelmingly against both the big tax break FTZ status would bring the agri-chemical giant and the idea of locating a seven-acre greenhouse near Marana High School. Marana Town Council Member Herb Kai sold 155 acres to the corporation. At first Monsanto spokespeople said there would be "moderate" use of herbicides and pesticides, but changed their position several meetings later to "not much, if any" in the face of an outraged public.

Glyphosate, the active ingredient in Monsanto's Roundup®, has just been labeled a cause of cancer in California, and a "probable carcinogen" by the World Health Organization. Many countries and localities have banned or heavily restricted the use of glyphosate and its additives. GMO crops are engineered to resist glyphosate so that the herbicide kills only non-crop plants. The result has been increased resistance to the poison by unwanted plants, and the widespread killing of the food of the monarch butterfly caterpillar. Monsanto's traveling Ph.D. Amanda McClerran, at the District 3 public meeting, offered to create a monarch butterfly sanctuary in exchange for FTZ support.

Glyphosate, a vital ingredient in a GMO factory such as the one planned for the Avra Valley, is linked to non-Hodgkins lymphoma, fatty liver disease, autism and other diseases. Health professional Janay Young, whose father used to farm the land sold to Monsanto, is the mother of two Marana High School students. She and other parents have been telling local officials about nearly 12,000 studies in the last four years linking glyphosate to birth defects and miscarriages,

# Corporation Commission To Hold Open Meetings In Phoenix, Tucson

The Arizona Corporation Commission will hold its two day February Open Meeting in Phoenix and Tucson. Chairman Tom Forese and...

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FEBRUARY 7, 2017

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Alzheimer's, breast cancer, gastro-intestinal problems, and endocrine disruption causing diabetes, heart disease, infertility and thyroid disease.

Young and her allies are trying to convince the Marana Unified School District Governing Board to reconsider the "partnership" it approved with Monsanto. MUSD's support for FTZ status gave the school district a half-million dollar one-time payment in place of the $3-1/2 million it would collect in taxes over the next five years. Pima Community College's Governing Board, described by county officials as "up in the air," actually voted 3-2 to deny Monsanto their support.

According to the Star's Tony Davis in a January 28 article, Supervisor Richard Elias, who has opposed the Monsanto deal, was surprised to find out that a BOS "no" vote would probably kill Monsanto's chances of FTZ status and a two-third property tax reduction. Newcomer Steve Christy, who has been favorable to the deal, also didn't know that opposition would close the door. FTZ status is determined by federal officials but rely on the positions of local elected bodies. The corporation is being close-mouthed on its plans should FTZ status be denied and hard lobbying is likely to be in play.

County officials have not answered another vital question: With Monsanto closing three similar facilities in North Carolina, Wisconsin and Connecticut, cutting 90 jobs, will the 20-30 promised full-time jobs in Pima County actually go to county residents?

February 21: Will the Board of Supervisor's meeting be "The Last Roundup" for Monsanto in Pima County? Will Supervisor Elias stand with constituents or cave in to corporate pressure? Is there a third possible vote to kill the deal and spare the people of the Avra Valley the potential grief it would bring? Stay tuned, or better yet, show up at the BOS meeting, 9 a.m. February 21, 130 W.

FEBRUARY 7, 2017

**Pima County World View Spending Balloons Despite Court Ruling**

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**Scottsdale Among Top Cities For Valentine's Day**

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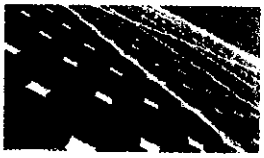

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3 COMMENTS

ON "MONSANTO'S ROUNDUP® BARRED FROM SUPERVISORS MEETING BUT OKAY FOR HIGH SCHOOLERS"

jdfast | February 1, 2017 at 5:11 am | Reply

Makes not one bit of difference what is said on the 21st. Huckelberry has his three votes and that is all he needs to move ahead with this project. Isn't it nice to ignore the taxpayer and continue to do what you want to do? A 3% property tax increase this year coupled with a 4% sewer rate increase. Does that make you happy? Or how about the plans for the Sonoran Corridor that will save Don Diamond millions in development monies? Aren't you tired of the backroom dealings yet? Most likely not because you listened to the cronies and reelected Sharon Bronson, who by the way sits

Some Navajo Nation Homes

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FEBRUARY 7, 2017

on the board of Sun Corridor (TREO). See any conflict of interest there? Thought not. And the county building continues to stink like the sewer it is.

---

Jonathan DuHamel | February 1, 2017 at 9:15 am | Reply

You can kill someone with a ballpoint pen. Will the BOS ban those too?

---

Billy B | February 1, 2017 at 2:49 pm | Reply

Heck I think they should serve Monsanto Mojito's for refreshments

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## Leave a comment

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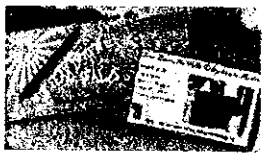

FEBRUARY 6, 2017

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NO TAX BREAKS FOR POISON PROFITEERS!

Sandra Almasy
[redacted]
TUCSON AZ 85730

Thank you for this opportunity to speak. I am Sandra Almasy, but I also speak for many of my friends and neighbors who cannot attend today.

Monsanto has a long and sordid history of producing poisons. They were involved in nuclear weapon developement; and behind DDT, Agent Orange and Round-up, which the apparently more advanced people of Europe have banned as a probable carcinogen. They developed GMO's, then forced these environmentally pernicious substances on un-willing farmers and on un-witting consumers. The latest global threat is so called "neonic" pesticides, which are killing critically important bee colonies worldwide.

Monsanto is being sued by numerous states and cities to force the clean up of various noxious Monsanto "messes." I was shocked at our public forum to hear Monsanto cite Hawaii as an example of their "goodness", when actually the people of Hawaii convinced their state government to reject Monsanto, who is now suing the state for the right to poison the islands some more.

Unfortunately, Monsanto is still hugely profitable, clearing over 3 million dollars a day. The touted 300 million dollar greenhouse won't hurt them a bit — they've got it covered in just over 3 months. It's very likely that the acclaimed staff will be transferred in, once again relegating southern Arizonans to building their houses and serving their food.

And what about our CAP water reservoir and our precious groundwater? One toxic leak or dump or "accident" in this area could contaminate water supplies for the whole valley. At the forum, the Monsanto rep promised to use a "tarp" to prevent leaching, but I'm not re-assured.

The Free Trade Zone is to encourage trade with Mexico - but Mexico doesn't want their poisons either.

Please, do NOT give this company a tax break. They can afford the full rates, and those additional revenues will be used to help our people in many ways, instead of further en-riching Monsanto executives and shareholders.

Plus, we will need to start a fund for when it's our turn to sue them regarding our own Monsanto "mess".

We wish we could keep Monsanto out altogether, but please, let's not reward them for bringing their toxins to Pima County.

I call on you as elected representatives of the people to not only refuse to issue a letter of no-objection, but to take it a step further and actually issue a letter of "OBJECTION", as the Pima County rep at the forum said was possible.

I thank the honorable Supervisor Richard Elias for his support on this issue from the beginning. I demand any supervisors sitting on the board of a company related to this to recuse themselves.

Let Tucson + Pima County continue to model progressive standards by respecting the land and our people, and rejecting this Monsanto travesty.

Last week the Pima County Health Department told me to come and talk to you. (I told you some last time)

In the last eight+ years in at least four different homes in the Tucson/Pima County area, I have tasted and drunk pesticides in the water out of the faucet in the kitchen for one or more days each time. The smell would be in the air from there also. Both air and water affected me negatively. I have a bottle here I collected in September 2016. Anyone want to taste it?

Also I have tasted pesticides in different foods. In early January 2017 a friend gave me a bag of apples from a store in Tucson/Pima County. They all tasted of pesticides and each one affected me — my whole body especially the major organs etc. like pesticides I breathe in the air. All life threatening. I saved one apple to be reported and tested.

I have found that we get pesticides (odors+) (as well as other toxic chemicals) that come into the house by the sewer and water pipes both inside and outside the house. (The P+ traps do not work to keep out toxic chemicals) Two other adults have smelled them from the bathroom too when I did (one a couple blocks+ away)

People spraying pesticides in the area outside or inside a house as well as insect bombs done inside a nearby home (up to a couple blocks away+) have all come into homes I have been in in the last several years.

I have had to leave these houses to stay alive. Flushing out the sewer does not fix the total problem as this can happen over and over again as (so many) people use these products.

In early December of 2016, I saw a man with a Peoria Pest Control truck who had another sign on his truck saying "Hired by Pima County." He came right in front of me and started spraying pesticides into all the sewer openings along Fairview road as I walked by right next to him. There was no avoiding it for me this time. I held my breath a long time, but still had to breathe it. It smelled different, but still affected me as pesticides do and is not good for people (This was done in the city of Tucson after I had told the city Council about the pesticide problem)

This company was hired by you. What product was used? Who was the manufacturer? Who ordered it to be done?

I am to report to you who does it and yet you are one of the ones who does it. Did you know about this happening? Who exactly did it?

The city told me they spray the parks and I know you do too for the county.

Pesticides also get into our ground water. Someday "God will destroy the destroyers of the earth" (Rev. 11.)
Please do not let any of us be one of those kind of people.

**From:** Dennis Jacques
**To:** COB_mail; District1; DIST2; District3; District4; District5
**Subject:** Monsanto and the "tax break"
**Date:** February 6, 2017 5:00:16 PM

---

Ladies and Gentlemen,
I'm certain you've heard the horror stories about how horrible a corporate neighbor Monsanto makes. The Superfund sites, the cornering of the market in Heirloom seeds to the detriment of family farmers, the lawsuits against farmers whose fields were contaminated by Monsanto's crops! I'm sure that they have have a 'smooth spin' for all of these indications of bad faith on their part... "misunderstanding" "junk science!" etc. but where all of this smoke is, there has to be fire. I would not like to have to put out their fires HERE!
The idea that Pima County should extend a 'tax break' to ENTICE the Company to come HERE, is ridiculous! We should be putting up a FENCE to KEEP IT OUT! While there seems to be little legal recourse to do that, we do NOT have to make it easy!
Everything I've read indicates that Monsanto will be here for a while, short or long, but will, inevitably, take a dump in our front yard, then leave it for us and the EPA to clean up. THIS IS NOT ACCEPTABLE!
All I keep hearing is echoes of: "Danger, danger, Will Robinson!"
I'm not a chronic malcontent. I'm just a concerned citizen who sees bad times ahead, and I want to warn you that you are very close to making things worse, in the long run. Whoever it was that ruined his reputation by holding non-public, sub-rosa negotiations with representatives of what amounts, in my book, to a rogue, criminal enterprise, must have been temporarily insane! I will never trust him again!
I want my grandsons to have a chance at clean air, clean water, and fertile earth, as I did.
Tax break for these criminals? For criminals they are, as indicated by the messes they've made ALL OVER THE COUNTRY. I've heard that the count is up to 87 and counting. With luck, No Tax Break, will result in making it too financially risky for them to bother, and they will leave Tucson, our valley, and this entire state for that matter!
Please, PLEASE.. Vote NO on 'Project Corn'

Dennis M. Jacques, RN

CLERK'S NOTE:
COPY TO SUPERVISORS
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

DATE 2-7-17 BR

**From:** Susan Willis
**To:** District1; DIST2; District4; District5; District3; COB_mail
**Subject:** No Tax Abatement for Monsanto
**Date:** February 6, 2017 7:31:22 PM

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Dear Pima County Supervisor,

I am a concerned Pima County taxpayer who is strongly opposed to the Foreign Trade Zone designation for Monsanto that would greatly reduce their Pima County property tax burden.

I have no faith in Monsanto to be a "good citizen". As a corporate entity, they have no concern for protecting air, land, water, or living beings--including humans. Their main concern is profit, pure and simple.

I am in favor of a healthy ecosystem and healthy people.

I urge you to vote against any tax abatements or giveaways to Monsanto, a global multi-billion-dollar corporation that does not need or merit our charity.

Thank you for your commitment to the people of Pima County.

Susan Willis
[redacted]
Tucson, AZ 85716
520-[redacted]

**From:** Tami Canal
**To:** COB_mail; District1; DIST2; District3; District4; District5
**Subject:** OPPOSED To Monsanto"s Project Corn
**Date:** February 6, 2017 8:12:29 PM

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Attention Pima County Supervisors,

My name is Tami Canal and I am the founder of March Against Monsanto.

On May 20th 2017, we will have our 6th international march in more than 400 cities in 50+ countries.

Our focus is on Monsanto's shameless poisoning of the environment and its inhabitants, with a strong emphasis on the biotech corporation's various toxic herbicides like RoundUp.

It has come to the attention of our more than 1 million followers on social media that Pima is attempting to offer Monsanto a huge tax break in order to build a 155 acre facility.

I am writing to you today to implore you to oppose this deal. I represent thousands of concerned Arizona residents who are strongly opposed to this facility and any/all special tax breaks for a corporation as heinous as Monsanto. This deal is bad for farmers, it's bad for consumers, and it's bad for the environment.

I will be at the meeting on February 21st, along with many concerned citizens. Please be prepared to answer to the tax payers you represent if the final vote is not in line with the will of the community.

Thank you for your time and for your appropriate and responsible attention to this very serious matter.

With Regards,

Tami Canal

March Against Monsanto
Founder & Executive Director
[redacted]
(385)[redacted]

**From:** Rae Whalen
**To:** Rae Whalen
**Cc:** COB_mail; District1; DIST2; District3; District4; District5
**Subject:** Please vote NO to Project Corn.
**Date:** February 6, 2017 5:07:32 PM

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As a Pima County resident, I am completely against Monsanto establishing a presence in Pima County. They have a long history of creating destructive, anti-farmer, anti-community products. Please block them from getting a tax break of any kind. Thank you.

**From:** ELIZABETH LANGLEY
**To:** COB_mail
**Subject:** Reject Tax Incentive for Monsanto (Project Corn)
**Date:** February 7, 2017 8:03:00 AM

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I am writing in opposition to Project Corn. I want you to reject a tax incentive for Monsanto in Pima County.

Elizabeth Langley
[redacted]
Tucson, AZ 85705

**From:** james norris
**To:** COB_mail
**Subject:** Reject a Tax Incentive for Monsanto
**Date:** February 7, 2017 6:32:29 AM

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I have reviewed transcripts of previous public meeting regarding the Monsanto matter and Monsanto's response to comments. Monsanto is not a struggling local business and does not need a tax break to provide operating incentive for a "7 acre greenhouse". Monsanto's corporate ethics are dismal when it comes to manipulating national and international agribusiness, and placing research goals above the health of local populations. Monsanto should categorically agree to provide full disclosure of the composition, quantities and application rates of all chemicals and chemical formulations intended, expected, and actually used on the land it has purchased. I urge the Board of Supervisors to reject a tax incentive for Monsanto.

**From:** Maggie Kohanek
**To:** COB_mail
**Cc:** District1; DIST2; District3; District4; District5
**Subject:** Supervisors... Ramon Valadez, Ally Miller, Sharon Bronson, Supervisor Steve Christy, Richard Elias
**Date:** February 6, 2017 9:13:58 PM

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I am in favor of safe, healthy communities.
I oppose the tax break for Monsanto.
I urge you to vote NO to 'Project Corn'.
I am a concerned citizen, living in Bisbee, AZ.

--
Maggie Kohanek
520[redacted]

NO GMO or ROUNDUP !!!!! NO MONSANTO!!!!

**From:** Robert Gay
**To:** COB_mail; District1
**Subject:** Articulating reasons to deny Monsanto Marana proposal
**Date:** February 7, 2017 10:09:47 AM
**Attachments:** Pima Supervisors 2-7-17.docx

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Greetings Clerk --

It's said that you'll send copies to the supervisors as they gather testimony on this issue, so I appreciate that.

Here's the letter:

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*First a detail: I'm putting this in text form in this email, but realize that the links are not likely to stay "live," so I'll add the letter as an attached document in case you want to refer to them. You can also cut-and-past the URLs into a browser.*

February 7, 2017

Greetings Pima Supervisors,

Having lived in Tucson 20 years till moving to Patagonia this fall, I'm writing as a citizen who's adopted Southern Arizona with a passion, and as an architect who continues to serve clients in Pima County as well as other nearby counties, working toward environmentally responsible house design. My two sons are U of A students also very fond of the Tucson area, and their mom is business owner in the Foothills. Please hear me as a citizen of our bioregion, if not technically of the county at the moment.

I'm offering my thoughts from the awareness that the Sonoran desert is a single, living ecological region, independent of city, county, state, or national borders. For instance, in helping resist ecologically destructive Big Mining proposals in Pima and Santa Cruz counties, I'm working at the moment to protect the Santa Cruz River watershed, and the headwaters of the Pantano Wash, and thus to protect the water supplies of Tucson and adjacent towns.

However, I'm writing you now concerning the Monsanto proposal for a research facility in Marana, where a major tax break has been proposed in order to lure this project as a contributor to the County's coffers, it seems. But why offer them a break, at taxpayer expense? They are such a huge and profitable corporation (197$^{th}$ in Fortune's top 500), that they don't need a break. Monsanto's net sales in 2016 were $14.86 billion, which is about 14 times the Pima County's total revenues of $1.07 billion (from the Adopted Budget FY 2016/17. The profit motive is further mirrored by the total compensation of CEO Hugh Grant, as reported by Forbes: $12.84 million in a recent year, and $143.18 million over 5 years.

Beyond its greed, Monsanto has a long track record, since its founding in 1901, of operating viciously and illegally, and has been called "the world's most dangerous corporation," and you can learn why at this link: http://www.dailykos.com/story/2013/5/25/1211599/-Monsanto-A-Beginners-Guide-to-the-World-s-Most-Dangerous-Corporation].

The major pernicious practices of Monsanto are:

<!--[if !supportLists]-->1. <!--[endif]-->Poisoning air and water with toxic and often

carcinogenic chemicals, starting with its 20th-century introductions (and later defenses) of DDT and Agent Orange.

<!--[if !supportLists]-->2. <!--[endif]-->The genetic engineering of organisms which threaten the natural biodiversity essential for survival, and which are marketed as "Roundup-ready" seeds. GMO corn, for instance, in scientific studies with mice thus far, isbeing shown to cause tumors, cancer, organ failure, and premature death.

<!--[if !supportLists]-->3. <!--[endif]-->The attempt to control – and even patent – seed production, now controlling over 80% of the markets for soy, corn, cotton and canola seed. This has included manufacturing and selling "suicide seeds," which don't reproduce and force farmers to keep on buying new Monsanto seeds.

<!--[if !supportLists]-->4. <!--[endif]-->Further history of Monsanto is at https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Monsanto, including its involvement with PCBs and the early development of nuclear weapons.

In short, it's clear that Monsanto's business operations are based on a heartless exploitation ethic. The consequences are part of the ecological destruction which Mother Nature will resist with the beginnings of what's been called "the Sixth Mass Extinction," so this is a very serious matter indeed.

This situation has evolved from a century of distancing ourselves from nature and blind repetition of the mantra of "jobs and growth," but that limited way of thinking has proved ecologically disastrous and needs to change. Some jobs are OK; some are not. Some growth is OK, some is not. (As Edward Abbey abruptly reminded us, "Growth for the sake of growth is the ideology of the cancer cell.") Without a shift of all of our consciousnesses and economies toward ecological wisdom, we are, quite factually, doomed.

But what's the alternative? For Pima County, can David beat Goliath? Can we learn to think and eat differently?

<!--[if !supportLists]-->1) <!--[endif]-->Please learn about and support the diverse and healthy local food movement, from "farm to table," including articles in the magazine EDIBLE BAJA, local seed libraries and seed banks, community gardens, permaculture projects and teachings, and gardens that teach in local schools such as TUSD's Tucson High and Manzo Elementary School (recognized as a Best Green School for 2012 by the U.S. Green Building Council's Center for Green Schools.) Please give these efforts your full and enthusiastic support in order to help Pima County move toward local self-sufficiency and "food wisdom", working toward people-based Sonoran resilience in the face of the possibly staggering changes yet to come as human-induced climate change increases from a trickle to a torrent. (Hopefully there are no "deniers" among you?)

<!--[if !supportLists]-->2) <!--[endif]-->Pima County could join the majority of nations who have banned genetically engineered foods, and the chemical industries which create them. It's an international movement, as you can learn about at https://www.organicconsumers.org/old_articles/gefood/countrieswithbans.php. It'd be great to have the U of A agree, and the whole State of Arizona, as well as the nation, but right now the County can do such a ban unilaterally. Pima would thus join other US counties in leadership, such as Mendocino County in CA, and Kauai and Hawaii Counties in Hawaii. (An introduction to this worldwide movement can be found at https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Genetic_engineering_in_the_United_States.)

<!--[if !supportLists]-->3) <!--[endif]-->Pima County could also ban the use of Monsanto's popular herbicide Roundup, as many communities and nations have. (SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN presents the carcinogenic potential of glyphosate in this 2015 article: https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/widely-used-herbicide-linked-to-cancer/.) Technical help will be needed for farmers and landscapers making this transition.

<!--[if !supportLists]-->4) <!--[endif]-->Learn from the resources section at http://gmofreeaz.org/resources/

<!--[if !supportLists]-->5) <!--[endif]-->A positive new U of A effort can be praised and learned from by County officials: Gary Nabhan's new Center for Regional Food Studies --http://foodstudies.arizona.edu/.

...and there are lots of other efforts worth supporting in the shift from corporatocracy to a life- and people-based world view in what's becoming the quest for survival in this century. The shift also must be away from fossil-fuel related emissions, toward renewable energy, and eventually, population limitation....but those are for future conversations.

Initially, the transformation to a world view based on a profound respect for the living systems which sustain us, might not produce as many short-term dollars and tax breaks for the already rich, but it will lead to healthier and longer lives for a far greater number of Sonoran residents of all species. It's tough work to change our heads around in this way, but what's more worthwhile?

With Valentine's Day coming next week, I urge you to muster up the clear conviction to care for the future generations -- hopefully seven of them, as our indigenous elders have urged – and not to prostitute the county to a flashy newcomer.

Thanks for your consideration, and please know that many of us "out here" support you in JUST SAYING NO to Monsanto, as we seek a livable, less toxic future. As I see it, we elected you to serve the people, not just a few corporations, and now's the time to remember that. This debate asks all of us to examine -- as deeply as we dare -- what we REALLY love.

Yours in concern, humility and hope --

Robert Castle Gay

[redacted], Patagonia AZ 85624 520-[redacted]

PS. Be on the lookout for a movie called SEED, THE UNTOLD STORY, shown at the Loft (once only), last Sunday. It's planned for wider distribution this spring and illuminates you about our primal connection to seeds as the basis for our food system and personal nourishment, including tribal and other individuals and organizations from Arizona and around the world. Here's the films website: http://www.seedthemovie.com/ and the less-than-3-minute trailer: http://www.seedthemovie.com/trailer.

**From:** julie hallbach
**To:** Julie Hallbach
**Subject:** Monsanto - Vote NO
**Date:** February 7, 2017 10:35:34 AM

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Dear County Supervisor,

I am a concerned Pima County citizen. I urge you to vote NO on ANY support of Monsanto. I believe that the **science** Monsanto practices is deleterious to not just our county, but to the food safety of our planet. I believe that the science, by it's very nature, is **uncontrollable** (wind pollinated crops), **irreversible** (DNA once changed, cannot revert to it's original nature), and **irresponsible** (the future repercussions of lost food sources and of genetically modified food on humans/animals are not yet known).

You are in a position to be of service. You are in a position to protect us.

I urge you to vote NO on any support of Monsanto.

Regards, Julie Hallbach

**From:** Vic & Debbie Ruslavik
**To:** COB_mail
**Subject:** Monsanto
**Date:** February 7, 2017 10:34:28 AM

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Dear Clerk of the Board:

I am writing to urge you to oppose Monsanto's "Project Corn"! What an agricultural, environmental & health nightmare that would be.

Thank you for voting against this!

***Debbie Ruslavik***

**From:** Carly Gordon
**To:** District1; DIST2; district3@pima.com; district4@pima.com; District5; COB_mail
**Subject:** NO on Project Corn
**Date:** February 7, 2017 9:11:13 AM

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I am a concerned citizen.
I am a home gardener, concerned with GMO cross pollination of not only my plants but with the scores of small, organic farmers we are so lucky to have in Tucson.
I oppose tax breaks for Monsanto and urge you to vote NO on 'Project Corn'.

Carly Gordon
520[redacted]

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Noelle Imparato
**To:** COB_mail; DIST2; District3; District4; District5; District1
**Subject:** VOTE NO TO "PROJECT CORN."
**Date:** February 7, 2017 8:30:30 AM

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I am in favor of safe, healthy communities.
I oppose the tax break for Monsanto.
I urge you to vote NO to 'Project Corn'.
I am a concerned citizen.

Noelle Imparato

**From:** Julie Castaneda
**To:** COB_mail
**Subject:** FW: Letter of no objection
**Date:** February 7, 2017 12:22:17 PM

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**From:** Sharon Bronson
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 07, 2017 12:17 PM
**To:** Julie Castaneda
**Subject:** Fwd: Letter of no objection

Add to Monsanto comments

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** Ryan Dulaney <[redacted]>
> **Date:** February 7, 2017 at 12:08:50 PM MST
> **To:** <sharon.bronson@pima.gov>
> **Subject: Letter of no objection**

Madame Chair,

Congratulations on your election win and thank you for taking constituent concerns into consideration on the vote to give tax breaks to the producer ( Monsanto ) for there facility (Marana greenhouse project) via a letter of no objection.

The issues I feel are most relevant to the decision are three. Investment, communication, and precedent.

I can appreciate that a given tax incentive to attract business is an investment into various monies created through the presence of those attracted businesses. In light of Tucson being designated as a UNESCO food heritage city, and listed as a food tourist destination, the many local producers and businesses who have been so very valuable in contributing to those extremely distinguished listings should be the producers being granted tax breaks as an investment. I think I speak for many residents of Pima County in testimony that these producers and the organizations supporting them have drastically improved my diet and thus my health and life. The Community Food Bank and hosted farmers markets, the Pure Joy chefs, Loft field farms, and the Tucson Village Farm just to name a few, are organic producers in Pima County whose products and shared knowledge have had immeasurable positive effect on my diet and quality of life. On a personal level, a letter of objection impeding the development of the facility in Marana will ultimately increase you and your families true wealth of life as well.

Communication. A vote supporting a no objection letter, and granting attractive tax breaks for the producer communicates support for out of state corporate producers over the local population that are themselves invested in the community and contribute to it. Making attractive offers to companies such as this producer communicates that Pima County and it's natural resources are friendly to, regardless of constituent opposition, and in fact preferential to them. Rolling out the welcome mat to a producer who historically is litigated against for deadly

products and practices is not a good signal to send, and it is not likely what voters had in mind when electing their supervisors. Here in Pima County we are blessed with very valuable and unique natural resources. An objection letter will communicate that we intend to continue protecting those resources.

Being that this decision comes during such a period in politics, the opportunity for setting your own precedents is greater than ever. A no objection letter granting tax breaks to producers like Monsanto, and communicating that Pima County is welcoming to them, the precedent is set that more dangerous producers like them can set up shop in Pima County and consume our precious resources. The precedent is set that the risks of this producers practices and facility side effects contaminating the pristine and unique environment and the local population are overlooked for their rather small financial investment and non existent cultural or community investment. As an elected governing body, voting to object the facility and tax break, and take further municipal actions in order to make Pima County Unattractive to producers, sets the precedent that moving forward into the new year, new administration, and soon the new decade Tucson and Pima County are proud of our unspoiled environment, a community of heritage, and the notable and recognized strides we have successfully made towards truly healthy, sustainable, local food production and distribution. The ball is already rolling in Pima County towards food production being accomplished at a greater quality without producers/employers like Monsanto.

I implore you as our elected supervisor to be on board with keeping the ball rolling. Voting to send a objection letter,and deny tax breaks for this facility is one very important decision you can make to help that happen. Please make a decision that embraces and invests in the true health of Pima County and it's heritage.

Sincerely,
Ryan Dulaney

**From:** Meredith Berg
**To:** COB_mail
**Subject:** I urge you to vote no on Monsanto!
**Date:** February 7, 2017 2:19:16 PM

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Dear Clerk,

I am in favor of safe and healthy communities. I oppose the tax break for Monsanto and I oppose Monsanto in general. I urge you to vote No to protect corn! I am a concerned citizen.

Please vote No,
Sincerely,
Meredith Berg
[redacted]
Chandler AZ 85286

Sent from my iPhone

Roxanne Jones

Some of what I said to the Pima County Board of Supervisors on January 17, 2016 at the meeting and some of what I said the following day at their Housing Center needed to be written down for you, so here it is:

GMO foods bothered me and made me sick in the 1990's, but we did not know who to contact. A phone number was given later and I tried it many many times, but could never get through to them. I did not know then that Monsonto was involved and to call them.

As for pesticides, in December of 2000 I was affected and almost died (Monsanto's*) from Round Up* weed killer. I was doing everything as usual and we smelled it come into the house. It burned into my nose, sinus, brain, lungs, heart, liver, etc. All my body hurt alot. Within ten minutes I was completely disabled and soon after that I had to lay down. My Grandmother who was a nurse's aid found I had no heart beat. She saved my life --- Later she died. My lawyer wanted me to see you, but I didn't. Instead, I wrote to you.

Please do not do this anymore.

May I ask you a personal question? If you were to die today, would you be 100% sure of going to heaven? If not, would you like to be? God's Word, the Bible tells us how we can know for sure. May I show you from His Word how to be sure?

I have a story I would like to share with you. Would you like to hear it? It's in this little wordless book. Each page has a color that has a story to it. May I share it with you?

The first page is gold. What kind of things are gold? Yes rings, necklaces etc. Things that are precious are gold. This page tells us of someone who is even more precious than gold and that is God. Do you know who God is? Yes, He's the one who lives in heaven and who made us. He made all that there is, the mountains, the ocean, the trees, the animals and He made me & He made you. He loves us so much. He said in His world, the Bible, "I have loved you with an everlasting love." That means He loves us forever and will never stop loving us, no matter what we do. He loves us so much He wants us to go to heaven to be with Him forever, where there is no pain or sickness or sadness. Everything is good there. God is also holy, completely pure without anything bad. For that reason, there is something that is not in heaven & that is sin. The black page tells us of sin. Do you know what sin is? Yes, sin is anything we do that does not please God and is a transgression of the law. What kind of things are sin? Yes, stealing is taking something for ourselves that belongs to someone else. Lying is saying something that is not true. Coveting is wanting something that belongs to someone else. Disobeying is not doing what parents or authorities, teachers, policemen, husbands etc. tell us to do, when they are asking us to do good things, not bad things against God. Pride is as seeing ourselves for better than we are and better than others. Not loving God with all our heart all the time and not loving our neighbor as ourselves is also sin. Wanting the biggest and best for ourselves and leaving others with less is selfish and is also sin. I know that I have sinned in my life. Do you know if you have sinned or not? Yes, all of us have sinned. The Bible says, "All have sinned and come short of the glory of God." That means that all of us have sinned and come way far short of being perfect like God. We were born in sin and sinned against God. None of us is as perfect and as holy as God is and God cannot allow sin in His presence. Also God is just and has to punish sin. The Bible says, "The wages of sin is death." That means, for our sin, we deserve to die and be separated from God forever in a place called hell. That is how bad our sin is to God. He cannot just let it go by. It has to be punished. Also the Bible says, "All our righteousness is as filthy rags." All the good that we try to do in our own strength is as filthy rags to such a holy God. We are selfish even in the good we try to do before such a holy and all knowing God. The Bible says, "There is none that doeth good, no, not one." None of us is good enough to go to heaven. If we could be born without sin, never sin and always do perfectly as God does, then we could go to heaven. But we have sinned, and God does not allow sin in His presence and has to punish sin. We deserve to be separated from Him forever, and we cannot save ourselves or clean ourselves up to go to heaven. God did not want to leave us like that. He sent His own Son Jesus Christ (the God man) into this world. He was born of the virgin

Gen. 1:1, 26
Mt. 6:9
Jeremiah 31:3
John 14:1-3
Isaiah 6:3
Exodus 20:1-17
Romans 3:23; 5:12
Isaiah 53:4-6
Psalm 51:5
Rev. 21:27
Romans 6:23
Mt. 25:46; Rev. 20:15
Mark 9:43, 44
Isaiah 64:6
Romans 3:10, 12
Psalm 14:3
I John 5:7; John 1:1, 14
I Tim. 3:16
Psalm 2; Psalm 110; Prov. 30
I Tim. 2:5, 6

**Deseret Romero**

**From:** Meredith Berg <marathon78@icloud.com>
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 7, 2017 9:41 AM
**To:** Deseret Romero

Dear John Moffat,
I am a resident of Chandler, AZ and am very concerned about Monsanto wanting to move into my state. Has the Tucson Metro Area's Pima County set up a citizen's task force to carefully review Monsanto's purchase of land in the county that would be potentially granted a "subsidy of sorts" through being part of the international free trade zone in Tucson. Will superweeds be monitored around the site and will the siting potentially impact Tucson's status as a UNESCO City of Food Cultures for its 4,100 year history of native desert agriculture? I am doing anything within my power, Mr. Moder, to keep Monsanto out of Arizona! Please listen to those of us who are deeply concerned and help us stop them from moving in.
Thank you,
Meredith Berg
[redacted], Chandler, AZ 85286

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Devon Vaughn
**To:** COB_mail; District1; DIST2; District3; District4; District5
**Subject:** Monsanto Corn Project
**Date:** February 6, 2017 11:34:32 AM

To PIMA County District Supervisors:

As a concerned Tucson citizen I urge you to deny tax break incentives to Monsanto. Their research and other efforts into gmo products are still very controversial and often not in the best interest of citizens.

I understand they own the property and will likely go forward with their planned construction activities. However, they do NOT need to be given a tax incentive to do so. Please do the right thing and protect citizens health interests rather than consider only the monetary issues behind the tax break.

Pima County citizens deserve better! I urge you to vote NO on tax breaks for Monsanto.

Sincerely,

Devon Vaughn
[redacted]
Tucson, AZ 85757

CLERK'S NOTE:
COPY TO SUPERVISORS
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

DATE 2-6-17 BL

**From:** Marinna Gaither
**To:** COB_mail; District1; DIST2; District3; District4; District5
**Subject:** OPPOSE project corn
**Date:** February 6, 2017 12:53:11 PM

I am in favor of safe, healthy communities! I oppose the tax break for Monsanto! I urge you to vote NO on "project corn." I am a concerned citizen and I do not approve of Monsanto poisoning our seeds, crops, soil, and air!
Please think about your children and your children's children.. keep our beautiful state health and safe!
-Marinna Nowlin

**From:** Alison Manes
**To:** CQB_mail
**Subject:** Please say NO to Monsanto!
**Date:** February 6, 2017 12:37:40 PM

I am in favor of safe, healthy communities.
I oppose the tax break for Monsanto.
I urge you to vote NO to 'Project Corn'.
I am a concerned citizen.

[redacted], Tucson, AZ 85745 520-[redacted]

Blessings,

Alison Hershey Manes

Owner Ali's Original Art

Ali's Original Art

**From:** Mitchell Timin
**To:** COB_mail; District1; DIST2; District3; District4; District5
**Subject:** Tax Breaks
**Date:** February 6, 2017 12:54:15 PM

My strong preference is NO TAX BREAK for Monsanto. If you want to know why I feel that way, read my article here:
http://earthchurch.blogspot.com/2014/05/the-red-herring-in-gmo-controversy.html

February 6, 2017

Pima County Board of Supervisors,

Please vote **no on Monsanto's request for Federal Trade Zone Designation**. The following questions and concerns are prompting county wide opposition.

1.**Since 1901 Monsanto has specialized in the production of highly toxic chemicals.** The sale of Roundup, a highly toxic weed killer brought Monsanto $4.8 billion in revenue in fiscal 2016.

They also produce GMO seed. Within a few years, the weeds develop stronger strains, and the herbicides loose effectiveness, and so Monsanto is continuously developing new more toxic weed killer, and stronger strains of GMO seeds that are not harmed by Roundup.

2.**Roundup kills weeds and other plants that are not the GMO produced seeds of Monsanto.** This poses a threat to our local natural and organic farms, and our desert landscapes.

3.**Do we have any guarantees that Monsanto will not use the 155 acres as an open field farm to develop and test new unapproved chemicals and GMO seeds?**

4.**The 'Agreement' with Monsanto is actually a 'non binding understanding.'** So Monsanto can legally change their plans on how to use the 155 acres they have bought in Avra valley at any time.

5.**After receiving FTZ designation, Monsanto could decide to alter or abandon the greenhouse project for economic reasons**: i.e., too expensive to build, too high construction costs, too many employees required. This would leave the county with no economic benefits from giving Monsanto tax breaks.

There's no current market for greenhouse cultivated seeds. To determine the effectiveness of the new toxins on open GMO farms, they will need to conduct open field research of the new GMO seeds and the new untested, and unapproved toxic chemicals to be used in the latest versions of Roundup.

6. **Glyphosate in Roundup is a non-selective herbicide, meaning it will kill most plants**. Oregon State Univ. .

7. **Local windstorms, and monsoons on experimental crops in open fields, would contaminate the air, the drinking water,and the soil,** posing a potential threat to organic and traditional crops on neighboring farms, and the traditional tribal crops of the neighboring Tohono O'Odham Indian Reservation.

8. **Roundup and GMOs: a potential threat to our Saguaro Cactus,and the environment in ur National and State and local Parks.** An Avra Valley test site for new Roundup and GMOs poses a long term threat to the Saguaro cactus and other indigenous desert plants in the Saguaro National Park, the Sonoran Desert Museum, and other neighboring parks. What will our desert landscape look like after 10 years of exposure to Monsanto's 155-acre test lab?

9. **In the next 10 years, we could see the collapse of our $2.2 billion tourist trade**. The neighboring 95-acre Sonoran Desert Museum draws 750,000 visitors annually to see their 1,200 plant species, and 230 animal species. The Saguaro Nation Park has 400,000 visitors every year.

10. **The following local businesses depend on the tourist trade**: resorts, hotels, rental condos and apartments, B&Bs, golf courses, hundreds of restaurants, entertainment, stores, boutiques, galleries, grocery stores, gas stations, site seeing, parks , museums, transportation, and malls. The 40 jobs Monsanto is promising won't compensate for the loss of jobs, businesses, sales tax revenues, and loss of quality of life in Pima County.

11. **California has just made the determination that Roundup's chemical Glyphosate is carcinogenic**. U.S. Law says that researchers cannot buy seeds from Monsanto for research purposes without Monsanto's approval. All research in the US is with companies that Monsanto approves of. All the new conclusive evidence of the harmful effects of Roundup and GMOs is being conducted by companies and individuals in other countries.

12. **Recent Scientific Research definitively confirms that serious liver disease has resulted from chronic ultra-low dose of Roundup exposure.** 2016. Prof. Gilles-Eric Seralini of the Univ. of Caen, France, and follow up studies at King's College, London, Dept. of Medical and Molecular Genetics, by Mesnage R, Renney G. Seralini GE, Ward M, Antiniou, MN. Rats given an extremely low, environmentally relevant dose of a commercial Roundup, thousands of times below what is permitted by regulators, resulted in non-alcohol fatty liver disease.

13. **Roundup exposure from GMO foods 'can have serious health consequences, especially for children'**. Leonard Trasande, Prof of Pediatrics, Environmental Medicine and Population Health, NYU School of Medicine.

A test lab and the probability of testing in open GMO fields to be conducted 1.5 miles from Marana High School is not taking care of the health of our children.

14. **EPA currently investigating whether Glyphosate-based herbicides are safe for humn exposure**. Cathy Milbourne, press officer for the US.EPA said they are_currently reviewing the Kings College Study, and Glyphosates

15.**Communities around the world have been involved in hundreds of law suits** against Monsanto for the harm these chemicals have done to the health of their crops, and their communities. Monsanto does not have a good track record when it comes to international trade. "Seed, The Untold Story". Documentary film.

16.**Current Lawsuits Against Monsanto**. Delaware, last Wed, and last month in New York, and California: lawsuits accusing Monsanto of long knowing that the glyphosate in Roundup was hazardous to human health. Reuter.com, Tucson.com.

17.**May 26, 2016. Monsanto ordered to pay $46.5 million .in PCB lawsuit**. At least 700 lawsuits against Monsanto are pending, claiming that their non-Hodgkin lymphoma was caused by exposure to PCBs manufactured until the late 1970s. These PCB lawsuits give evidence of long term effects of Monsanto's untested toxic chemicals on human health.

**The County should be allocating the tax revenues from Monsanto to build new roads, support the schools, and to reduce taxes for small local farms, and businesses**. And we may need those tax dollars to cover the costs of future law suits against Monsanto if we were to discover unreported spills, contamination of our drinking water, our schools, and farms.

It is clear that Monsanto does not have a history of developing a good, strong working relationship with the communities they enter. They are in the business of showing profits for their shareholders. They have not proven that they are reliable partners in the business of growing a strong economic future for the communities they move to.

**To ensure that we are creating a vibrant future for our community, we ask that The Board of Supervisors hold Public Hearings giving their constituents a chance to speak directly with their elected officials.**

**Please vote No on FTZ Designation, and No on a tax break for Monsanto.**

**Thank you.**
**Sincerely,**
**Marilyn Newberry**
**Pima County Resident**
[redacted]

**From:** Karina_manzanedo
**To:** COB_mail
**Subject:** "PROJECT CORN"
**Date:** February 5, 2017 5:43:47 PM

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As a concerned citizen I urge you to vote NO to "Project Corn". I oppose the tax break for Monsanto an am in favor of health and safety for not only ours but future generations as well.

Sent from my iPhone

FEB 06 '17 AM 08:53 PC CLK OF RD

CLERK'S NOTE:
COPY TO SUPERVISORS
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

DATE 2-6-17 BK

**From:** [redacted] on behalf of Belle Starr
**To:** COB_mail
**Cc:** Melissa Diane Smith
**Subject:** Letter from Bill McDorman re: Monsanto
**Date:** February 6, 2017 8:44:33 AM
**Attachments:** BOSMonsantoRMSALetter.Bill.pdf

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Good morning,

I am attaching a letter from former Native Seeds/SEARCH Executive Director, Bill McDorman who is now Director of the Rocky Mountain Seed Alliance.

We highly recommend an important movie that just screened at the Loft yesterday called *Seed: The Untold Story*. It clearly illustrates the plight of communities who align with Monsanto. I am happy to send a link to the ENTIRE Board if you would like. It would shed some light on our extreme distrust of this multi-national corporation.

With respect,

Belle

Don't miss the Mountain West Seed Summit on March 3rd and 4th in Santa Fe, NM!

Join Your Alliance!
RockyMountainSeeds.org

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*Belle Starr*
RockyMountainSeeds.org
**Rocky Mountain Seed Alliance**
Ketchum, Idaho

**Seed School**
Cornville, Arizona

[redacted]

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

**From:** Marilyn Wrigley
**To:** COB_mail
**Subject:** Oppose Project Corn
**Date:** February 5, 2017 8:31:17 PM

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Hello Clerk of the Board,
I am writing to you to express my opposition to Project corn and ask that Monsanto not be given a tax break from Pima County. I have lived in Arizona for over four decades now and I cannot support detrimental actions of Monsanto along with those who wish to further the interests of this company.

Thank you,
Marilyn Wrigley

**From:** cara pepe
**To:** COB_mail
**Subject:** Opposed to project. Corn
**Date:** February 6, 2017 7:50:45 AM

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Say no to monsanto! Our health depends on it. Read the research and study. Lawsuits against monsanto.
No no no
Cara pepe

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

**From:** Hans
**To:** COB_mail; District1; DIST2; District3; District4; District5
**Subject:** Protect Pima County from Monsanto!
**Date:** February 6, 2017 6:30:41 AM

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I am in favor of safe, healthy communities.
I oppose the tax break for Monsanto.
I urge you to vote NO to 'Project Corn'.
I am a concerned citizen.

Instead of giving on of the biggest producers of cancer causing pesticides a tax break you really should support Organic farms/
Mono culture of GMOs and the use of pesticides is destroying the earth and polluting waterways.
You must support human wellbeing over corporate greed.

Regards.

Hans van Huijkelom

FEB 08 17AM09:53 PC CLK OF BD

**From:** Sarahni Stumpf
**To:** COB_mail
**Subject:** opposition to Monsanto Project Corn
**Date:** February 5, 2017 9:26:08 PM

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Dear Pima County Supervisors,

I am a resident of Pima County, zip code 85713. I wish to voice my opposition to Pima County granting tax breaks to Monsanto for their development of an experimental site on their property in Marana.

This company is wealthy and successful enough that they can certainly manage the tax requirements of the property they have purchased. Granting them this boon implies that Pima County is encouraging the "Project Corn" which will include the use of experimental chemicals and new gmo-species. The risk of these chemicals to our water shed and dust bowl as well as the inadvertent spread of gmo-corn into our community is serious.

Please insist upon proper environmental impact studies, public disclosure of the types and amounts of chemicals that will be used, and some method of establishing a contingency program for any harmful effect that should occur in nearby communities.

I encourage you instead to give tax breaks to local chemical free growers, small family farms, and any other group that encourages the enhancement of Pima County's health and well-being.

No doubt Monsanto Corporation is a fierce and powerful entity. Pima County is the ground upon which we live and breath and grow and play and cry. As our elected Board of Supervisors please know that concerned actions for the safety and happiness of our residents and future residents are more powerful than Monsanto's money.

Thank you.
Sarahni Stumpf (AKA Susan P. Stumpf)

FEB 06 17 PM 09:53 PC CLK OF BD

**From:** joy vargo
**To:** COB_mail
**Subject:** Please Reject a Tax Incentive for Mosanto
**Date:** February 6, 2017 10:21:24 AM

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Dear Clerk of the Board of Pima County Supervisors,

I'm writing to you today to ask you to reject a tax incentive for Monsanto, and to oppose "Project Corn", because of my firm belief in the fact that allowing Monsanto to grow experimental crops in Avra Valley and use experimental chemicals on them poses a very serious public health threat to the air, soil, and water in surrounding areas AND threatens Tucson's precious UNESCO "City of Gastronomy" designation. Furthermore, by allowing Monsanto to operate in Pima County without any public disclosure, and negotiating tax incentive packages with Monsanto without any public input, the Pima County Board of Supervisors would directly be contributing to the deterioration of health, human rights, and democracy in Pima County.

I am in favor of safe, healthy communities.

I oppose the tax break for Monsanto.

I urge you to vote NO to 'Project Corn'.

I am a concerned citizen.

Sincerely,

Joy Vargo

--
When you have only two pennies left in the world, buy a loaf of bread with one,
and a lily with the other.

-Chinese Proverb

FEB 06 2017 AM 10:23 PC CLK OF BD

January 25, 2017

Supervisor Sharon Bronson, Chair
Chuck Huckleberry, County Administrator
130 West Congress Street, 5th Floor
Tucson, Arizona 85701

**Re: Monsanto Project; Foreign Trade Zone Request**

Dear Ms. Bronson and Mr. Huckleberry:

The Marana Chamber of Commerce has unanimously voted to support the Monsanto project in the area adjacent to the Town of Marana. We believe the location of Monsanto's state of the art greenhouse will have an extremely beneficial impact on the business community of the Town and the residents of Pima County overall.

After careful review of all aspects of the project, we see the following benefits:

1. An economic boon by way of an increase in tourism, job growth, housing and sales tax increases, as soon as construction begins.

2. Even with the Foreign Trade Zone (FTZ) status, tax revenue generated to the Marana School District will rise from $818 to more than $237,000 annually.

3. This state of the art technology will create up to 90 full and part-time jobs (not counting the jobs created just in building the facility).

We fully support Monsanto's request to tax abatement created by FTZ status, as well as the positive impact this will have overall for Pima County and the Town of Marana. Thank you for your consideration of our position.

Very truly yours,

Javier Avalos
Chair, Marana Chamber of Commerce

CLERK'S NOTE:
COPY TO SUPERVISORS
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

DATE 2-6-17 BK

cc: Ally Miller
Ramón Valadez
Steve Christy
Richard Elías
Mayor Ed Honea, Town of Marana
Ed Stolmaker, CEO, Marana Chamber of Commerce

2414161.DOCX

## Deseret Romero

**From:** Ricci Romero
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 1, 2017 4:22 PM
**To:** Maura Kwiatkowski; Deseret Romero; Patrick Cavanaugh
**Subject:** FW: Please Reject Monsanto Tax Break

For your information.

**From:** Hunseng Chao [mailto[redacted]]
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 1, 2017 3:37 PM
**To:** COB_mail <COB_mail@pima.gov>
**Subject:** Please Reject Monsanto Tax Break

Dear Ms. Castaneda, Supervisor Ally Miller, Supervisor Sharon Bronson, Supervisor Ramon Valadez, Supervisor Steve Christy, and Supervisor Richard Elias,

I respectfully request that you not allow Monsanto to obtain the FTZ or PILOT designation, allowing them to significantly reduce their taxes to Pima County. As you know, Monsanto has been the purveyor of some of the most toxic substances known to man (including DDT, PCB's, dioxin and Agent Orange), the latter which to this day Monsanto denies causes any health concerns despite the consensus of health experts and multiple research studies, including the CDC, Institute of Medicine (now the Health and Medicine Division at the National Academy of Science, Engineering and Medicine), and the VA. Thus, their credibility is at best questionable. While initially they will be keeping crops limited inside a greenhouse, there is nothing to stop them from eventually planting GM crops out in the open with their many associated problems (below), no matter what they promise now.

Monsanto's environmental record has been reprehensible, with contamination of the area surrounding many of their projects (ex. Hawaii and South America)(http://www.i-sis.org.uk/argentinasRoundupHumanTragedy.php) and associated, significant increases in severe, long-term health problems in those communities. While they claim that the greenhouse project will be very safe, limiting the possible escape of their genetically modified product, accidents can and will happen, which will end up tainting our environment and put our native crops at risk. Besides problems with cross-pollination, GM crops have been found to grow where they were never cultivated (http://www.nature.com/news/2010/100806/full/news.2010.393.html), so it is not inconceivable that any escaping product can contaminate the environment, even at distances not proximate to the greenhouse or its original target area, as reported in the *Nature* article.

Monsanto claims that the GM products have been created to help feed the world by decreasing use of chemicals, decreasing the need for water, increasing yield, and thus improving sustainability. While GM crops do initially decrease the use of herbicides and pesticides, resistance to both has been developing rapidly, producing superweeds, requiring increased use of herbicides (glyphosate) and the need to add another herbicide-resistance gene to newly-developed GM crops, as well as the need to spray pesticides on crops formulated to be resistant to insects (https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/farmers-say-gmo-corn-no-longer-resistant-to-pests/). To date, GM crops also have not required less water and therefore are not more sustainable than conventional and definitely not more than organic agriculture. While GM crops initially had better yields than conventionally- or organically-grown crops, this is no longer true, as a recent comparison of canola crop yield between Canada (where GM canola is cultivated) and Western Europe (where GM canola is not used) shows (https://www.nytimes.com/2016/10/30/business/gmo-promise-falls-short.html?smid=fb-share&_r=0). Therefore, all the advantages that Monsanto and GMO proponents tout are nonexistent.

I know the amount of taxes that Monsanto would be paying over what is being received from that property at present and the promise of 25-50 jobs with benefits make it very tempting to accept their offer and the FTZ designation. However, Monsanto made over $7B in 2016, so they do not need tax breaks -- we are going to need the money they should be paying in taxes to remedy the impact on the environment and the health of Pima County residents, especially those in the Marana School District close to the property.

Thank you for your consideration.

**Ricci Romero**

**From:** Hunseng Chao <[redacted]>
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 1, 2017 3:37 PM
**To:** COB_mail
**Subject:** Please Reject Monsanto Tax Break

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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Hun-Seng Chao, M.D.

P.S. -- I don't know about you, but I do not want a poison chemical company making my food!

CLERK'S NOTE:
COPY TO SUPERVISORS
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

DATE 2/1/17