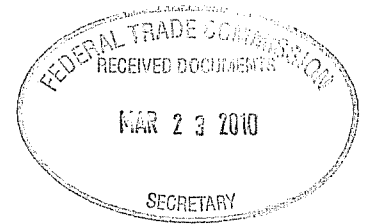


10 March 2009



FTC Office of the Secretary
600 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.
Washington, DC 20580.

RE: Sale of Wild Oats Store on Marginal Way, Portland, ME

Dear FTC Secretary:

I am writing to support the sale of the Wild Oats store on Marginal Way in Portland, ME. I am certain there are many in this area who have been anticipating a local Trader Joe's for many years.

Trader Joe's offers healthy, all natural, and organic food much like Whole Foods, but without the inflated prices—and that is something to which the people of Portland, ME and the surrounding areas will be quite receptive. Both stores attract many of the same kinds of people and are in direct competition with each other, but they also have other offerings that are distinct to their own store that will allow both of them to thrive in this regional area.

Please do not delay any longer in allowing this sale to go through.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Russell