

The following transcript from the Sydney hearings, which involves testimony from a Ms Sales (apparently Louise Sales is the 'Emerging Technologies Coordinator' at Friends of the Earth Australia), is factually incorrect, and needs to be revised or removed. I have not had and do not have any funding from Monsanto, and nor does the Department (actually School) in which I work have such funding. Thank you. Michael Jones, Murdoch University, Perth.

Transcript from the Productivity Commission Public Hearing in Sydney –

MR LINDWALL: So how would you respond to someone like Professor Mike Jones, a biochemist at Murdoch University, who testified to us in Perth the other day that in fact GM products are safer than organics, that they are much more strictly regulated, organics are not subject to any regulation, and that their food testing standards are much higher and that in fact, for human health, it's better to consume GM than organic?

MS SALES: I think he's firstly - I think it's important to note that he is actually funded by Monsanto, and

MR LINDWALL: Well, that sounds very much like a conspiracy theory.

MS SALES: No, no, it's not a conspiracy, it's actually all fact and you can actually look that up and see that, but also he is speaking outside his areas - - -

MR BAXTER: Is it him, or is it the university that is funded?

MS SALES: His department is funded by Monsanto so effectively he is funded by Monsanto. But irrespective of that, he is actually speaking outside his area of expertise. He is a biotechnologist, he is not a nutritionist, and if you actually look, eminent nutritionists like Rosemary Stanton have raised concerns about the safety of GM food. Yes, I mean, there is - I mean, the GM crop industry is at pains to say that these techniques are safe but yes, there has still been no long-term safety studies.