Cheese Dump - 1996

In September of 1996 someone dumped cheese on the National Cheese Exchange in Green Bay, WI. The direct result was farmers losing 30% of their pay price in just one day - a catastrophe for farmers, to say the least. Then Governor of Wisconsin, Tommy G.Thompson, launched a task force to find out what had happened. The task force eventually found out that Kraft Foods was the culprit behind the Green Bay price fixing that had caused our nation's dairy farmers so much pain and hardship.

To top it all off, dairy farmers in 1996 faced Black Friday just as Freedom to Farm was more like Freedom to Fail. Black Friday should have been called Red Friday since it involved lots of red ink.

Corporate agriculture take over has been promoted since the early 1960's, it is high time to take this big train off the tracks.

The law is not the Law Anymore

I specifically asked Mr.Tobey why DoJ did not do a better job of enforcing anti-trust in agriculture? His answer: "Technically, the law is not the law anymore." So I asked, "If the law is not the law anymore, what is it?"

The "Greater Good" Definition

Mr Tobey said, "It's about the Greater Good," I asked him to define the Greater Good. Mr. Tobey said, "If total vertical integration feeds people cheaper, DoJ would not stand in its way." Well, I can attest that answer did not sit very well with our crowd, and Mr. Tobey got an earful. I feel that up to this point Mr Tobey believed this farm controversy was a misunderstanding, or a just different point of view. For the first time, Mr. Tobey realized this was more - that there were deep-seated issues at hand with a lot of passion behind them.

Farmers are Pawns in Corporate Agribusiness Game

So what is this "Greater Good"? If Mr. Tobey said, "If total vertical integration feeds people cheaper, DoJ would not stand in its way." Well, I can attest that answer did not sit very well with our crowd, and Mr. Tobey got an earful. I feel that up to this point Mr Tobey believed this farm controversy was a misunderstanding, or a just different point of view. For the first time, Mr. Tobey realized this was more - that there were deep-seated issues at hand with a lot of passion behind them.

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