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Andrew C. Wardell
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July 19, 2021

The Honorable Shawn LaTourette
Acting Commissioner
New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
436 East State Street
Trenton, New Jersey 08608

The Honorable Judith Persichilli
Commissioner
New Jersey Department of Health
369 South Warren Street
Trenton, New Jersey 08608

**RE: NYLABONE – CENTRAL GARDEN
& PET CORPORATION**

Dear Acting Commissioner LaTourette & Commissioner Persichilli:

It is with hope that this letter finds you both well and, additionally, that the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and Department of Health may be willing to assist in reviewing concerns shared by a number of our residents surrounding the **Nylabone pet supply facility located at 85 West Sylvania Avenue, Neptune City (Monmouth)**. Please note that this is my second attempt to have these concerns addressed, the first being a letter dated February 16, 2021.

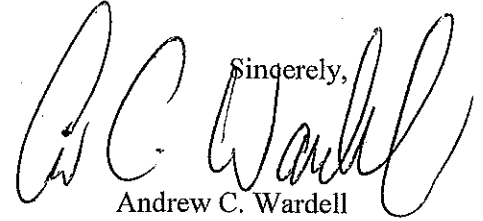
The Nylabone location has been a mainstay in Neptune City for decades, even choosing to remain within the Borough and constructing their new location when other options were available. Nevertheless, I am compelled to contact your Departments in hopes of easing continuous complaints that many of my residents have expressed regarding the permeation of pet food byproduct odors.

Both Nylabone as well as their parent company, **Central Garden & Pet Corporation**, have been forthcoming with information over the years when contacted, even attempting to rectify the matter through the implementation of a filter to reduce overall odor amounts released into the air. However, given the proximity to residential properties and neighborhoods, there have been countless occasions where residents state they have been inundated by these odors due to the processing of Nylabone products. In fact, some have reported becoming "ill" from high amounts of inhalation.

Although health officials and Nylabone executives have assured that byproduct smells are neither hazardous nor dangerous, the fact remains that some of our residents are greatly concerned. It is imperative that we on the governing body seek to belay their fears especially when implications to overall health are alleged.

It is my hope that the Departments could review these incidents and circumstances pertaining to resident complaints. Further, if possible, we would greatly welcome an opportunity for State agents to address resident concerns through a virtual information forum in the near future.

Your time and attention to this matter is genuinely appreciated. I look forward to hearing from your office as well as how best we can work with the Department of Environmental Protection and Department of Health in addressing the concerns of Neptune City residents.

Sincerely,

Andrew C. Wardell
Mayor
Borough of Neptune City

cc: Olivia Glenn, Deputy Commissioner
Jane Rosenblatt, Acting Chief of Staff
Paul Baldauf, Assistant Commissioner
Andrea Martinez-Mejia, Chief of Staff
David Adinaro, Deputy Commissioner
Senator Vin Gopal
Assemblywoman Joann Downey
Assemblyman Eric Houghtaling
Councilmember Brian J. Thomas
Councilwoman Danielle Pappas
Councilmember David Calhoun
Councilmember Glen Kocsis
Councilmember Pamela Renee
Councilmember John Pientrunti