



MIGHTY
EARTH

Whole Foods Market, Inc.
550 Bowie Street
Austin, TX 78703-4644

January 5, 2018

Dear Mr. Mackey and Mr. Bezos,

Congratulations on all that your leadership at Whole Foods has accomplished in raising standards and public expectations for sustainability in our global food system- the standards set by Whole Foods have improved growing practices, environmental outcomes, worker well-being, and animal rights around the world. We are however concerned that Whole Foods does not have standards for suppliers in place to ensure meat is produced in an environmentally responsible manner, and is sourcing meat from one of the nation's recognized top polluters - Tyson Foods.¹

The Whole Foods customer relies on the company to provide them with the best products: highest in quality and meeting the most rigid of environmental standards, practices, and innovation. As such, it is expected of the company to source sustainably produced food from responsible suppliers and to use its purchasing power to demand reform of laggard suppliers.

We contacted Whole Foods in August regarding the [results of our investigation](#) showing Tyson and its peers to be the primary source of water pollution in the country. Our findings have generated significant attention and traction among the media, consumers, impacted communities, and investors:

- A coalition of investors has filed a shareholder proposal with Tyson's board concerning the company's water pollution impacts;
- More than 230 local business, farmer, environmental, and community groups impacted by pollution from meat signed an open letter to Tyson's CEO, urging the company to implement improved farming practices across its supply chain to reduce run-off pollution;
- A growing grassroots campaign advocating for #CleanItUpTyson on social media; and
- Nationwide media coverage highlighting Tyson's responsibility for driving water pollution. Notable articles include [the Guardian](#), [the New Republic](#), the [Independent](#), and [Modern Farmer](#).

We know that Tyson is a leading supplier to Whole Foods: you don't need us to tell you that this partnership put Whole Food's reputation as a sustainability leader at risk. What steps has Whole Foods has taken to improve the environmental impact of its meat supply chain?

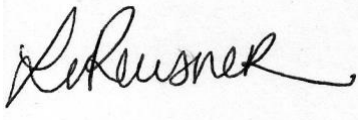
As our campaign expands, we would like to discuss with you the easy and high-impact steps you can take to improve practices in the meat supply chain, as elaborated on in our report referenced in our previous

¹ As identified by Mighty Earth's investigation into the meat supply chain and its environmental impacts in the United States (available at www.mightyearth.org/heartlanddestruction), as well as the EPA's toxic discharge inventory.

letters. We would appreciate a response by January 22, 2018 and would welcome the opportunity to discuss this further in-person, perhaps the week of Feb 5 in Austin, TX.

Whole Foods has done so much to provide environmentally responsible food, encourage the dramatic growth in organic agriculture, support meat alternatives, and advance our national discussion about sustainable food. We hope that by taking action to improve Tyson Foods and other meat suppliers, you can maintain and continue to build on this tradition of sustainability leadership.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lucia von Reusner". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "L".

Lucia von Reusner
Campaign Director, Mighty Earth

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Glenn Hurowitz". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "G".

Glenn Hurowitz
CEO, Mighty Earth