

PEOPLE FOR
THE ETHICAL
TREATMENT
OF ANIMALS

April 13, 2020

Noel White, CEO
Tyson Foods

Dear Mr. White,

After learning that Tyson shut down a pig slaughterhouse in Columbus Junction, Iowa, after more than two dozen workers contracted COVID-19, I'm writing with a lifesaving suggestion. Why not modernize and get ahead of the consumer curve by shutting down meat production permanently and making the transition to producing only vegan meat instead? PETA would chip in to defray the cost of retraining employees.

Filthy factory farms threaten everyone's health—not just that of workers and meat-eaters—by providing a breeding ground for deadly diseases. Swine flu—which came from farmed pigs—has killed hundreds of thousands of people worldwide, and bird flu can spread easily on severely crowded chicken farms. Now, while the world is battling the current pandemic—which originated in a meat market—it's crucial that all of us, including Tyson, do our part to make positive changes that will help prevent future outbreaks.

Even before the current crisis, working on a kill floor was a dangerous and dirty job. Workers are obligated to keep up with absurdly fast slaughter speeds, in addition to witnessing and participating in revolting practices, such as hanging live chickens upside down by their legs and stunning petrified pigs. Now they also have to worry about becoming infected with COVID-19.

Tyson already produces some vegan meats, so while the writing is on the wall, please switch to producing only vegan meats, which aid human health, the environment, and, of course, animals.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Very truly yours,

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