



July 26, 2023

James C. Foster, CEO
Charles River Laboratories International Inc.

Via e-mail: James.C.Foster@crl.com

Dear Mr. Foster:

As you know, PETA is a Charles River Laboratories International Inc. shareholder. We are deeply concerned that our company has apparently resumed importation of long-tailed macaques (*Macaca fascicularis*) from Cambodia to Canada and likely to other countries. This contradicts your February statement to shareholders and media and calls into question your commitment to ending the smuggling of monkeys to laboratories. Please address the following questions:

1. Has Charles River resumed its purchase and/or importation of monkeys from Cambodia to non-U.S. countries?
2. How is Charles River ensuring that the monkeys it purchases and/or imports from Cambodia are purpose-bred and not abducted from their forest homes?
3. As it is impossible for Charles River to have put in place an adequate DNA-testing program, which necessarily takes several years and multiple generations of captive breeding, is the company revoking its previous commitment to DNA testing, which is the only certain method of confirming that all imported long-tailed macaques have been purpose-bred?

In February, when you announced to shareholders that Charles River was under federal investigation and had voluntarily halted *all* shipments of monkeys from Cambodia, you further stated that [our company had been served a subpoena](#) by the U.S. Department of Justice. This move followed indictments of Cambodian officials and nationals for the alleged importation of wild-caught long-tailed macaques falsely labeled as captive-bred. Such [smuggling is a violation of both the U.S. Lacey Act and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora \(CITES\) treaty](#). Charles River is also [facing the surrender](#) of multiple shipments—worth tens of millions of dollars—of long-tailed macaques who were imported into the U.S. from Cambodia in 2022. Class-action lawsuits filed on July 18 demonstrate how outraged shareholders are at the alleged failure of Charles River’s board to disclose that the company “had engaged in illegal activity with respect to its importation of non-human primates.”

Between February and April, Canadian Trade Data Online indicated that there had been no imports of live primates from Cambodia. However, [in May, \\$11,749,000 worth of live primates from Cambodia were reported](#), which was more money in a single month of imports of Cambodian-origin monkeys to Canada than had been recorded for any year in the last decade. A review of the most current version of the [Canadian Importers Database](#) shows that Charles

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- PETA Foundation (U.K.)

River Laboratories Montreal ULC–Laboratoires Charles is the only major primate importer from Cambodia on record. We remind you that, in addition to the issues raised above, [CITES authorities have elevated their concerns](#) over the legitimacy of the trade of long-tailed macaques from Cambodia and have now mandated that the trade in long-tailed macaques from Cambodia, Indonesia, the Philippines, and Vietnam be subjected to additional in-country scrutiny.

Charles River imports monkeys to its facilities around the world. However, importing monkeys to countries other than the U.S. should not absolve the company of its obligation to ensure that it's importing only purpose-bred monkeys. The importation and use of wild-caught long-tailed macaques is not only rife with legal consequences but also anathema to scientific integrity.

Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'LJE', is positioned above the typed name.

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