



September 6, 2023

Steve Jones
Track President
Goshen Historic Track

Dear Mr. Jones:

I'm writing to you on behalf of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals—PETA entities have more than 9 million members and supporters globally—to request that you prohibit the Budweiser Clydesdales from appearing at Goshen Historic Track, as Anheuser-Busch cruelly amputates the tailbones of these horses. PETA exposed the company's practice in a recent undercover investigation. Please see the [video here](#).

The amputation of the horses' tailbones, either by severing the tailbone or putting a tight band around the tail to cut off blood flow, is done just to make the horses look a certain way. It's an unnecessary permanent disfigurement that causes immense pain, affects the horses' balance, and leaves them without natural protection from flies or other biting insects. Horses also depend on their tails to communicate with herdmates and with humans.

Both the American Association of Equine Practitioners and the American Veterinary Medical Association condemn severing horses' tails unless it's medically necessary. Many European countries, including Belgium, where Anheuser-Busch is headquartered, have banned this practice, as have 10 U.S. states.

If Budweiser is concerned that tail hair might become entangled in a wagon's hitch equipment, simple braiding and wrapping of the tails would prevent this possibility.

Budweiser presents the iconic Clydesdales as symbols of traditional American values, but mutilating horses is the antithesis of what Americans hold dear, and the company's lack of concern for these iconic animals would reflect poorly on your track. Allowing the Budweiser Clydesdales to make an appearance would mean turning a blind eye to the company's inhumane practice and inadvertently condoning it. We hope you will speak with Anheuser-Busch executives and urge them to discontinue tailbone severing and, in the meantime, cancel the upcoming scheduled appearance.

May I please hear from you?

Sincerely,

Kathy Guillermo
Senior Vice President
Equine Matters Department

PEOPLE FOR
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OF ANIMALS

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