



September 25, 2023

Ronnie Parker
General Manager
Circle S Ranch Inc.

Dear Mr. Parker:

I'm writing regarding another horrific crash of a Circle S truck, on August 28 in Pittsylvania County, Virginia. Yet again, suffering turkeys crammed into shattered cages and strewn along the road languished for at least five hours. **We are dismayed that, after the intensive work Henry County Commonwealth's Attorney M. Andrew Nester and Virginia State Police (VSP) put into improving your response to these wrecks in 2017, little has changed.**

The driver in the latest wreck told VSP that he lacked contact information for Circle S representatives who could assist with this emergency. **Police struggled to contact your staff for over two hours and were then told that it would take another three hours for anyone to arrive to start recovering the maimed turkeys**, who were left to suffer for over five hours.

Tractor-trailers hauling turkeys for your company crashed at least four times in this area between 2012 and 2019. Your teams didn't arrive until more than *four hours* after each wreck. After one crash, approximately 540 turkeys suffered and died from apparent heat-related stress. The driver responsible for another crash had been convicted of driving while impaired. Circle S must *finally* implement *commonsense* measures to prevent and better respond to these wrecks, including by doing the following:

- Providing drivers with emergency contact information, training them on accident prevention and response, and reviewing their fitness to haul animals
- Mandating the arrival of a veterinarian and trained responders from Circle S (and/or Cargill) within 60 minutes of every crash
- Ensuring the proper handling of surviving turkeys and the immediate destruction—by a means approved by the American Veterinary Medical Association—of all injured turkeys and those unfit for slaughter
- Reviewing your response to each scene and addressing needs for improvement, further training, and/or disciplinary action

Will Circle S finally do what is needed so that animals don't continue to suffer needlessly? Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Daniel Paden
Vice President of Evidence Analysis

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- PETA Germany
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- PETA Foundation (U.K.)

cc: M. Andrew Nester, Henry County Commonwealth's Attorney
Sgt. Brad E. Lane, VSP
Robert "Bryan" Haskins, Pittsylvania County Commonwealth's Attorney