

Josh Melnick, President Walt's Wholesale Meats 350 S Pekin Rd Woodland, WA 98674

Dear Josh.

Farm Forward published a <u>major investigative report</u> that found widespread animal abuse and neglect of cows managed by Alexandre Family Farm (Alexandre). The investigation was covered in <u>The Atlantic</u>.

Alexandre markets its products as "humane," "regenerative," and "climate friendly." Those claims are false and function to deceive consumers via greenwashing and humanewashing. Our investigation revealed that Alexandre systematically neglected and abused animals, and that their actions led to the extreme suffering of hundreds of cows. Contrary to Alexandre's claims that they are regenerating the environment and improving the climate, we found evidence that they may be violating water protection laws and are improperly composting dead animals across the landscape.

We did not uncover a handful of isolated incidents or "a few bad apples." Instead, with the help of whistleblowers and veterinary experts, we found that Alexandre has practiced systematic abuse and neglect, driven from the top of the company, over a period of at least five years.

Since the release of our report, much has occurred:

- Certified Humane, which has historically certified Alexandre's products, delisted Alexandre from its list of "Producers who are Certified Humane."
  - Despite Alexandre's removal from the program, Alexandre continues to falsely label and market their milk as "Certified Humane."
- Similarly, it appears that Regenerative Organic Certified suspended Alexandre's regenerative certification in February due to an audit report that indicated violations.
  - Despite their suspension, Alexandre continues to misleadingly market their milk as "regenerative."
- The Humboldt County Sheriff's Office Livestock Division supervisor notified Farm Forward that after receiving our report the Sheriff's Office is taking the matter seriously and has opened an investigation.
- Luke's Local, a premium grocery retailer in San Francisco with three locations, canceled its orders of all Alexandre Family Farm products.
- Providore Fine Foods in Portland, Oregon, ended their relationship with Alexandre Family Farm as a result of the investigation.
- Whole Foods Market stopped marketing Alexandre products and the dairy's longstanding partnership with Whole Foods.



• The ASPCA dropped all Alexandre products from their "Shop with your Heart" list of higher welfare products.

Once you read <u>the report</u>, you will understand the numerous reasons that **Farm Forward is calling on Walt's Wholesale Meats to drop Alexandre as a supplier.** 

I would be glad to discuss this topic further and would be grateful for a timely response.

Best,

Andrew deCoriolis

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**Executive Director**