Ralston Purina

office of the Assistant Treasurer

September 28, 1971

Wilbur-Ellis Company
320 California Street
San Francisco, California 94104

Ralph Bridges Claim
Lexington, Georgia

Gentlemen:

Attached are letters in support of a claim presented by one of our good Turkey Chow customers. Mr. Curt Severson is the Area Director of Operations for the Georgia-Alabama Area and Mr. Hutson Davis is the District Sales Manager in that area. I believe that the letters set forth the facts as they occurred with one possible exception -- that being that the results of the fat analysis were telephoned to Dick Loomis, our Turkey Supervisor, at or about 6:00 p.m. on September 3, 1971.

Mr. Leroy Schilt, is out of the office at the present time, and according to his secretary, is confirming the exact time when the results of the analysis were given by telephone. Because of the tremendous workload placed on our laboratories analyzing our products as well as poultry and fish, it was not possible to run this particular sample any sooner.

Our customer experienced heavy losses as a result of disease because he lacked the necessary certificates the processor required before accepting the turkeys in his plant. To complicate the matter, turkeys must be scheduled with a processor in advance and as fate would have it, the 4th and 5th of September fell on a weekend and the 6th of September was a holiday.

According to our records at Gainesville, Georgia, fish meal in question was purchased only from your company, and we therefore, are requesting that you act favorably upon this claim.

Had there not been the requirement for the USDA certificates, this flock of turkeys would have been marketed without the heavy death losses. The certificates were required because of the PCB suspected contamination in the turkey rations fed to the flock in question.

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After reading the attached letters please feel free to contact me by letter or telephone if there is additional facts you need. My telephone number is area code 314 - 982-3656.

We are anxious to receive your check promptly as our customer has an unpaid balance on his Purina account, and it is obvious from the facts in the file that his losses occurred through no fault of his own.

Sincerely,

G. A. Muehlhauser

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att.