Dear Mr. Hannasch:

I am a supporter of the National Farm Worker Ministry, which stands with the Farm Labor Organizing Committee (FLOC) in their campaign to improve the living and working conditions of tobacco farm workers. I am here at your Circle K store in support of those workers.

FLOC is conducting a survey of Circle K stores to determine which stores are selling the Reynolds American VUSE E-Cigarette. FLOC is a farm workers’ union affiliated with the AFL-CIO and represents thousands of tobacco farm workers in North Carolina and in the South.

Today, many tobacco farmworkers suffer from exploitative and abusive conditions. As a result of poverty wages, many children have to pick tobacco to support their families, exposing them to toxic levels of nicotine and pesticides. Moreover, thousands of the workers experience work-related sicknesses and injuries, and many women farmworkers face sexual harassment on the job. These abuses will continue until workers are able to speak out without risking their jobs.

Although Reynolds does not directly employ tobacco farm workers, by contracting with tobacco growers, it influences standards which directly affect the living and working conditions of tobacco farm workers, both within its supply chain and even beyond. Through its contracts with growers, Reynolds can affect the living and working conditions of tobacco farm workers.

In 2007 FLOC asked Reynolds American to end abuses in their tobacco supply chain by guaranteeing a process that would protect freedom of association on their farms. In response, Reynolds American denied responsibility and refused to meet with FLOC. In 2012, Reynolds American began meeting with FLOC but ultimately engaged in empty discussions, seeking to use charity programs and multi-stakeholder discussions to avoid direct negotiations with FLOC. Recently, British American Tobacco (BAT) bought Reynolds American for $49 billion making BAT the biggest tobacco company in the world.

Reynolds American owned by London-based BAT produces VUSE E-Cigarettes. FLOC has called a boycott of VUSE E-Cigarettes and the boycott has been endorsed by the AFL-CIO.

We are requesting that you honor this boycott and remove VUSE E-Cigarettes from all Circle K stores until Reynolds American ends human rights abuses in their supply chain.

For more information about FLOC please visit our website: www.floc.com or contact FLOC Vice-President, Justin Flores at 704-577-3480 or jflores@floc.com

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Name __________________________ City, State __________________________

NATIONAL FARM WORKER MINISTRY
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