



Food and Beverage / PET
725 Industrial Drive
Fremont, Ohio 43420
(419) 334 - 4197
(419) 334 - 2538 FAX

August 12, 2009

Ms. Elizabeth M. Murphy
Secretary
Securities and Exchange Commission
100 "F" Street, N.E.
Washington, DC 20549

Dear Ms. Murphy:

I first want to express my appreciation for the work the SEC has done to assure shareholders are more involved in the companies in which they invest. While I believe it is important for shareholders to be more involved in the nominating process the new proposal the SEC is considering goes too far.

Giving shareholders the power to nominate board members has the ability to cause disruption in the operation of a corporation. A one-size fits all approach to corporate governance will be the detriment of a company's success. Chairmen and other board members will be forced to focus on controversial debates over nominees that are not necessarily qualified for the position to begin with. This will divert valuable time and resources from corporations that are already feeling the crunch of the economic climate.

The current proxy system corporations currently operate under cannot accommodate an increased number of elections if this new rule change is adopted. The current proxy shareholder rules provide adequate shareholder input and should remain intact.

For years there has been significant debate over this very rule change and it has been the opinion of the commission that these new rules are not in the best interest of corporations or their shareholders.

I urge you and the commission to once again make the right decision and reject this proposal. I appreciate your time and consideration to my thoughts.

Sincerely,

Rick VanEngelenhoven
Plant Manager
Graham Packaging