

*Environmental Citizen
123 My Street
My City CA ZIP
June 1, 2018
[You will need to personalize italicized items]*

Kevin Baudhuin, President & CEO
Pregis/Abt
1650 Lake Cook Rd, Ste 400
Deerfield IL 60015

Dear Mr Baudhuin,
"Pleasing People... Since 1936" Your products may have worked in 1936 but plastic is no longer pleasing to people nor the water, air and earth necessary for people's survival. I am returning these Abt air bags to you to dispose of yourself [& will return those that I receive in the future] as they are not pleasing to me at all.

Pregis has signed a Climate Pledge to achieve net-zero annual carbon emission by 2040 but there is no transparency on your website, that you are taking any steps to change the composition of the actual oil-based products themselves to bio-based; the website menu item "Sustainability&CSR" curiously, does not work as of today's date.

I am asking that you take big steps to move away from oil-based products and engage in the research to provide bio-degradable and compostable product concurrent with global EN 13432, ASTM D6400-04 and DIN-Gepufts standards and guidelines. Your company is currently in the business of making Thermoform, Food Grade, PET & PP plastics so is a big ask. I am sure you feel pressured by the oil industry to use their product and standing up to big oil means taking those big risks that happened when the company was first founded.

Nationwide film product plastic recycling efforts have failed and there is a lack of will on the entire retailer-producer-packager supply chain to change this. The customer is left holding the proverbial bag and we are tired of it.

The Abt bags themselves suggest that I should "drop them off at a store".

Why should a local grocery store be responsible for and use their resources for disposing of a product they did not sell?

Why should they bear financial responsibility for that in company manpower and disposal costs?

What instructions have you given that fictional "store" for how to return the packaging to you for theoretical recycling? This is kicking the can down the road.

Suggestions for disposal of bags & wraps do not jibe with the everyday realities of disposal. The average middle-class end-consumer of packaging finds that disposal plastic packaging is much more difficult to do responsibly than it sounds. It presumes someone in the household actually has the time & knowledge to manage the many shades of plastics. The utility expense that has increased most in the past 20 years is waste removal because municipalities are saddled with end user costs. I can put a paper or bio-plastic bag in my compost heap and the worms digest it in 6 months, plastic is forever.

As a company based in the UK/EU with stricter environmental laws your company is well aware that, since China stopped accepting them 10 years ago, most oil-based plastic now ends up in landfill or continuously plugs and pollutes our waterways. Love your mother Earth. Please embrace companywide policies that do not force disposal of plastics in the hands of we end users.

Sincerely,

Environmental Citizen
Zero Plastic Waste NOW!
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/zeroplasticwastenow>