

Environmental Citizen

123 My Street

My City CA ZIP

February 22, 2022

[You will need to personalize italicized items]

Mr. Craig Jelinik, CEO
Costco
999 Lake Drive
Issaquah WA 98027

Dear Mr. Jelinik,

I am a long-time Costco member & also a shareholder but as an ardent environmentalist I am finding, more and more, that I am not willing to purchase as many items at Costco due to plastic packaging, both hard & wraps. Other family members are not quite as zealous so I'm stuck with ethical/unethical disposal.

I am enclosing all the plastic wraps that have passed through my household in the past 4 months that did nothing more than ENCLOSE OTHER PACKAGING. You are now responsible for their disposal; I will be returning other categories of plastics in the near future.

Costco is moving backwards; many canned goods that were previously batched in light cardboard now are plastic wrapped; *not sure why the canned tuna & chicken that only had a cardboard wrap now needs a plastic wrap on top. I no longer buy cookies in plastic tubs.*

I suspect you are not the one making the daily decisions, at home or work, of how to ethically dispose of packaging plastics. Public waste systems toss in them landfill and stores no longer even bother to put out a bag recycling container to contain their disposal costs. I (& most of your employees & customers) make those awful decision, daily, and there is no sustainable answer. Costco (you yourself as CEO set the bar) and other large retail corps have the buying power to demand compostable packaging from your logistical chain of suppliers. I've enclosed a *Guide to Sustainable Packaging* to help them on their way.

Customers would not notice a few more cents per package to stop our increasingly high public disposal rates for environmentally disastrous packaging. I believe that manufacturers & producers should bear the cost of packaging disposal for their products. We buy a product not packaging.

I manage/belong to a Facebook group, Zero Plastic Waste NOW! that addresses the landfill and plastic morass issues. Large companies, such as Costco, that offer many organic & sustainable products, should be leading the way when it comes to packaging.

I ask you to take a closer look at your packaging policies and expectations and the long-term effect on our climate, your customers and the earth that you and your descendants will be living in. I also teach my children well – they can be your future customers - if you take the next step.

Sustainably Yours,

Environmental Citizen

Zero Plastic Waste NOW! Coalition

www.facebook.com/groups/zeroplasticwastenow/

Attachment: Guide to Sustainable Packaging