

Environmental Citizen

123 My Street

My City CA ZIP

February 17, 2022

**[You will need to personalize italicized items]**

Miguel Garza  
Siete Family Foods  
3571 Far West Blvd #200  
Austin TX 78731

Hello Mr. Garza,

I am a fan of your products *and especially appreciate that they are dairy- and gluten- free*. However, I'm not so crazy that the healthy chips are encased in packaging that is made of dual composition plastic which are not collected at any level. A miniscule number of tortillas are packaged in plastic heavier than the product. Most frustrating is when what is packaged are dry products that do not even demand long term freshness.

I suspect you are not the one making the daily decisions at the home and in the office of how to ethically dispose of plastics. Even if you return plastic bags to a store, they freely admit that they place the bags in their waste bins for landfill; most groceries no longer even bother to put out a bag recycling container. I make those awful decisions to put plastic in the trash, daily. Siete and the other food purveyors have the power to demand compostable packaging from your suppliers.

Customers would gladly pay 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 instead of thrusting higher disposal rates on the customers. I am hereby returning your packaging for you to dispose of (& will be returning more in the future).

Chips are basically dry products and do not leak so there is zero necessity for them to be packaged in plastic; your products fly off the shelves so "freshness" is not really an excuse. There is this very "old school" technology (which still exists) called waxed paper which is still used for cereal and by some smaller chip manufacturers. I have attached a Guide sheet to Sustainable Packaging Standards that you can share with your marketing/packaging team directing them to responsible alternatives. I do hope that you will discontinue these bags in the near future and consider alternatives as I would like to be able to give you kudos when this happens. Please work with other members of the processed foods industry to employ biodegradable and sustainable packaging.

The US is now recycles about 2% of household plastic waste, most of it PETE #1 and #2 plastic bottles. Plastics pollute every step along the way: oil & gas extraction, manufacture, landfill off-gas. The enclosed bags do not even rate a recycle number code. The smart graphics and satin finish of the package does not read "premium" to me, just 600 years to decompose for a product that is used up in less than a week. Healthy bodies should live on a healthy planet.

Love your mother Earth. Please embrace Zero Plastic Waste NOW and consider companywide policies that do not force unsustainable disposal of plastics in the hands of your customers.

Sustainably Yours,

*Zero Waste Citizen*

Zero Plastic Waste NOW! Coalition

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/zeroplasticwastenow/>

Attachment: Guide to Sustainable Packaging