## May 31, 2011

## Via Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested

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To the Olympia Food Co-op Board of Directors (present and former):

We are members of the Olympia Food Co-op ("OFC") who oppose OFC's boycott of Israeli made products ("Israel Boycott") and divestment from Israeli companies ("Divestment"). More importantly, we strongly object to the numerous procedural violations committed by the OFC Board of Directors (the "Board") in adopting these policies. You are receiving this letter because either (a) you are currently a member of the Board or (b) you were a member of the Board at the time the Israel Boycott and Divestment policies were adopted.

To be clear, we have repeatedly asked the Board to act on these issues in accordance with the rules and bylaws of OFC. We agree, of course, that OFC would be bound by the result of such a process. After all, OFC is a *cooperative* and its members have agreed to abide by certain rules. Yet you have refused to follow these rules or to cooperate. It is clear that members of the Board, by committing such procedural violations, have failed collectively and as individuals to abide by their lawful obligations to OFC and its members. A number of us have made this position clear to the Board since it announced its decision to enact the Israel Boycott. Yet our efforts have apparently fallen on deaf ears, as the Board steadfastly refuses to revisit its position on the Israel Boycott and Divestment policies. (To be clear, we currently take no position on OFC Board of Directors May 31, 2011 Page 2

soundness of OFC's "Boycott Policy" itself, which we understand may be under review by the Board, or OFC's boycott of products other than those made in Israel.)

At this point, we are left no choice but to demand in no uncertain terms that OFC act in accordance with its rules and bylaws and rescind the Israel Boycott and Divestment policies. Should new proposals to enact such policies be pursued at a later date in accordance with OFC rules and regulations, we would be prepared to respect the outcome of that process. Regrettably, should the Board reject our demand, we are prepared to pursue relief through the court system. We wish the situation had not come to this point, but frankly you have forced our hand by ignoring—again and again—our requests for due process and procedural compliance with OFC rules and regulations. As such, we expect to receive a response from the Board to our demand no later than 30 days from the date of this letter. (Please arrange to have the Board's response mailed to us at the address below.) Should no response be received by that date, we will assume you have rejected our demand and will proceed accordingly.

Although the basis for our demand has previously been communicated to Board members collectively and, in certain instances, individually, we again explain in summary fashion our position. This is provided in the sincere hope that you will revisit the process by which the Boycott and Divestment policies were adopted. Nothing would please us more than to see this matter resolved without the need for adversarial action. That said, we are tired of being ignored and marginalized by a Board that refuses to abide by the rules and cooperative spirit of OFC's governance principles and procedures.

We remind the Board of the numerous occasions on which members of OFC have explained how and why the enactment of the Israel Boycott and Divestment policies violated OFC rules and regulations and why, as a result, the Board should rescind them. In short, you have repeatedly been put on notice of the Board's procedural violations, and you have repeatedly rejected requests for remedial action. While we are continuing to investigate and conduct additional analysis, it is clear that the Board, in deciding to boycott Israeli made products and divest from investments in Israeli companies, violated the terms of a number of OFC's governing documents—most obviously, the OFC "Boycott Policy." Other rules and regulations that were violated include OFC's Mission Statement and Bylaws. We intend to hold each of you personally responsible for these procedural violations and the breaches of your duties.

As members of OFC—some of us longstanding members—we submit this letter to you in the sincere hope that the Board will (1) recognize the mistakes it made in the course of adopting the Israel Boycott and Divestment policies and (2) rescind these policies without the need for further action by us. We are not interested in needlessly dragging ourselves or OFC, an institution to which we have collectively given significant time and energy, into an adversarial proceeding. That said, our informal efforts thus far—made in the spirit of cooperation that drew us to OFC in the first place—have failed to persuade you to do what is required under the circumstances. In short, you are entirely responsible for the position in which you now find yourselves. If you do what we demand, this situation may be resolved amicably and efficiently. OFC Board of Directors May 31, 2011 Page 3

If not, we will bring legal action against you, and this process will become considerably more complicated, burdensome, and expensive than it has been already.

We look forward to receiving a response from you no later than 30 days from the date of this letter. Please arrange to have the Board's response mailed to us at P.O. Box 6060, Olympia, WA 98507-6060.

Sincerely,

Kent L. Davis

Linda Davis  $\mathbf{Y}$ 

Susan Mayer

Susan G. Trinin