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February 5, 2007

Department of Agriculture
Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement
Attn: Mary Bender
2301 North Cameron Street
Harrisburg, PA 17110-9408

Dear Ms. Bender,

I am writing to protest the conditions to which the dogs that have the misfortune of living in the puppy mills of southeastern Pennsylvania are subjected. I understand that the breeding adults spend their entire existence living in cages with wire floors without protection from the weather. These dogs never have the slightest creature comfort or the least expression of affection to which all living beings are entitled.

I have been part of an effort to rescue "used up" breeding females and unwanted other dogs including puppies from these puppy mills. These dogs are brought directly from puppy mill farms and given asylum by various rescue groups. The condition of the dogs is deplorable. Physically they are dirty and in ill health, covered in excrement. Many desperately need emergency veterinary attention because their basic health needs including decent food have never been addressed. These poor animals are terrified and can barely respond to kindness because it is an alien experience to them.

We must not continue to allow this to happen. Everyone who sees these rescued dogs is moved to tears and wants this horrific treatment of "man's best friend" to cease immediately. One does not need to be a dog lover to know that the treatment of these animals is very wrong.

I am expressing my hope and desire that your agency will quickly do everything possible to make puppy mills a bad memory that will never happen again.

Very truly yours,



Barbara G. Hagy

Cc: Arthur Coccodrilli, Chairman
Independent Regulatory Review Commission
333 Market Street, 14th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17101