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Food and Drug Administration
Kansas City District
Southwest Region
P.O. Box 15905
Lenexa, Kansas 66285-5905

Telephone: (913) 752-2100

September 12, 2000

**CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

WARNING LETTER
KAN #2000-028

Mr. Joseph M. Weller
President
Nestle/Fris kies PetCare Company
800 North Brand Blvd.
Glendale, CA 91203

Dear Mr. Palensky:

On January 24 through February 3, 2000 our investigators conducted an inspection of your animal food processing plant located at 4502 Packers Avenue, St. Joseph, Missouri. The Investigators found serious deviations from Title 21 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 113 (21 CFR 113). This section covers the regulations governing the safe and proper processing of Low Acid Canned Foods (LACF). The deviations found at your plant caused product you manufactured to be adulterated within the meaning of Section 402(a)(4) of the Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (the Act).

Specific deviations that contributed to the release of adulterated product include:

1. Your firm did not establish an effective system for product traffic control in the retort room to prevent unretorted products from bypassing the retort process.
2. The thermal indicator ink used by your firm did not effectively indicate the lack of processing in the adulterated product.

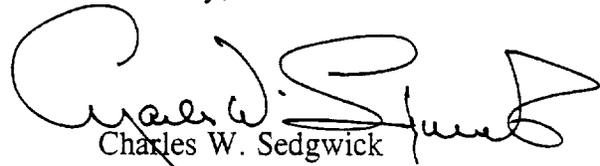
These deviations caused your firm to distribute and subsequently recall more than 5,500 cases of cat food that had not been retorted.

We acknowledge you have taken corrective steps to prevent the future release of unretorted product and to control your LACF operations. We do not have an assessment of the success or failure of the actions you have taken. You should ensure your revised procedures and training efforts have successfully brought your system under adequate control. Failure to correct these deviations may result in regulatory action without further notice, such as seizure and/or injunction.

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You should notify this office, in writing, within fifteen (15) working days of receipt of this letter detailing and assessing your corrective actions. Your reply should be addressed to Ralph J. Gray, Compliance Officer, at the address noted above.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charles W. Sedgwick". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "C" and "S".

Charles W. Sedgwick
District Director
Kansas City District Office

Cc: Mr. Steve N. Highby, Plant Manager
Nestle/Friskies PetCare Company
POB 4099
Lower Lake Road
St. Joseph, MO 64504

Mr. Adrian Palensky
Director of Quality Assurance
Nestle/Friskies PetCare Company
800 North Brand Blvd.
Glendale, CA 91203