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Date: June 28, 2010

Dept. of Building Inspections
City of Portland Maine

To: Portland Inspectional Services Attn: Renny Rm 315

From: Jim Kelly and Karen Bushold, 145 Anderson Street, Portland, ME 04101

RE: Oakhurst Dairy Truck Terminal on Anderson Street

We are at 145 Anderson Street in a building built in 2003 with 8 residential units and there are also 4 apartment buildings on either side of us with at least 13 more residential units on this block. Oakhurst Dairy has recently moved one of their truck parking and staging lots to a large piece of vacant land across the street from us - between Anderson and Diamond Streets.

Everyday, all day and all night - there are 20-30 semi trailer trucks generating noise and sending up clouds of dust into this neighborhood. Most of these trucks leave around 3 AM - 5 AM and return and jockey around the lot throughout the day. There is constant engine noise and noise from refrigeration units - all night long. In addition there is the noise of back up warning "beepers" and worse, a loud clanging noise every time a truck enters or exits the lot by crossing over an old metal scale embedded in the driveway. This lot is unpaved and every truck move sends up clouds of dirt and dust.

We are aware that we live in housing that was permitted in an industrial zone, but does that mean that we have no protection from 24 hour industrial uses that generate excessive noise and dirt? Another former Oakhurst terminal on Somerset Street was NOT next to housing - yet the company was allowed to move into this area right next to residential units - and is allowed to operate all night long. How can the city say that they plan to develop and improve the East End and also permit heavy industrial uses 24 hours/day?

We hope you can send someone to visit this lot to inspect the situation and experience the noise and pollution. We hope that the operating hours, engine noise and refrigeration noise from this truck depot could be limited to daylight hours, and that the buried metal scale will be removed from the driveway...or better still that this trucking operation be asked to relocate to a non-residential area where no one will be kept up all night!

cc: City Council, OAKhurst Dairy Customer Services
City Planning Division 4th Floor City Hall