



February 7, 2018

The Honorable Amy Klobuchar  
United States Senate  
302 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington DC 20510

The Honorable Tina Smith  
United States Senate  
309 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington DC 20510

The Honorable Tom Emmer  
United States House of Representatives  
315 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington DC 20515

Dear Senators Klobuchar and Smith, Representative Emmer,

Thank you for your February 1, 2018 letter to Jonas Samuelson, Electrolux Group President and CEO. We wanted to take the opportunity to respond to the questions that you raised.

The closure of our St. Cloud, Minnesota facility was a difficult but necessary decision for the company to remain competitive. We announced the closure two years in advance to allow transition time for our employees.

Because of our aging U.S. manufacturing operations, we have, for some time, been evaluating the need and options for modernizing those production facilities, including the St. Cloud facility. As a result of this evaluation process, we decided to consolidate our freezer production into our Anderson, South Carolina refrigeration facility for several reasons:

- This allows us to leverage the approximately \$250 million investment announced last year to modernize and expand our South Carolina plant. This helps us stay competitive in a declining market as fewer and fewer U.S. consumers purchase freezers.
- Refrigeration facilities face changing energy efficiency and environmental regulations that require regular and significant investment. We are committed to U.S. manufacturing and to improving the environment. To compete, this means we had to consolidate and simplify our U.S. operations by having fewer refrigeration plants. The best choice was to leverage our South Carolina investment and consolidate production there. In the end, it was too costly to invest in both plants.

This decision is not a reflection on the dedication and commitment of our workforce in St. Cloud, nor was it a lack of support from the local community. The decision to consolidate in South Carolina was based on market factors as well as our need to streamline our operations to remain competitive. Again, we announced the decision two years in advance to allow transition time for employees. We are committed to working with the local community, as well as State and Federal officials, to assist employees with available retraining and workforce development programs.

As we move thru this transition, we will keep you informed of developments affecting the continued operation of the St. Cloud plant through 2019. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any additional questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alan Shaw', written in a cursive style.

Alan Shaw

Head of Electrolux Major Appliances North America

Cc: Jonas Samuelson, Electrolux Group President and CEO