

To
Nestlé Nutrition GmbH
Attn. Marc Boersch

via email marc.boersch@de.nestle.com

Berlin, 30. Oktober 2019

Your letter from Oct. 28

Dear Mr Boersch,

Thank you very much for your message. Unfortunately, however, you do not answer any of the questions we raised in our letter of 25.10.2019 about the methodology used by Nestlé for the quality assurance of baby milk products with regard to exposure to mineral oil hydrocarbons.

This is especially disappointing as it should be a matter of routine for any manufacturer of baby food to make the relevant information from its quality assurance programs available immediately.

How can you claim in your letter that “our products are safe” whilst the test results published by foodwatch last week have shown that several of the Nestlé baby milk products tested were contaminated with MOAH ?

For your information, those analyses were prepared in strict compliance with the JRC guidelines: <https://publications.jrc.ec.europa.eu/repository/handle/JRC115694>

See also in our project report on page 7, published here: https://www.foodwatch.org/fileadmin/-INT/mineral_oil/documents/2019-10-24_Projectreport_babymilk_FINAL.pdf

We have been asking Nestlé for more than four years to make a public commitment that Nestlé could guarantee that ALL their food products are free of detectable MOAH. We can clearly observe that it is not yet the case.

With your current refusal to provide information and despite the remark in your letter that "we take this matter very seriously," the international food company Nestlé are not living up to your responsibility for the safety of your products.

On the contrary, you unsettle parents and carers and expose babies to unacceptable risks. Obviously, profit and avoiding the cost of a recall are more important to you than the well-being of your customers.

We do not go along with this delay tactic. As the world's largest food company, you have every opportunity to quickly uncover the situation and stop worrying people.

If you have even the slightest indication that your products contain carcinogenic mineral oil residues, as our analysis carried out by three laboratories show, you are obliged to warn consumers and recall the products/batches immediately.

If you are convinced and can prove with data derived from appropriate analytical methods that this is not the case, you must inform consumers that there is no risk and provide them with proof.

It is shameful that instead of fulfilling your responsibilities, you offer us a "face-to-face meeting between experts" at Frankfurt airport.

We reject such a meeting as it merely delays any direct and responsible action on your part. A personal discussion only makes sense once you have fulfilled your responsibility as a manufacturer.

We once again unequivocally request you to answer our questions immediately in the interest of health protection for babies. We also urge you to immediately warn consumers and recall products.

We take the liberty of making this letter available to the press.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Matthias Wolfschmidt', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Matthias Wolfschmidt

International Campaigns Director
foodwatch International