

[REDACTED]

Van: Hopmans, D.P.E. (Dominique)
Verzonden: maandag 17 februari 2025 15:43
Aan: [REDACTED]
Onderwerp: RE: Request for an Introductory Meeting
Bijlagen: Contact overheid en tabakindustrie.pdf

Geachte [REDACTED]

Dank voor uw bericht. Als reactie verwijs ik u hierbij naar de brief die burgemeester Mulder op 12 februari heeft verzonden aan PMI, en waarvan ter informatie een kopie is bijgevoegd. In het kader van de transparantie deel ik dit mailcontact op de gemeentelijke website

Met vriendelijke groeten,

Dominique Hopmans
Wethouder

Gemeente Bergen op Zoom
Postbus 35
4600 AA Bergen op Zoom



Van: [REDACTED]@pmi.com>
Verzonden: maandag 27 januari 2025 17:37
Aan: Hopmans, D.P.E. (Dominique) <D.Hopmans@bergenopzoom.nl>
Onderwerp: Request for an Introductory Meeting

Dear Alderman Hopmans,

I hope this message finds you well. My name is [REDACTED] and I am the new Director Manufacturing of the Philip Morris International (PMI) factory in Bergen op Zoom. I have recently moved from Indonesia to the city of Bergen op Zoom and despite the cold weather, your fellow citizens have provided me with a warm and kind welcome in all matters. I am very grateful for this.

I am now writing to introduce myself and to express my eagerness to meet with you to discuss how we can continue to strengthen the relationship between our factory and the municipality. I am addressing you as Alderman for economic policies, but this message is for the entire college of B&W of Bergen op Zoom. Please extend my message to any of your colleagues at your convenience. I am aware of the restrictions upon contacts between government and tobacco industry, however these restrictions do allow open and transparent cooperation on many practical areas outside tobacco policies, like for instance our good cooperations with customs on a national level.

The PMI factory in Bergen op Zoom has a rich history dating back to 1970, when it was established to meet the growing production demands of our company. Over the years, our factory has evolved significantly, becoming one of the most advanced production facilities in Europe by 1980. After a difficult period, which impacted many in the region, today again, we employ nearly 700 dedicated individuals who contribute to our mission of creating a smoke-free future, yet no


cigarettes are produced here anymore. As you know and as you have been able to experience yourself during your visits earlier, our factory now focuses on producing semi-manufactured goods for our smoke-free alternatives, including heated tobacco products. This transformation in Bergen op Zoom is an important symbol for the transformation of our company and business worldwide.

Given our long-standing presence in the community, I believe there are numerous opportunities for collaboration between the municipality and our factory. I would be delighted to visit the town hall at your convenience to discuss how we can work together on various (non-tobacco policy related) initiatives, such as social or economic projects, environmental improvements, spatial planning, security and other areas of mutual interest. As managing director, I am deeply convinced that our factory and its 700 employees could and should contribute greatly to several dossiers in its host city of Bergen op Zoom.

I look forward to your reply and to the possibility of a fruitful meeting. I am eager to explore how we can support each other in our respective goals. Please let me know a suitable time and location for us to meet.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Best regards,


Managing Director
Philip Morris International
Bergen op Zoom

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