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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 05-May-2019 04:18
To: LICENSING (Cheshire East)
Subject: Shell Barthomley Alcohol License

Hi there

I work at shell barthomley and you've given us blue notices for a potential alcohol license. I don't think this is a very good idea. I work the night shifts and how many people we get at night who are drunk and ask if we sell booze is uncountable. If we say we don't sell booze then that's the end of the matter they go on there way, but if did sell booze we wouldn't be able to sell it to them because they're drunk. That leads to us getting harassed on the night shifts because we didn't sell them alcohol, I have friends and family who have had this experience a lot. Even myself at a previous job. Vigilance can only go so far before the constant harassing takes its toll. We get roughly nine drunks for every one sober person asking for booze.

Even tonight as I'm writing this email (5th May) there have been two incidences involving drunken people in which the police have been involved in.

Given that we are off a junction for the M6 I don't think it's a good idea to be selling booze just because of the close proximity to the motorway. You wouldn't have a pub in a service station so why let Shell force us to sell booze?

Another point to make is we get shoplifters quite a lot. Having alcohol on sale will just mean that there's a good chance that some of it will be stolen by people, including underage adolescents (or people we refuse to sell to [again this happened to me at a previous job]) This next statement is a big one. It's not so much about the impact of selling booze but storing it. I'm not entirely sure if it will make a difference but I'm going to state it anyway. The fact is that we simply do not have the space for alcohol storage. Shell never considers this fact. We're constantly struggling to store the stock we have now. We barely have room for it all, adding crates of alcohol to the mix will create a very full, crammed and frankly dangerous stock room. Adding more cardboard to that small space is quite a fire risk, especially that there's a fridge and two freezers in there. Shell will also be refitting our site in the coming months and removing some of our storage space for kitchen utilities which mean that we will have to start using the store room for some storage. Decreasing what little storage we had even more. Giving us alcohol will create a big health and safety problem. And no one wants that.

You never gave this site a license before it was shell, and if I'm honest I don't particularly see why it should be given one now. I strongly believe that it will cause more grief to not just the workers in the petrol station but to KFC, Travelodge and Greggs. Travelodge especially as they will have a lot of customers getting drunk in there rooms at the night time and possibly having to call the police.

The only benefit I can see of having a license is that profits will go up ever so slightly. But the negatives outweigh the positives tenfold.

This next one is on a personal note. We don't get a say in what we sell on our site. It's all decided for by shell, so if you approve this license then we will be forced to start selling booze. No one at this site wants it, it will cause more grief than it's worth. Shell never ask us if we think it's a good idea to sell anything. That's the biggest reason why our stock room is so crammed, crowded and almost overflowing. There are bigger shell sites around that sell booze because they have good storage space for it, we simply don't.

I've no idea if I'm allowed to do this given I work at the site so if I'm not allowed then please just ignore this email, but I'm going to make my voice heard. I do have some valid points that need to come from inside the store and who this directly impacts.

Thank you greatly for reading my email, I really do hope you reconsider your opinion on giving us a license.

Sincerely, [REDACTED]