EDUCATION KIT
A Program for Preventing Pellet Loss

The Society of the Plastics Industry, Inc.
Sample Letter: From Salesman Who Has Observed A Pellet Loss Problem At A Customer’s Plant

(Note: This draft letter, as written, is intended as a cover letter to accompany a copy of SPI’s "Manual on Preventing Pellet Loss" which may be purchased through SPI’s Literature Sales Department. See Order Form under last tab in this kit. The letter also assumes that your company has signed the SPI Pellet Retention Environmental Code.)

Dear (Customer):

When I visited your plant recently, I noticed resin pellets on the ground in the vicinity of (fill in location). I’m bringing this to your attention for several reasons.

First, I thought you might not be aware of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s new storm water regulations. When the EPA issued its final rule on storm water discharges, resin pellets were defined as a “significant material.” Now, any industrial plant that exposes pellets to storm water under any circumstance must obtain a storm water permit. Violations can carry stiff penalties.

Secondly, resin pellets – although benign and inert in the environment – are a potential hazard to seabirds and marine life that ingest them as food. While the effect of pellet ingestion is not fully understood, the facts remain that (1) pellets are in the marine environment, and (2) marine life is eating them.

We have signed The Society of the Plastics Industry’s (SPI) “Pellet Retention Environmental Code,” committing (your company name) to eliminating resin pellet loss at our facilities. We know that for this program to be successful throughout the industry, everyone who handles resin pellets must share our awareness and commitment.

SPI has created an industry education program on this issue called Operation Clean Sweep. I urge you to read the enclosed Manual on Preventing Pellet Loss carefully. It provides an overview of the issue and describes steps that your company can take to prevent pellet loss. Please feel free to call me if you have any questions or need more information on the storm water regulations.

Cordially,