To Tyson Foods Inc,

We the undersigned elected officials of Black Hawk County, Iowa call upon the Tyson Foods, Inc. to take all steps necessary for immediate mitigation of the risk to our community and your employees from an outbreak of Covid-19 at your Waterloo operation. We understand that these are extraordinary times, but steps must be taken to ensure the safety and well-beings of Tyson’s valuable employees and our community.

There is now an outbreak of positive cases of Covid-19 at the Tyson’s Waterloo operation. We ask that you voluntarily cease operations on a temporary basis at your Waterloo facility so that appropriate cleaning and mitigation strategies can take place and be in place for a resumption of production. We also ask that you take this step to allow test results to catch-up and the data to be collected so that community health care practitioners can get a handle on this situation. The state of Iowa is now sending over 1,500 test kits for test needed in relationship to the Tyson Foods, Inc. Waterloo operation, we ask that you fully participate with this state in the critical testing operation, test are of limited supply and it is important that this be done right. This outbreak at a facility of your size puts great risk to the safety and wellbeing all residents in our community, especially the elderly and vulnerable. We ask that when you do re-open to practice all available social distancing, screening, and deep cleaning practices available. This will mitigate the risk that our local health care system is not overwhelmed while simultaneously working towards ensuring sustainable production in the future.

We do not make this request lightly; we understand the importance of this facility in our national food chain and the cascading effect our requested closure would have on your supply networks. However, we must all come together at this time to do what is best for the long-term safety and health of our community.

Black Hawk County Supervisor Chris Schwartz
Waterloo Mayor Quinten Hart
Cedar Falls Mayor Rob Green
Black Hawk County Supervisor Tom Little
Black Hawk County Supervisor Linda Laylin
Black Hawk County Sheriff Tony Thompson
La Porte City Mayor Dave Neil
Gilbertville Mayor Mark Thome
Hudson Mayor George Wessel
Raymond Mayor Gary Vick

Evansdale Mayor Troy Beatty
Dunkerton Mayor Mike Schares
Waterloo City Councilperson Jonathan Grieder
State Senator Bill Dotzler (Waterloo)
State Representative Bob Kessing (Cedar Falls)
State Representative Timi Brown-Powers (Waterloo)
State Representative Ras Smith (Waterloo)
State Representative Dave Williams (Cedar Falls)
State Senator Eric Giddens (Cedar Falls)
Waterloo City Councilperson Pat Morrissey