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DAVID A. FORBES
Assistant Human Resources Director

WOLVERINE
WWW WORLDWIDE

January 31, 2002

RECEIVED
MDCD-OWD

FEB - 6 2002

WORKFORCE TRANSITION

Mr. James Houck
Michigan Jobs Commission
201 N. Washington Square
Victor Building, 5th Floor
Lansing, MI 48913

Re: Assistance for Displaced Workers

Delivered Via FAX
(517) 373-0314

Dear Mr. Houck:

On December 11, 2001 Wolverine World Wide, Inc. received a WARN notification response letter from your office advising that a representative from your office would soon be contacting Wolverine management to discuss various services and programs that might be available to our laid off Tannery employees. While it is recognized the nation is in economic recession and many employers now have dislocated employees requiring assistance it has been eight (8) weeks without further contact from the Michigan Employment Service Agency office, the local Workforce Investment Act agency or your office.

Tannery management advises there is no relief in sight as concerns the layoff, and our local union has advised that some employees/members are approaching or have exhausted their unemployment benefits. Anything that can be done to help our employees would be greatly appreciated.

During a layoff in 1998 with assistance from your office Wolverine was able to pursue and qualify for Trade Readjustment Act (TRA) benefits for our dislocated employees. Since current conditions mirror those existing in 1998 there is a strong likelihood of achieving TRA status again. Your assistance in guiding us through the right steps would be of great service to Wolverine and its' impacted workers.

James M. Houck
January 31, 2002
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I would appreciate immediate contact from your office and establishment of an on site response team meeting involving your team, Tannery management, our local union officials, and myself. I can be reached at (616) 866-7310. Thank you for your assistance.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James M. Houck". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "H".

cc:

S. Lyons
F. Finch
G. Hammontree
S. Berkshire
G. Mills (UFCWIU)
R. Bremmer (UFCWIU)