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Via facsimile 011 353 61 448202

March 9, 2011

Mr. Barry Coleman
Irish Greyhound Board
New Limerick Greyhound Stadium
Dock Road
Limerick

Dear Mr. Coleman,

This organization joins with animal welfare and greyhound protection organizations worldwide to urge you to reject all proposals for the promotion and facilitation of greyhound racing abroad.

According to published news reports, the Greyhound Board has opened up exploratory meetings with foreign representatives, offered advice and expressed an interest in allowing greyhounds racing in Ireland to be exported to China and other countries. This would not only be a poor reflection on your country, but would cause a second round of suffering for these gentle dogs.

It was only recently, in recognition that racing caused the suffering and neglect of thousands of dogs each year, that the Irish Department of Agriculture finalized new rules for greyhound welfare. In fact, the passage of the Welfare of Greyhounds Bill gave citizens around the world hope that the stories of dogs killed and abandoned in Ireland would finally cease, and that the greyhound industry would be held to a higher standard.

Yet these new rules would become almost meaningless should trainers and owners turn around and send losing or unwanted dogs outside of the country. China in particular raises alarms as there are no effective animal welfare laws in place at all.

We call upon the Greyhound Board to immediately state its intention to block the transfer of greyhounds to China and other countries, and to maintain its focus on addressing the welfare problems that still exist in Ireland itself.

Sincerely,

Christine A. Dorchak, Esq.
President, GREY2K USA

PROTECTING GREYHOUNDS NATIONWIDE

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