Pascal Ferracci, CEO Parques Reunidos Servicios Centales S.A. Paseo de la Castellana, 216. 16th floor 28046 Madrid, Spain

parquesreunidos.com/en/contact-us/other-requests/

telephone: +34-91-526-9700

email: parquesreunidos.comu@grpr.com

twitter: @parquesreunidos

Dear Mr. Ferracci,

US Corporate Headquarters: Parques Reunidos/Palace Entertainment 4590 MacArthur Blvd, #400 Newport Beach, CA 92660 palaceentertainment.com/contact-us

In a time of economic hardship throughout the tourist industry and public opinion increasingly against keeping marine mammals captive, we would like you to reconsider retiring Lolita the orca not only for the sake of this whale who has given your company so much, but for the benefit of Parques Reunidos as well:

- You are going to lose her soon regardless. Having outlived every other captive orca by decades, Lolita is living on borrowed time. Instead of letting her perish in your pool and having to dispose of her body at the local dump, you could capitalize on what would be a tremendous publicity opportunity with a Grand Gesture of Magnanimity by letting her retire to her home in the Pacific Northwest where her mother and family still swim.
- This is your chance to put Parques Reunidos and the Miami Seaquarium at the forefront of a bold new approach to educating the public about orcas. 50-some years since Lolita's capture, we know a lot more about how intelligent, emotive and bonded orca families are. All the scientific research suggests she would recognize her mother and family, and they would recognize her. She spent the first three years of her life swimming in those waters with that pod. Be the leaders to return her to her family and set a new tone for aquariums around the world.
- There is a comprehensive plan in place for her retirement (<u>orcanetwork.org/s/Retirement-Proposal.pdf</u>) based on the past 40+ years of research of the South Resident Orcas who are her extended family. She would have a sea pen where she could slowly re-acclimatize to her home waters and natal pod traveling in the area, as well as round-the-clock human care and support. Her Seaquarium family would be included in this effort to any extent they chose.
- There is no significant risk involved in any phase of Lolita's proposed transport and relocation.

Our request to Parques Reunidos is to add your support and active participation toward Lolita's safe and professional reintroduction to her home waters in the Salish Sea of the Pacific Northwest.

There are millions of people actively striving for Lolita's retirement to the waters of her birth and potentially millions more who will root for your company if you embrace the evolving knowledge on orcas and choose this act of generosity.

In North America and Europe the tide is rapidly turning against the practice of holding whales captive. A recent poll in the UK showed that 86% of the British public is opposed to orca captivity. **This is your chance to create highly favorable, global public attention.** 

Please begin productive dialogue toward working together to retire Lolita to her home waters and family.

Sincerely,