BOB BROWN FOUNDATION

ABN 51 634 785 002
PO Box 4586
Nipaluna / Hobart TAS 7001
(03) 6294 0620
contact@bobbrown.org.au

FAO: Chemist Warehouse Store Manager

Request to stop selling krill oil

You may have seen krill in the news following Bob Brown Foundation's campaign focusing on Swisse as a certified B-Corp selling krill oil. As the leading stockist of not just Swisse's High Strength Krill Oil, but also a wide range of brands including Bioglan, Microgenics, Healthy Care, Blackmores, GO Healthy, Wagner, Bioceutical and Carusos, Chemist Warehouse is directly contributing to the destruction of the Antarctic ecosystem.

We'd like to take the opportunity to reach out and offer a constructive discussion on why stocking krill oil is causing extensive damage to the world's last great wilderness. Krill forms the foundation of the Antarctic marine ecosystem, the primary food source for the humpback whales that grace our Australian waters and bring us so much joy each winter, as well as penguins, seals and seabirds. Yet krill fishing overlaps with their feeding grounds, with eight humpback whales killed as bycatch since 2021, impacts to their pregnancy rates, and more.

You can read our report about Australia's outsized role in krill fishing on our website and learn more about Swisse's role specifically at swissekrills.org. We have been to Antarctica and documented first-hand the destructive impacts of industrial krill fishing. You may have also seen devastating footage in David Attenborough's recent documentary, OCEAN.

Global momentum to end this devastating practice is growing, and the industry's social licence is gone. Late last year, leading global wellness retailer Holland & Barrett announced their commitment to stop sourcing krill oil products to help customers transition to sustainable alternatives. They are also backing global efforts to protect Antarctic wildlife, supporting stronger ecosystem protections, and actively supporting customers with education and guidance. If global companies are already acknowledging and addressing the damage caused by the krill fishing industry to Antarctica and its wildlife, it's time for Australian companies to do the same.

We believe that Chemist Warehouse can follow Holland and Barrett's lead and stop taking part in Antarctica's destruction.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Alistair Allan & Briony Venn
Antarctic campaigners

alistair@bobbrown.org.au
briony@bobbrown.org.au