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PETER J. ABBATE, JR.
Assemblyman 49th District
Kings County

November 8, 2017

Sunil K. Gulati
President
U.S. Soccer Federation
1801 S. Prairie Avenue
Chicago, IL 60616

Dear Mr. Gulati:

I am writing in regards to your recent decision to deny the North American Soccer League (NASL) Division 2 professional sanctioning for the 2018 season. I strongly urge you and the U.S. Soccer Federation to reconsider your decision.

The New York Cosmos, a NASL team who calls the Coney Island neighborhood of Brooklyn home, have been a welcome additional to the community and have gained an avid, loyal following. They have done wonderful outreach to the community and have been of great benefit to the city as well as to the soccer community as a whole. They're fan base in the five-boroughs and beyond has been beneficial to all the attractions in Coney Island by extending the tourist season and drawing new visitors past the summer months. In addition to the economic benefit to the wonderful Coney Island restaurants, bars and hotels, the New York Cosmos have also created job opportunities and employ a great number of people.

For those reasons and more, I would ask you to reinstate the NY Cosmos to Division 2 status as it is crucial to maintaining their success in their current home. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Peter J. Abbate, Jr.
Member of Assembly