PLOSION, LLC (collectively, "Defendants") to warn consumers in California that they are being exposed to lead, a substance known to the State of California to cause cancer, birth defects, and other reproductive harm.

- 2. Defendants BIOPLEX NUTRITION, INC.; BIOPLEX PURE NUTRITION, LLC; CAMANO ISLAND MANAGEMENT, INC. (collectively, "Bioplex Defendants") manufacture, package, distribute, market, and/or sell in California certain products containing lead, including each of the following products ("BIOPLEX PRODUCTS"):
  - a. Bioplex Nutrition Inc. Whey In Weight Gainer Vanilla Cream;
  - b. Bioplex Nutrition Inc. Whey In Weight Gainer Chocolate.
- 3. Defendants FROZEN X-PLOSION, LLC; CAMANO ISLAND MANAGEMENT, INC.; and CAMANO ISLAND COFFEE ROASTERS, LLC (collectively, "Frozen X-Plosion Defendants") manufacture, package, distribute, market, and/or sell in California certain products containing lead, including each of the following products ("FROZEN X-PLOSION PRODUCTS," or collectively with the BIOPLEX PRODUCTS as the "PRODUCTS"):
  - a. FrozenXplosion Protein Generation Smoothie Chocolate;
  - b. FrozenXplosion Protein Generation Smoothie Acai Blue Berry;
  - c. Frozen X-plosion Base.
- 4. Lead and lead compounds (hereinafter, the "LISTED CHEMICAL") is a substance known to the State<sup>1</sup> of California to cause cancer, birth defects, and other reproductive harm.
- 5. The use and/or handling of the PRODUCTS causes exposures to the LISTED CHEMICAL at levels requiring a "clear and reasonable warning" under California's Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986, Health & Safety Code ("H&S Code") §25249.5, et seq. (also known as "Proposition 65"). Defendants have failed to provide the health hazard warnings required by Proposition 65.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> All statutory and regulatory references herein are to California law, unless otherwise specified.

- 6. Defendants' continued manufacturing, packaging, distributing, marketing and/or sales of the PRODUCTS without the required health hazard warnings, causes individuals to be involuntarily and unwittingly exposed to levels of the LISTED CHEMICAL that violate Proposition 65.
- 7. Plaintiff seeks injunctive relief enjoining Defendants from the continued manufacturing, packaging, distributing, marketing and/or sales of the PRODUCTS in California without provision of clear and reasonable warnings regarding the risks of cancer, birth defects, and other reproductive harm posed by exposure to the LISTED CHEMICAL through the use and/or handling of the PRODUCTS. Plaintiff seeks an injunctive order compelling Defendants to bring their business practices into compliance with Proposition 65 by providing a clear and reasonable warning to each individual who has been and who in the future may be exposed to the LISTED CHEMICAL from the use of the PRODUCTS. Plaintiff also seeks an order compelling Defendants to identify and locate each individual person who in the past has purchased the PRODUCTS, and to provide to each such purchaser a clear and reasonable warning that the use of the PRODUCTS will cause exposures to the LISTED CHEMICAL.
- 8. In addition to injunctive relief, Plaintiff seeks an assessment of civil penalties in excess of \$15 million to remedy Defendants' failure to provide clear and reasonable warnings regarding exposures to the LISTED CHEMICAL.

#### **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

- 9. This Court has jurisdiction over this action pursuant to California Constitution Article VI, Section 10, which grants the Superior Court "original jurisdiction in all causes except those given by statute to other trial courts." The statute under which this action is brought does not specify any other basis for jurisdiction.
- 10. This Court has jurisdiction over Defendants because, based on information and belief, Defendants are businesses having sufficient minimum contacts with California, or

otherwise intentionally availing themselves of the California market through the distribution and sale of the PRODUCTS in the State of California to render the exercise of jurisdiction over them by the California courts consistent with traditional notions of fair play and substantial justice.

11. Venue in this action is proper in the Alameda Superior Court because the Defendants have violated California law in the County of Alameda.

# **PARTIES**

- 12. Plaintiff ERC is a non-profit corporation organized under California's Corporation Law. ERC is dedicated to, among other causes, reducing the use and misuse of hazardous and toxic substances, consumer protection, worker safety, and corporate responsibility.
- 13. ERC is a person within the meaning of H&S Code §25118 and brings this enforcement action in the public interest pursuant to H&S Code §25249.7(d).
- 14. Defendant BIOPLEX NUTRITION, INC. is a corporation organized under Washington's Corporation Law and is a person doing business within the meaning of H&S Code §25249.11. BIOPLEX NUTRITION, INC. manufactures, packages, distributes, markets and/or sells the BIOPLEX PRODUCTS for sale or use in California and in Alameda County.
- 15. Defendant BIOPLEX PURE NUTRITION, LLC, is a Limited Liability Company ("LLC") organized under Washington's LLC laws and is a person doing business within the meaning of H&S Code §25249.11. BIOPLEX PURE NUTRITION, LLC manufactures, packages, distributes, markets and/or sells the BIOPLEX PRODUCTS for sale or use in California and in Alameda County.
- 16. Defendant CAMANO ISLAND MANAGEMENT, INC. is a corporation organized under Washington's Corporation Law and is a person doing business within the meaning of H&S Code §25249.11. CAMANO ISLAND MANAGEMENT, INC. manufactures, packages, distributes, markets and/or sells the BIOPLEX PRODUCTS and the FROZEN X-PLOSION PRODUCTS for sale or use in California and in Alameda County.

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17. Defendant CAMANO ISLAND COFFEE ROASTERS, LLC is an LLC organized
under Washington's LLC laws and is a person doing business within the meaning of H&S
Code §25249.11. CAMANO ISLAND COFFEE ROASTERS, LLC manufactures, packages,
distributes, markets and/or sells the FROZEN X-PLOSION PRODUCTS for sale or use in
California and in Alameda County.

18. Defendant FROZEN X-PLOSION, LLC is an LLC organized under Washington's LLC laws and is a person doing business within the meaning of H&S Code §25249.11. FROZEN X-PLOSION, LLC manufactures, packages, distributes, markets and/or sells the FROZEN X-PLOSION PRODUCTS for sale or use in California and in Alameda County.

# STATUTORY BACKGROUND

- 19. The People of the State of California have declared in Proposition 65 their right "[t]o be informed about exposures to chemicals that cause cancer, birth defects, or other reproductive harm." (Section 1(b) of Initiative Measure, Proposition 65).
- 20. To effect this goal, Proposition 65 requires that individuals be provided with a "clear and reasonable warning" before being exposed to substances listed by the State of California as causing cancer or reproductive toxicity. H&S Code §25249.6 states, in pertinent part:

No person in the course of doing business shall knowingly and intentionally expose any individual to a chemical known to the state to cause cancer or reproductive toxicity without first giving clear and reasonable warning to such individual....

- 21. "Knowingly' refers only to knowledge of the fact that a discharge of, release of, or exposure to a chemical listed pursuant to Section 25249.8(a) of the Act is occurring. No knowledge that the discharge, release or exposure is unlawful is required." 27 California Code of Regulations ("CCR") §25102(n).
- 22. Proposition 65 provides that any person "violating or threatening to violate" the statute may be enjoined in a court of competent jurisdiction. (H&S Code §25249.7). The phrase "threatening to violate" is defined to mean creating "a condition in which there is a

substantial likelihood that a violation will occur." (H&S Code §25249.11(e)). Violators are liable for civil penalties of up to \$2,500 per day for each violation of the Act. (H&S Code §25249.7.)

# FACTUAL BACKGROUND

- 23. On February 27, 1987, the State of California officially listed the chemical lead as a chemical known to cause reproductive toxicity. Lead became subject to the warning requirement one year later and was therefore subject to the "clear and reasonable" warning requirements of Proposition 65 beginning on February 27, 1988. 27 California Code of Regulations ("CCR") §25000, et seq.; H&S Code §25249.5, et seq.. Due to the high toxicity of lead, the maximum allowable dose level for lead is 0.5 ug/day (micrograms a day) for reproductive toxicity. 27 CCR § 25805(b).
- 24. On October 1, 1992, the State of California officially listed the chemicals lead and lead compounds as chemicals known to cause cancer. Lead and lead compounds became subject to the warning requirement one year later and were therefore subject to the "clear and reasonable" warning requirements of Proposition 65 beginning on October 1, 1993. 27 CCR § 25102, et seq.; H&S Code §25249.6, et seq.. Due to the carcinogenicity of lead, the no significant risk level for lead is 15 ug/day (micrograms a day). 27 CCR § 25705(b)(1).
- 25. To test Defendants' PRODUCTS for lead, Plaintiff hired a well-respected and accredited testing laboratory that designed the testing protocol used and approved by the California Attorney General years ago for testing heavy metals. The results of testing undertaken by Plaintiff of Defendants' PRODUCTS show that the PRODUCTS tested were in violation of the 0.5 ug/day "safe harbor" daily dose limit set forth in Proposition 65's regulations. Very significant is the fact that people are being exposed to lead through ingestion as opposed to other not as harmful methods of exposure such as dermal exposure. Ingestion of lead produces much higher exposure levels and health risks than does dermal exposure to this chemical.

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- 27. The PRODUCTS have allegedly been sold by Defendants for use in California since at least August 29, 2011. The PRODUCTS continue to be distributed and sold in California without the requisite warning information.
- 28. On August 29, 2014, Plaintiff sent a 60-Day Notice of Proposition 65 ("Notice I") violations to the requisite public enforcement agencies, and to the Bioplex Defendants. A true and correct copy of Notice I is attached hereto as Exhibit A and incorporated by reference. Notice I was issued pursuant to, and in compliance with, the requirements of H&S Code §25249.7(d) and the statute's implementing regulations regarding the notice of the violations to be given to certain public enforcement agencies and to the violator. Notice I included, *inter* alia, the following information: the name, address, and telephone number of the noticing individual; the name of the alleged violator; the statute violated; the approximate time period during which violations occurred; and descriptions of the violations, including the chemicals involved, the routes of toxic exposure, and the specific product or type of product causing the violations, and was issued as follows:
  - Bioplex Defendants were provided a copy of the Notice by Certified a. Mail.
  - b. Bioplex Defendants were provided a copy of a document entitled "The Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (Proposition 65): A Summary," which is also known as Appendix A to Title 27 of CCR §25903.
  - The California Attorney General was provided a copy of the Notice via c. online submission.
  - d. The California Attorney General was provided with a Certificate of Merit

by the attorney for the noticing party, stating that there is a reasonable and meritorious case for this action, and attaching factual information sufficient to establish a basis for the certificate, including the identity of the persons consulted with and relied on by the certifier, and the facts, studies, or other data reviewed by those persons, pursuant to H&S Code §25249.7(h) (2).

29. On August 29, 2014, Plaintiff sent a 60-Day Notice of Proposition 65 ("Notice II") violations to the requisite public enforcement agencies, and to the Frozen X-Plosion Defendants. A true and correct copy of Notice II is attached hereto as Exhibit B and incorporated by reference. Notice II was issued pursuant to, and in compliance with, the requirements of H&S Code §25249.7(d) and the statute's implementing regulations regarding the notice of the violations to be given to certain public enforcement agencies and to the violator. Notice II included, *inter alia*, the following information: the name, address, and telephone number of the noticing individual; the name of the alleged violator; the statute violated; the approximate time period during which violations occurred; and descriptions of the violations, including the chemicals involved, the routes of toxic exposure, and the specific product or type of product causing the violations, and was issued as follows:

- e. Frozen X-Plosion Defendants were provided a copy of the Notice by Certified Mail.
- f. Frozen X-Plosion Defendants were provided a copy of a document entitled "The Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (Proposition 65): A Summary," which is also known as Appendix A to Title 27 of CCR §25903.
- g. The California Attorney General was provided a copy of the Notice via online submission.
- h. The California Attorney General was provided with a Certificate of Merit by the attorney for the noticing party, stating that there is a reasonable

and meritorious case for this action, and attaching factual information sufficient to establish a basis for the certificate, including the identity of the persons consulted with and relied on by the certifier, and the facts, studies, or other data reviewed by those persons, pursuant to H&S Code §25249.7(h) (2).

- 30. At least 60-days have elapsed since Plaintiff sent Notice I and Notice II to the Defendants. The appropriate public enforcement agencies have failed to commence and diligently prosecute a cause of action under H&S Code §25249.5, *et seq.* against Defendants based on the allegations herein.
- 31. As a proximate result of acts by Defendants, as persons in the course of doing business within the meaning of Health & Safety Code §25249.11, individuals throughout the State of California, including in the County of Alameda, have been exposed to the LISTED CHEMICAL without a clear and reasonable warning. The individuals subject to the illegal exposures include normal and foreseeable users of the PRODUCTS, as well as all other persons exposed to the PRODUCTS.

#### FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

(Injunctive Relief for Violations of Health and Safety Code § 25249.5, et seq. concerning the PRODUCTS described in the August 29, 2014 Prop. 65 Notices)

Against All Defendants

- 32. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference all preceding paragraphs as if specifically set forth herein.
- 27. By committing the acts alleged in this Complaint, Defendants at all times relevant to this action, and continuing through the present, have violated H&S Code §25249.6 by, in the course of doing business, knowingly and intentionally exposing individuals who use or handle the PRODUCTS set forth in Notice I and Notice II to the LISTED CHEMICAL, without first providing a clear and reasonable warning to such individuals pursuant to H&S Code §§ 25249.6 and 25249.11(f).

- 28. By the above-described acts, Defendants have violated H&S Code § 25249.6 and are therefore subject to an injunction ordering Defendants to stop violating Proposition 65, to provide warnings to all present and future customers, and to provide warnings to Defendants' past customers who purchased or used the PRODUCTS without receiving a clear and reasonable warning.
- 29. An action for injunctive relief under Proposition 65 is specifically authorized by Health & Safety Code §25249.7(a).
- 30. Continuing commission by Defendants of the acts alleged above will irreparably harm the citizens of the State of California, for which harm they have no plain, speedy, or adequate remedy at law.

Wherefore, Plaintiff prays judgment against Defendants, as set forth hereafter.

#### SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

# (Civil Penalties for Violations of Health and Safety Code § 25249.5, et seq. concerning the PRODUCTS described in the August 29, 2014 Prop. 65 Notices) Against All Defendants

- 31. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by reference all preceding paragraphs as if specifically set forth herein.
- 32. By committing the acts alleged in this Complaint, Defendants at all times relevant to this action, and continuing through the present, have violated H&S Code §25249.6 by, in the course of doing business, knowingly and intentionally exposing individuals who use or handle the PRODUCTS set forth in Notice I and Notice II to the LISTED CHEMICAL, without first providing a clear and reasonable warning to such individuals pursuant to H&S Code §§ 25249.6 and 25249.11(f).
- 33. By the above-described acts, Defendants are liable, pursuant to H&S Code \$25249.7(b), for a civil penalty of \$2,500 per day per violation for each unlawful exposure to the LISTED CHEMICAL from the PRODUCTS, in an amount in excess of \$15 million.

Wherefore, Plaintiff prays judgment against Defendants, as set forth hereafter.

# THE NEED FOR INJUNCTIVE RELIEF

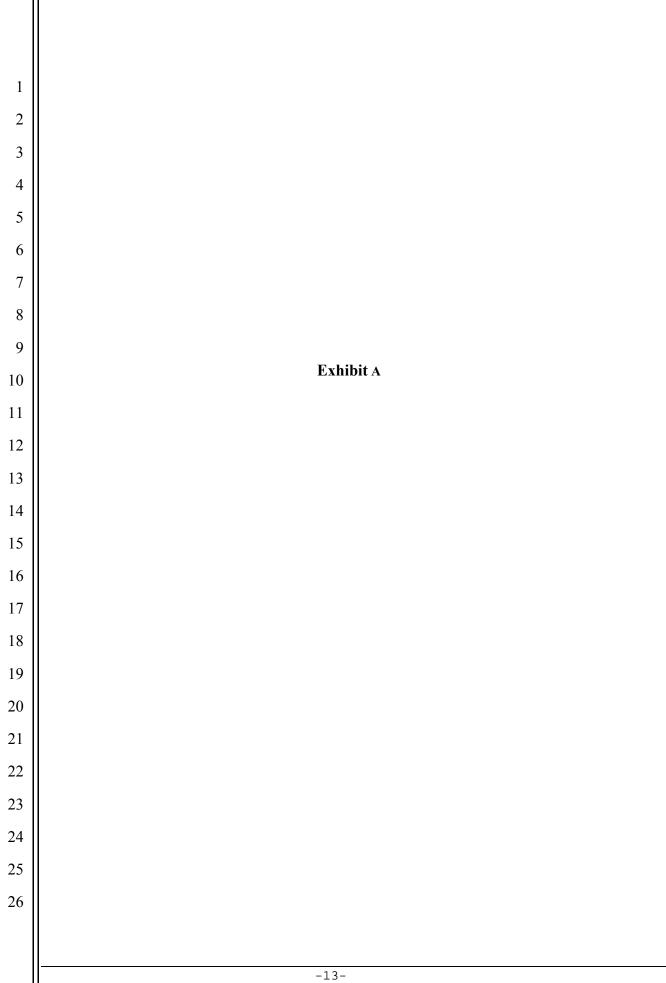
- 34. Plaintiff realleges and incorporates by this reference all preceding paragraphs as if set forth below.
- 35. By committing the acts alleged in this Complaint, Defendants have caused irreparable harm for which there is no plain, speedy or adequate remedy at law. In the absence of equitable relief, Defendants will continue to create a substantial risk of irreparable injury by continuing to cause consumers to be involuntarily and unwittingly exposed to the LISTED CHEMICAL through the use and/or handling of the PRODUCTS.

# **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

Wherefore, Plaintiff accordingly prays for the following relief:

- A. A preliminary and permanent injunction, pursuant to H&S Code §25249.7(b), enjoining Defendants, their agents, employees, assigns and all persons acting in concert or participating with Defendants, from distributing or selling the PRODUCTS in California without first providing a clear and reasonable warning, within the meaning of Proposition 65, that the users and/or handlers of the PRODUCTS are exposed to the LISTED CHEMICAL;
- B. An injunctive order, pursuant to H&S Code §25249.7(b), compelling Defendants to identify and locate each individual who has purchased the PRODUCTS since August 29, 2011, and to provide a warning to such person that the use of the PRODUCTS will expose the user to chemicals known to cause cancer, birth defects, and other reproductive harm;
- C. An assessment of civil penalties pursuant to Health & Safety Code §25249.7(b), against DEFENDANT in the amount of \$2,500 per day for each violation of Proposition 65, in an amount in excess of \$15 million;
- D. An award to Plaintiff of its reasonable attorney's fees and costs of suit pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure §1021.5, as Plaintiff shall specify in further application to the Court; and,

1	E. Such other and further relief as may be just and proper.	
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3	Dated: December 9, 2014 LAW OFFICE OF CHRISTINA M. CARO	
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# LAW OFFICE OF CHRISTINA M. CARO

2506 Haste St. Berkeley, CA 94704 Tel: (510) 387-8597 Fax: (510) 295-2649 christina@ccarolaw.com www.ccarolaw.com

### **VIA CERTIFIED MAIL**

Current CEO or President Bioplex Nutrition, Inc. 150 West Axton Road, #1 Bellingham, WA 98226

Current CEO or President Bioplex Nutrition, Inc. 848 North Sunrise Blvd., Suite B Camano Island, WA 98282

Current CEO or President Bioplex Nutrition, Inc. 2252 Odell Street Blaine, WA 98230

Current CEO or President Bioplex Nutrition, Inc. 5160 Industrial Place, #106 Ferndale, WA 98248

Current CEO or President Bioplex Pure Nutrition, LLC 11768 Westar Lane Burlington, WA 98233

Current CEO or President Bioplex Pure Nutrition, LLC 333 North Hill Boulevard Burlington, WA 98233

B D Services Corporation (Bioplex Nutrition, Inc.'s Registered Agent for Service of Process) 300 North Commercial Street Bellingham, WA 98225 Current CEO or President Camano Island Management, Inc. 848 North Sunrise Blvd., Suite B Camano Island, WA 98282

Onuel Consulting, LLC
(Bioplex Pure Nutrition, LLC's
Registered Agent for Service of Process)
11768 Westar Lane, Units D & E
Burlington, WA 98233

Jeffrey A. Ericson (Camano Island Management, Inc.'s Registered Agent for Service of Process) 848 North Sunrise Blvd., Suite B Camano Island, WA 98282

Onuel Consulting, LLC
(Bioplex Pure Nutrition, LLC's
Registered Agent for Service of Process)
c/o COREY ZEMBRUSKI
Onuel Consulting, LLC's Registered Agent
for Service of Process
1115 CURTIS STREET
BURLINGTON, WA 98233

#### **VIA ONLINE SUBMISSION**

Office of the California Attorney General

#### **VIA PRIORITY MAIL**

District Attorneys of All California Counties and Select City Attorneys (See Attached Certificate of Service) Notice of Violations of California Health & Safety Code §25249.5 *et seq.* August 29, 2014 Page 2

Re: Notice of Violations of California Health & Safety Code Section 25249.5 et seq.

#### Dear Addressees:

I represent the Environmental Research Center, Inc. ("ERC") in connection with this Notice of Violations of California's Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986, which is codified at California Health & Safety Code Section 25249.5 *et seq.* and also referred to as Proposition 65.

ERC is a California non-profit corporation dedicated to, among other causes, helping safeguard the public from health hazards by bringing about a reduction in the use and misuse of hazardous and toxic chemicals, facilitating a safe environment for consumers and employees, and encouraging corporate responsibility.

The names of the Companies covered by this notice that violated Proposition 65 (hereinafter the "Violators") are:

Bioplex Nutrition, Inc. Bioplex Pure Nutrition, LLC Camano Island Management, Inc.

The products that are the subject of this notice and the chemicals in those products identified as exceeding allowable levels are:

# Bioplex Nutrition Inc. Whey In Weight Gainer Vanilla Cream - Lead Bioplex Nutrition Inc. Whey In Weight Gainer Chocolate - Lead

On February 27, 1987, the State of California officially listed lead as a chemical known to cause developmental toxicity, and male and female reproductive toxicity. On October 1, 1992, the State of California officially listed lead and lead compounds as chemicals known to cause cancer.

This letter is a notice to each of the Violators and the appropriate governmental authorities of the Proposition 65 violations concerning the listed products. This notice covers all violations of Proposition 65 involving the Violators currently known to ERC from the information now available. ERC may continue to investigate other products that may reveal further violations. A summary of Proposition 65, prepared by the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, is enclosed with the copy of this letter to each of the Violators.

Each of the Violators has manufactured, marketed, distributed, and/or sold the listed products, which have exposed and continue to expose numerous individuals within California to the identified chemical, lead. The consumer exposures that are the subject of this notice result from the purchase, acquisition, handling and/or recommended use of these products by consumers. The primary route of exposure to lead has been through ingestion, but may have also occurred through inhalation and/or dermal contact. Proposition 65 requires that a clear and

Notice of Violations of California Health & Safety Code §25249.5 *et seq.* August 29, 2014 Page 3

reasonable warning be provided prior to exposure to lead. The method of warning should be a warning that appears on the product's label. Each of the Violators violated Proposition 65 because they failed to provide an appropriate warning to persons using and/or handling these products that they are being exposed to lead. Each of these ongoing violations has occurred on every day since August 29, 2011, as well as every day since the products were introduced in the California marketplace, and will continue every day until clear and reasonable warnings are provided to product purchasers and users.

Pursuant to Section 25249.7(d) of the statute, ERC intends to file a citizen enforcement action sixty days after effective service of this notice unless each of the Violators agrees in an enforceable written instrument to: (1) reformulate the listed products so as to eliminate further exposures to the identified chemicals; (2) pay an appropriate civil penalty; and (3) provide clear and reasonable warnings compliant with Proposition 65 to all persons located in California who purchased the above products in the last three years. Consistent with the public interest goals of Proposition 65 and my client's objectives in pursuing this notice, ERC is interested in seeking a constructive resolution to this matter. Such resolution will avoid both further unwarned consumer exposures to the identified chemicals and expensive and time consuming litigation.

ERC's Executive Director is Chris Heptinstall, and is located at 3111 Camino Del Rio North, Suite 400, San Diego, CA 92108; Tel. 619-500-3090. ERC has retained me in connection with this matter. We suggest that communications regarding this Notice of Violations should be directed to my attention at the above listed law office address and telephone number.

Sincerely,

Christina M. Caro

#### Attachments

Certificate of Merit Certificate of Service

OEHHA Summary (to Bioplex Nutrition, Inc., Bioplex Pure Nutrition, LLC, Camano Island Management, Inc. and their Registered Agents for Service of Process only) Additional Supporting Information for Certificate of Merit (to AG only)

Notice of Violations of California Health & Safety Code §25249.5 *et seq.* August 29, 2014 Page 4

#### **CERTIFICATE OF MERIT**

Re: Environmental Research Center, Inc.'s Notice of Proposition 65 Violations by Bioplex Nutrition, Inc.; Bioplex Pure Nutrition, LLC; Camano Island Management, Inc.

## I, Christina Caro, declare:

- 1. This Certificate of Merit accompanies the attached sixty-day notice in which it is alleged the parties identified in the notice violated California Health & Safety Code Section 25249.6 by failing to provide clear and reasonable warnings.
- 2. I am an attorney for the noticing party.
- 3. I have consulted with one or more persons with relevant and appropriate experience or expertise who have reviewed facts, studies, or other data regarding the exposure to the listed chemical that is the subject of the notice.
- 4. Based on the information obtained through those consultants, and on other information in my possession, I believe there is a reasonable and meritorious case for the private action. I understand that "reasonable and meritorious case for the private action" means that the information provides a credible basis that all elements of the plaintiff's case can be established and that the information did not prove that the alleged Violators will be able to establish any of the affirmative defenses set forth in the statute.
- 5. Along with the copy of this Certificate of Merit served on the Attorney General is attached additional factual information sufficient to establish the basis for this certificate, including the information identified in California Health & Safety Code §25249.7(h)(2), i.e., (1) the identity of the persons consulted with and relied on by the certifier, and (2) the facts, studies, or other data reviewed by those persons.

Dated: August 29, 2014

Christina M. Caro

Notice of Violations of California Health & Safety Code §25249.5 et seq. August 29, 2014 Page 5

#### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, the undersigned, declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the following is true and correct:

I am a citizen of the United States, over the age of 18 years of age, and am not a party to the within entitled action. My business address is 306 Joy Street, Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia 30742. I am a resident or employed in the county where the mailing occurred. The envelope or package was placed in the mail at Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia.

On August 29, 2014, I served the following documents: **NOTICE OF VIOLATIONS OF** CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE \$25249.5 ET SEQ.; CERTIFICATE OF MERIT; "THE SAFE DRINKING WATER AND TOXIC ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 1986 (PROPOSITION 65): A SUMMARY" on the following parties by placing a true and correct copy thereof in a sealed envelope, addressed to the party listed below and depositing it in a U.S. Postal Service Office with the postage fully prepaid for delivery by Certified Mail:

Current CEO or President Bioplex Nutrition, Inc. 150 West Axton Road, #1 Bellingham, WA 98226

Current CEO or President Bioplex Nutrition, Inc. 848 North Sunrise Blvd., Suite B

Camano Island, WA 98282

Current CEO or President Bioplex Nutrition, Inc. 2252 Odell Street Blaine, WA 98230

Current CEO or President Bioplex Nutrition, Inc. 5160 Industrial Place, #106 Ferndale, WA 98248

Current CEO or President Bioplex Pure Nutrition, LLC

11768 Westar Lane Burlington, WA 98233

B D Services Corporation (Bioplex Nutrition, Inc.'s Registered Agent for Service of Process) for Service of Process

300 North Commercial Street Bellingham, WA 98225

Current CEO or President Camano Island Management, Inc. 848 North Sunrise Blvd., Suite B Camano Island, WA 98282

Onuel Consulting, LLC (Bioplex Pure Nutrition, LLC's

Registered Agent for Service of Process) 11768 Westar Lane, Units D & E

Burlington, WA 98233

Jeffrey A. Ericson

(Camano Island Management, Inc.'s Registered Agent for Service of Process) 848 North Sunrise Blvd., Suite B

Camano Island, WA 98282

Current CEO or President Bioplex Pure Nutrition, LLC 333 North Hill Boulevard Burlington, WA 98233

Onuel Consulting, LLC (Bioplex Pure Nutrition, LLC's

Registered Agent for Service of Process)

c/o COREY ZEMBRUSKI

Onuel Consulting, LLC's Registered Agent

1115 CURTIS STREET **BURLINGTON, WA 98233**  Notice of Violations of California Health & Safety Code §25249.5 *et seq.* August 29, 2014 Page 6

On August 29, 2014, I electronically served the following documents: **NOTICE OF VIOLATIONS, CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE §25249.5** *ET SEQ.*; **CERTIFICATE OF MERIT; ADDITIONAL SUPPORTING INFORMATION FOR CERTIFICATE OF MERIT AS REQUIRED BY CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE §25249.7(d)(1)** on the following party by uploading a true and correct copy thereof on the California Attorney General's website, which can be accessed at https://oag.ca.gov/prop65/add-60-day-notice:

Office of the California Attorney General Prop 65 Enforcement Reporting 1515 Clay Street, Suite 2000 Oakland, CA 94612-0550

On August 29, 2014, I served the following documents: **NOTICE OF VIOLATIONS, CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE §25249.5** *ET SEQ.*; **CERTIFICATE OF MERIT** on each of the parties on the Service List attached hereto by placing a true and correct copy thereof in a sealed envelope, addressed to each of the parties **on the Service List attached hereto**, and depositing it with the U.S. Postal Service with the postage fully prepaid for delivery by Priority Mail.

Executed on August 29, 2014, in Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia.

Tiffany Capehart

# Notice of Violations of California Health & Safety Code §25249.5 et seq. August 29, 2014

Page 7

#### **Service List**

District Attorney, Alameda County
1225 Fallon Street, Suite 900
Oakland, CA 94612

District Attorney, Alpine County P.O. Box 248 Markleeville, CA 96120

District Attorney, Amador County 708 Court Street Jackson, CA 95642

District Attorney, Butte County 25 County Center Drive, Suite 245 Oroville, CA 95965

District Attorney, Calaveras County 891 Mountain Ranch Road San Andreas, CA 95249

District Attorney, Colusa County 346 Fifth Street Suite 101 Colusa, CA 95932

District Attorney, Contra Costa County 900 Ward Street Martinez, CA 94553

District Attorney, Del Norte County 450 H Street, Room 171 Crescent City, CA 95531

District Attorney, El Dorado County 515 Main Street Placerville, CA 95667

District Attorney, Fresno County 2220 Tulare Street, Suite 1000 Fresno, CA 93721

District Attorney, Glenn County Post Office Box 430 Willows, CA 95988

District Attorney, Humboldt County 825 5th Street 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Eureka, CA 95501

District Attorney, Imperial County 940 West Main Street, Ste 102 El Centro, CA 92243

District Attorney, Inyo County 230 W. Line Street Bishop, CA 93514

District Attorney, Kern County 1215 Truxtun Avenue Bakersfield, CA 93301

District Attorney, Kings County 1400 West Lacey Boulevard Hanford, CA 93230

District Attorney, Lake County 255 N. Forbes Street Lakeport, CA 95453

District Attorney, Lassen County 220 South Lassen Street, Ste. 8 Susanville, CA 96130 District Attorney, Los Angeles County 210 West Temple Street, Suite 18000 Los Angeles, CA 90012

District Attorney, Madera County 209 West Yosemite Avenue Madera, CA 93637

District Attorney, Marin County 3501 Civic Center Drive, Room 130 San Rafael, CA 94903

District Attorney, Mariposa County Post Office Box 730 Mariposa, CA 95338

District Attorney, Mendocino County Post Office Box 1000 Ukiah, CA 95482

District Attorney, Merced County 550 W. Main Street Merced, CA 95340

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District Attorney, Monterey County Post Office Box 1131 Salinas, CA 93902

District Attorney, Napa County 931 Parkway Mall Napa, CA 94559

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District Attorney, San Benito County 419 Fourth Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Hollister, CA 95023

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District Attorney, San Francisco County 850 Bryant Street, Suite 322 San Francsico, CA 94103

District Attorney, San Joaquin County 222 E. Weber Ave. Rm. 202 Stockton, CA 95202

District Attorney, San Luis Obispo County 1035 Palm St, Room 450 San Luis Obispo, CA 93408

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District Attorney, Shasta County 1355 West Street Redding, CA 96001

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District Attorney, Trinity County Post Office Box 310 Weaverville, CA 96093

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District Attorney, Ventura County 800 South Victoria Ave, Suite 314 Ventura, CA 93009

District Attorney, Yolo County 301 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Woodland, CA 95695

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San Diego City Attorney's Office 1200 3rd Avenue, Ste 1620 San Diego, CA 92101

San Francisco, City Attorney City Hall, Room 234 1 Dr Carlton B Goodlett PL San Francisco, CA 94102

San Jose City Attorney's Office 200 East Santa Clara Street, 16<sup>th</sup> Floor San Jose, CA 95113

# LAW OFFICE OF CHRISTINA M. CARO

2506 Haste St. Berkeley, CA 94704 Tel: (510) 387-8597 Fax: (510) 295-2649 christina@ccarolaw.com www.ccarolaw.com

### **VIA CERTIFIED MAIL**

Current CEO or President Camano Island Coffee Roasters, LLC 848 North Sunrise Blvd., Suite B Camano Island, WA 98282

Current CEO or President Camano Island Management, Inc. 848 North Sunrise Blvd., Suite B Camano Island, WA 98282

Current CEO or President Frozen X-Plosion, LLC 848 North Sunrise Blvd., Suite B Camano Island, WA 98282

Camano Island Management, Inc. (Camano Island Coffee Rosters, LLC's Registered Agent for Service of Process) 848 North Sunrise Blvd., Suite B Camano Island, WA 98282

Camano Island Management, Inc. (Frozen X-Plosion, LLC's Registered Agent for Service of Process) 848 North Sunrise Blvd., Suite B Camano Island, WA 98282

Jeffrey A. Ericson (Camano Island Management, Inc.'s Registered Agent for Service of Process) 848 North Sunrise Blvd., Suite B Camano Island, WA 98282

# **VIA ONLINE SUBMISSION**

Office of the California Attorney General

### **VIA PRIORITY MAIL**

District Attorneys of All California Counties and Select City Attorneys (See Attached Certificate of Service)

Re: Notice of Violations of California Health & Safety Code Section 25249.5 et seq.

Notice of Violations of California Health & Safety Code §25249.5 *et seq.* August 29, 2014 Page 2

#### Dear Addressees:

I represent Environmental Research Center, Inc. ("ERC") in connection with this Notice of Violations of California's Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986, which is codified at California Health & Safety Code Section 25249.5 *et seq.* and also referred to as Proposition 65.

ERC is a California non-profit corporation dedicated to, among other causes, helping safeguard the public from health hazards by bringing about a reduction in the use and misuse of hazardous and toxic chemicals, facilitating a safe environment for consumers and employees, and encouraging corporate responsibility.

The names of the Companies covered by this notice that violated Proposition 65 (hereinafter the "Violators") are:

Frozen X-Plosion, LLC Camano Island Management, Inc. Camano Island Coffee Roasters, LLC

The products that are the subject of this notice and the chemicals in those products identified as exceeding allowable levels are:

FrozenXplosion Protein Generation Smoothie Chocolate - Lead FrozenXplosion Protein Generation Smoothie Acai Blue Berry - Lead Frozen X-plosion Base - Lead

On February 27, 1987, the State of California officially listed lead as a chemical known to cause developmental toxicity, and male and female reproductive toxicity. On October 1, 1992, the State of California officially listed lead and lead compounds as chemicals known to cause cancer.

This letter is a notice to each of the Violators and the appropriate governmental authorities of the Proposition 65 violations concerning the listed products. This notice covers all violations of Proposition 65 involving the Violators currently known to ERC from the information now available. ERC may continue to investigate other products that may reveal further violations. A summary of Proposition 65, prepared by the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, is enclosed with the copy of this letter to each of the Violators.

Each of the Violators has manufactured, marketed, distributed, and/or sold the listed products, which have exposed and continue to expose numerous individuals within California to the identified chemical, lead. The consumer exposures that are the subject of this notice result from the purchase, acquisition, handling and/or recommended use of these products by consumers. The primary route of exposure to lead has been through ingestion, but may have also occurred through inhalation and/or dermal contact. Proposition 65 requires that a clear and reasonable warning be provided prior to exposure to lead. The method of warning should be a

Notice of Violations of California Health & Safety Code §25249.5 *et seq.* August 29, 2014 Page 3

warning that appears on the product's label. Each of the Violators violated Proposition 65 because they failed to provide an appropriate warning to persons using and/or handling these products that they are being exposed to lead. Each of these ongoing violations has occurred on every day since August 29, 2011, as well as every day since the products were introduced in the California marketplace, and will continue every day until clear and reasonable warnings are provided to product purchasers and users.

Pursuant to Section 25249.7(d) of the statute, ERC intends to file a citizen enforcement action sixty days after effective service of this notice unless each of the Violators agrees in an enforceable written instrument to: (1) reformulate the listed products so as to eliminate further exposures to the identified chemicals; (2) pay an appropriate civil penalty; and (3) provide clear and reasonable warnings compliant with Proposition 65 to all persons who purchased the above products in the last three years. Consistent with the public interest goals of Proposition 65 and my client's objectives in pursuing this notice, ERC is interested in seeking a constructive resolution to this matter. Such resolution will avoid both further unwarned consumer exposures to the identified chemicals and expensive and time consuming litigation.

ERC's Executive Director is Chris Heptinstall, and is located at 3111 Camino Del Rio North, Suite 400, San Diego, CA 92108; Tel. 619-500-3090. ERC has retained me in connection with this matter. We suggest that communications regarding this Notice of Violations should be directed to my attention at the above listed law office address and telephone number.

Sincerely,

Christina M. Caro

#### Attachments

Certificate of Merit Certificate of Service

OEHHA Summary (to Frozen X-Plosion, LLC, Camano Island Management, Inc., Camano Island Coffee Roasters, LLC and their Registered Agents for Service of Process only)

Additional Supporting Information for Certificate of Merit (to AG only)

#### **CERTIFICATE OF MERIT**

Re: Environmental Research Center, Inc.'s Notice of Proposition 65 Violations by Camano Island Management, Inc.; Camano Island Coffee Roasters, LLC; Frozen X-Plosion, LLC

#### I, Christina Caro, declare:

- 1. This Certificate of Merit accompanies the attached sixty-day notice in which it is alleged the parties identified in the notice violated California Health & Safety Code Section 25249.6 by failing to provide clear and reasonable warnings.
- 2. I am an attorney for the noticing party.
- 3. I have consulted with one or more persons with relevant and appropriate experience or expertise who have reviewed facts, studies, or other data regarding the exposure to the listed chemical that is the subject of the notice.
- 4. Based on the information obtained through those consultants, and on other information in my possession, I believe there is a reasonable and meritorious case for the private action. I understand that "reasonable and meritorious case for the private action" means that the information provides a credible basis that all elements of the plaintiff's case can be established and that the information did not prove that the alleged Violators will be able to establish any of the affirmative defenses set forth in the statute.
- 5. Along with the copy of this Certificate of Merit served on the Attorney General is attached additional factual information sufficient to establish the basis for this certificate, including the information identified in California Health & Safety Code §25249.7(h)(2), i.e., (1) the identity of the persons consulted with and relied on by the certifier, and (2) the facts, studies, or other data reviewed by those persons.

Dated: August 29, 2014

Christina M. Caro

Notice of Violations of California Health & Safety Code §25249.5 *et seq.* August 29, 2014 Page 5

#### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, the undersigned, declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the following is true and correct:

I am a citizen of the United States, over the age of 18 years of age, and am not a party to the within entitled action. My business address is 306 Joy Street, Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia 30742. I am a resident or employed in the county where the mailing occurred. The envelope or package was placed in the mail at Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia.

On August 29, 2014, I served the following documents: **NOTICE OF VIOLATIONS OF CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE §25249.5** *ET SEQ.*; **CERTIFICATE OF MERIT**; "THE SAFE DRINKING WATER AND TOXIC ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 1986 (PROPOSITION 65): A SUMMARY" on the following parties by placing a true and correct copy thereof in a sealed envelope, addressed to the party listed below and depositing it in a U.S. Postal Service Office with the postage fully prepaid for delivery by Certified Mail:

Current CEO or President Camano Island Coffee Roasters, LLC 848 North Sunrise Blvd., Suite B Camano Island, WA 98282

Current CEO or President Camano Island Management, Inc. 848 North Sunrise Blvd., Suite B Camano Island, WA 98282

Current CEO or President Frozen X-Plosion, LLC 848 North Sunrise Blvd., Suite B Camano Island, WA 98282 Camano Island Management, Inc. (Camano Island Coffee Rosters, LLC's Registered Agent for Service of Process) 848 North Sunrise Blvd., Suite B Camano Island, WA 98282

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Jeffrey A. Ericson (Camano Island Management, Inc.'s Registered Agent for Service of Process) 848 North Sunrise Blvd., Suite B Camano Island, WA 98282

On August 29, 2014, I electronically served the following documents: **NOTICE OF VIOLATIONS**, **CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE §25249.5** *ET SEQ*.; **CERTIFICATE OF MERIT; ADDITIONAL SUPPORTING INFORMATION FOR CERTIFICATE OF MERIT AS REQUIRED BY CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE §25249.7(d)(1)** on the following party by uploading a true and correct copy thereof on the California Attorney General's website, which can be accessed at https://oag.ca.gov/prop65/add-60-day-notice:

Office of the California Attorney General Prop 65 Enforcement Reporting 1515 Clay Street, Suite 2000 Oakland, CA 94612-0550

On August 29, 2014, I served the following documents: **NOTICE OF VIOLATIONS, CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE §25249.5** *ET SEQ.*; **CERTIFICATE OF MERIT** on each of the parties on the Service List attached hereto by placing a true and correct copy thereof in a sealed envelope, addressed to each of the parties **on the Service List attached hereto**, and depositing it with the U.S. Postal Service with the postage fully prepaid for delivery by Priority Mail.

Executed on August 29, 2014, in Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia.

Tiffany Capehart

# Notice of Violations of California Health & Safety Code §25249.5 et seq. August 29, 2014

Page 6

#### **Service List**

District Attorney, Alameda County
1225 Fallon Street, Suite 900
Oakland, CA 94612

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District Attorney, Amador County 708 Court Street Jackson, CA 95642

District Attorney, Butte County 25 County Center Drive, Suite 245 Oroville, CA 95965

District Attorney, Calaveras County 891 Mountain Ranch Road San Andreas, CA 95249

District Attorney, Colusa County 346 Fifth Street Suite 101 Colusa, CA 95932

District Attorney, Contra Costa County 900 Ward Street Martinez, CA 94553

District Attorney, Del Norte County 450 H Street, Room 171 Crescent City, CA 95531

District Attorney, El Dorado County 515 Main Street Placerville, CA 95667

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District Attorney, Humboldt County 825 5th Street 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Eureka, CA 95501

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District Attorney, Inyo County 230 W. Line Street Bishop, CA 93514

District Attorney, Kern County 1215 Truxtun Avenue Bakersfield, CA 93301

District Attorney, Kings County 1400 West Lacey Boulevard Hanford, CA 93230

District Attorney, Lake County 255 N. Forbes Street Lakeport, CA 95453

District Attorney, Lassen County 220 South Lassen Street, Ste. 8 Susanville, CA 96130 District Attorney, Los Angeles County 210 West Temple Street, Suite 18000 Los Angeles, CA 90012

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