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ENDORSED
FILED
ALAMEDA COUNTY

MAY 10 2013

CLERK OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

By TANIA PIERCE

Deputy

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

COUNTY OF ALAMEDA

COMMUNITY SCIENCE INSTITUTE, a
non-profit association,

Plaintiff,

vs.

THE HAIN CELESTIAL GROUP, INC., a
Delaware corporation, ELLA'S KITCHEN,
INC., a Delaware corporation,

Defendants.

Case No.:

R918904436

COMPLAINT FOR INJUNCTIVE
RELIEF AND CIVIL PENALTIES

Plaintiff Community Science Institute ("Plaintiff") brings this action in the interests of
the general public and, on information and belief, hereby alleges:

INTRODUCTION

1. This action seeks to remedy the continuing failure of Defendants The Hain
Celestial Group, Inc. and Ella's Kitchen, Inc. (collectively, "Defendants") to warn individuals
in California that they are being exposed to the chemical acrylamide, a substance known to the
State of California to cause cancer. These exposures have occurred, and continue to occur
through the manufacture, distribution, sale, and consumption of the following food products,
marketed towards children, which contain the chemical acrylamide (the "Children's Foods"):

1. Ella's Kitchen 2 Chick-Chick Chicken Casserole with Vegetables + Rice
2. Ella's Kitchen Toddler Veggie Cracker Bites

COMPLAINT FOR INJUNCTIVE RELIEF AND CIVIL PENALTIES

3. Earth's Best Gluten Free Chicken Nuggets
4. Earth's Best Crunchin' Crackers Cheddar
5. Earth's Best Chicken Nuggets for Kids
6. Earth's Best Organic French Toast Sticks
7. Earth's Best Organic Mini Pancakes Blueberry
8. Earth's Best Organic Mini Waffles Blueberry
9. Earth's Best Organic Sunny Days Snack Bars Apple

2. California's Proposition 65 (Health & Safety Code § 25249.5, *et seq.*), is a right to know statute. Under Proposition 65, it is unlawful for businesses to knowingly and intentionally expose individuals in California to chemicals known to the State to cause cancer, birth defects, or other reproductive harm without providing clear and reasonable warnings to individuals prior to exposure.

3. When children and other consumers eat the Children's Foods, they are exposed to acrylamide at levels requiring a "clear and reasonable warning" under Proposition 65. Yet Defendants have failed to provide any warning to consumers that they are being exposed to the carcinogenic chemical acrylamide.

4. Defendants past and continued manufacturing, distribution, and sale of the Children's Foods in California without a clear and reasonable warning causes individuals, particularly children, to be involuntarily and unwittingly exposed to acrylamide at levels that violate Proposition 65.

5. Plaintiff seeks injunctive relief enjoining Defendants from the continued manufacturing, distribution, and/or sales of the Children's Foods in California without provision of clear and reasonable warnings regarding the risks of cancer posed by exposure to acrylamide through consumption of the Children's Foods. 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

1 future may be exposed to acrylamide from consumption of the Children's Foods. Plaintiff also
2 seeks an order compelling Defendants to identify and locate each individual person who in the
3 past has purchased the Children's Foods, and to provide to each such purchaser a clear and
4 reasonable warning that use of the Children's Foods will cause exposures to acrylamide.
5

6 **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

7 6. This Court has jurisdiction over this action pursuant to Health and Safety Code
8 § 25249.8, allowing enforcement of Proposition 65 in any court of competent jurisdiction, and
9 pursuant to California Constitution Article VI, Section 10, which grants the Superior Court
10 "original jurisdiction in all causes except those given by statute to other trial courts." The
11 causes of actions alleged herein are not given by statute to other trial courts.

12 8. This Court has jurisdiction over Defendants because Defendants are businesses
13 having sufficient minimum contacts with California, or otherwise intentionally availing
14 themselves of the California market through the distribution and sale of the Children's Foods
15 in the State of California to render the exercise of jurisdiction over Defendants by the
16 California courts consistent with traditional notions of fair play and substantial justice.

17 9. Venue in this action is proper in the Alameda Superior Court because the
18 Defendants have violated or threaten to violate California law in the County of Alameda.
19

20 **PARTIES**

21 10. Plaintiff is a non-profit association. Plaintiff operates as a fiscally sponsored
22 project of the non-profit organization Social and Environmental Entrepreneurs. CSI's mission
23 is to unite consumers and industrial neighbors to reform government and industry practices for
24 a toxic free future. CSI is a person within the meaning of Health & Safety Code §25118 and
25 brings this enforcement action in the public interest pursuant to Health & Safety Code
26 §25249.7(d).

27 11. Defendant The Hain Celestial Group, Inc. is a corporation organized under the
28 State of Delaware's corporation law and is a person doing business within the meaning of

1 Health & Safety Code § 25249.11.

2 12. Defendant Ella’s Kitchen, Inc. is a corporation organized under the State of
3 Delaware’s corporation law and is a person doing business within the meaning of Health &
4 Safety Code § 25249.11.
5

6 13. Defendants have manufactured, packaged, distributed, marketed and/or offered
7 the Children’s Foods for sale or use in California and the County of Alameda. Plaintiff is
8 informed and believes, and thereupon alleges, that Defendants continue to manufacture,
9 package, distribute, market and/or sell the Children’s Foods in California and in Alameda
10 County.

11 **STATUTORY BACKGROUND**

12 14. The People of the State of California have declared in Proposition 65 their right
13 “[t]o be informed about exposures to chemicals that cause cancer, birth defects, or other
14 reproductive harm.” Section 1(b) of Initiative Measure, Proposition 65.

15 15. To effect this goal, Proposition 65 requires that individuals be provided with a
16 “clear and reasonable warning” before being exposed to substances listed by the State of
17 California as causing cancer or reproductive toxicity. Health & Safety Code § 25249.6 states,
18 in pertinent part:

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

23 16. “‘Knowingly’ refers only to knowledge of the fact that a discharge of, release of,
24 or exposure to a chemical listed pursuant to Section 25249.8(a) of the Act is occurring. No
25 knowledge that the discharge, release or exposure is unlawful is required.” 27 Cal. Code of
26 Regs. (“CCR”) § 25102(n).

27 17. Proposition 65 provides that any “person who violates or threatens to violate” the
28 statute may be enjoined in a court of competent jurisdiction. Health & Safety Code § 25249.7.
The phrase “threaten to violate” is defined to mean creating “a condition in which there is a

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

18. On January 1, 1990, the State of California officially listed the chemical acrylamide as a chemical known to cause cancer. Acrylamide 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 January 1, 1991. Health & Safety Code § 25249.6 *et seq.*; 27 Cal. Code Regs. §§ 25000, *et seq.* Due to the carcinogenicity of acrylamide, the no significant risk level for acrylamide is 0.2 µg/day (micrograms per day). 27 Cal. Code Regs. § 25705(b)(1).

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

19. To test Defendants’ Children’s Foods for acrylamide, Plaintiff hired a well-respected and accredited testing laboratory. The results of testing undertaken by Plaintiff of the Children’s Foods show that they were in violation of the 0.2 µg/day for acrylamide “safe harbor” daily dose limits set forth in Proposition 65’s regulations. Very significant is the fact that these products are marketed towards children, who are being exposed to acrylamide through ingestion.

20. Based on the testing results, on December 22, 2017, Plaintiff sent two 60-Day Notice of Proposition 65 Violations (“Notices”) to the requisite public enforcement agencies, and to Defendants (a true and correct copy of the two 60-Day Notice letters are attached hereto as **Exhibits A and B** and are incorporated by reference). One of the Notices was sent to defendant The Hain Celestial Group, Inc. regarding seven “Earth’s Best” branded products. The other Notice was sent to defendants The Hain Celestial Group, Inc. and Ella’s Kitchen, Inc. regarding two “Ella’s Kitchen” branded products. The Notices were issued pursuant to, and in compliance with, the requirements of Health & Safety Code §25249.7(d) and the statute’s implementing regulations regarding the notice of the violations to be given to certain

1 public enforcement agencies and to the violators. The Notices included, *inter alia*, the
2 following information: the name, address, and telephone number of the noticing individuals;
3 the name of the alleged violator; the statute violated; the approximate time period during which
4 violations occurred; and descriptions of the violations, including the chemical involved, the
5 routes of toxic exposure, and the specific product or type of product causing the violations, and
6 was issued as follows:

- 7 a. Defendants were provided a copy of the Notice by Certified Mail.
- 8 b. Defendants were provided a copy of a document entitled “The Safe Drinking
9 Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (Proposition 65): A Summary,”
10 which is also known as Appendix A to Title 27 of Cal. Code Regs. § 25903.
- 11 c. The California Attorney General was provided a copy of the Notices via online
12 submission.
- 13 d. For each Notice, the California Attorney General was provided with a
14 Certificate of Merit by the attorney for the noticing party, stating that there is a
15 reasonable and meritorious case for this action, and attaching factual
16 information sufficient to establish a basis for the certificate, including the
17 identity of the persons consulted with and relied on by the certifier, and the
18 facts, studies, or other data reviewed by those persons, pursuant to Health &
19 Safety Code § 25249.7(h)(2).
- 20 e. The district attorneys, city attorneys or prosecutors of each jurisdiction
21 within which the Children’s Foods are offered for sale within California were
22 provided with a copy of the Notices pursuant to Health & Safety Code §
23 25249.7(d)(1).

24 21. At least 60-days have elapsed since Plaintiff sent the Notices to Defendants.
25 The appropriate public enforcement agencies have failed to commence and diligently prosecute
26 a cause of action under Health & Safety Code § 25249.5, *et seq.* against Defendants based on
27
28

1 the allegations herein.

2 22. On information and belief, the Children's Foods have been manufactured,
3 distributed, and/or sold by Defendants for consumption in California since at least February 26,
4 2015. On information and belief, the Children's Foods continue to be distributed and sold in
5 California without the requisite warning information.
6

7 23. At all times relevant to this action, Defendants have knowingly and
8 intentionally exposed the users of the Children's Foods to acrylamide without first giving a
9 clear and reasonable warning to such individuals.

10 24. As a proximate result of acts of Defendants, as persons in the course of doing
11 business within the meaning of Health & Safety Code § 25249.11, individuals throughout the
12 State of California, including in the County of Alameda, have been exposed to acrylamide
13 without a clear and reasonable warning. The individuals subject to the illegal exposures
14 include normal and foreseeable users of the Children's Foods, as well as all other persons
15 exposed to the Children's Foods.

16 **FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION**
17 **(Violations of Health and Safety Code § 25249.5, *et seq.* concerning the Children's Foods**
18 **described in the December 22, 2017 Prop. 65 Notices)**
19 **By Plaintiff Against All Defendants**

20 25. Plaintiff re-alleges and incorporates by reference Paragraphs 1 through 24,
21 inclusive, as if specifically set forth herein.

22 26. Defendants are each persons doing business within the meaning of Health &
23 Safety Code § 25249.11.

24 27. Acrylamide is listed by the State of California as a chemical known to cause
25 cancer.

26 28. Defendants have and continue to knowingly and intentionally expose
27 individuals who ingest the Children's Foods to the chemical acrylamide without first providing
28 a clear and reasonable warning to such individuals pursuant to Health & Safety Code §§

1 25249.6 and 25249.11(f).

2
3 29. Continuing commission by Defendants of the acts alleged above will irreparably
4 harm the citizens of the State of California, for which harm they have no plain, speedy, or
5 adequate remedy at law.

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

7 **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

8 Wherefore, Plaintiff prays for the following relief:

9 1. A preliminary and permanent injunction, pursuant to Health & Safety Code §
10 25249.7(b), enjoining Defendants, their agents, employees, assigns and all persons acting in
11 concert or participating with Defendants, from distributing or selling the Children's Foods in
12 California without first providing a clear and reasonable warning that consumers of the
13 Children's Foods are exposed to acrylamide;

14 2. An injunctive order, pursuant to Health & Safety Code § 25249.7(b),
15 compelling Defendants to identify and locate each individual who has purchased the Children's
16 Foods since February 26, 2015, and to provide a warning to such persons that consumption of
17 the Children's Foods will expose the consumers to a chemical known to cause cancer;

18 3. An assessment of civil penalties pursuant to Health & Safety Code § 25249.7(b)
19 against Defendants in the amount of \$2,500 per day for each violation of Proposition 65;

20 4. An award to Plaintiff of its reasonable attorney's fees and costs of suit pursuant
21 to California Code of Civil Procedure § 1021.5, as Plaintiff shall specify in further application
22 to the Court; and,

23 5. Such other and further relief as may be just and proper.

24 DATED: May 10, 2018

LOZEAU | DRURY LLP

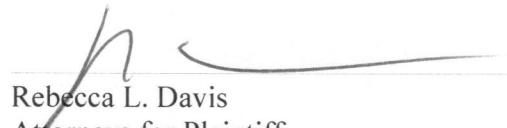
26
27 
28 Rebecca L. Davis
Attorneys for Plaintiff
Community Science Institute

EXHIBIT A



T 510.836.4200
F 510.836.4205

410 12th Street, Suite 250
Oakland, Ca 94607

www.lozeaudrury.com
rebecca@lozeaudrury.com

December 22, 2017

To: President or CEO – Ella’s Kitchen, Inc.
President or CEO – The Hain Celestial Group, Inc.
California Attorney’s Office
District Attorney’s Office for 58 counties
City Attorney’s for San Francisco, San Diego, San Jose, and Los Angeles
(See attached Certificate of Service)

From: Community Science Institute

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

Dear Addressees:

This firm represents Community Science Institute (“CSI”) 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.* (“Proposition 65”). CSI is a fiscally sponsored project of the non-profit organization Social and Environmental Entrepreneurs. CSI’s mission is to unite consumers and industrial neighbors to reform government and industry practices for a toxic free future. This letter serves to provide notification of these violations to you and to the public enforcement agencies of Proposition 65.

This letter constitutes notice that the entities listed below have violated and continue to violate provisions of Proposition 65. Specifically, the entities listed below have violated and continue to violate the warning requirement at § 25249.6 of the California Health & Safety Code, which provides that “[n]o 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...”

Violator: The names of the violators covered by this notice that violated Proposition 65 (hereinafter collectively referred to as the “Violators”) are: (1) Ella’s Kitchen, Inc., and (2) The Hain Celestial Group, Inc.

Listed Chemical: These violations involve exposure to the listed chemical acrylamide. On January 1, 1990, California officially listed acrylamide as a chemical known to the State of California to cause cancer. On February 25, 2011, California officially listed acrylamide as a chemical known to cause reproductive and developmental toxicity.

December 22, 2017

Page 2

Consumer Products: The following specific products that are the subject of this notice are causing exposures in violation of Proposition 65 are:

1. Ella's Kitchen 2 Chick-Chick Chicken Casserole with Vegetables + Rice
2. Ella's Kitchen Toddler Veggie Cracker Bites

Violation: The alleged Violators knowingly and intentionally exposed and continue to expose consumers within the State of California to acrylamide without providing a Proposition 65 warning. The Violators have manufactured, marketed, distributed, and/or sold the listed products, which have exposed and continue to expose numerous individuals within California to the identified chemical, acrylamide.

Route of Exposure: Use of the products identified in this notice results in human exposures to acrylamide. The primary route of exposure is ingestion.

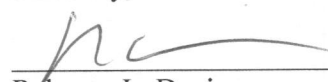
Duration of Violation: The violations have been occurring since at least December 22, 2014, and are ongoing.

A summary of Proposition 65, prepared by the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, is enclosed with the copy of this letter sent to the Violator.

Pursuant to California Health & Safety Code § 25249.7(d), CSI intends to file a citizen enforcement action sixty days after effective service of this notice unless the Violators agree in an enforceable written agreement 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, CSI is interested in seeking a constructive resolution to this matter. Such resolution will avoid both further unwarned consumer exposures to the identified chemical and expensive and time consuming litigation.

CSI's Executive Director is Denny Larson, and is located at 6263 Bernhard Avenue, Richmond, California 94805, Tel. 415-845-4705. CSI has retained my firm in connection with this matter. Please direct all questions concerning this notice to me, Rebecca Davis (rebecca@lozeaudrury.com), Lozeau Drury LLP, 410 12th Street, Suite 250, Oakland, California 94607, (510) 836-4200.

Sincerely,



Rebecca L. Davis

Attachments:

Certificate of Merit

Certificate of Service

OEHHA Summary (to Violators and their Registered Agents for Service of Process only)

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

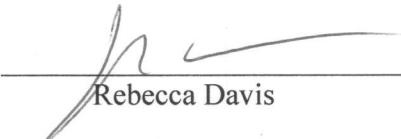
CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

Re: Community Science Institute's Notice of Proposition 65 Violations by Ella's Kitchen, Inc. and The Hain Celestial Group, Inc.

I, Rebecca Davis, declare:

1. This Certificate of Merit accompanies the attached sixty-day notice in which it is alleged that 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, Community Science Institute.
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 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 violator(s) 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, additional factual information sufficient to establish the basis for this certificate has been served on the Attorney General, 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: December 22, 2017



Rebecca Davis

APPENDIX A

OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH HAZARD ASSESSMENT CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

THE SAFE DRINKING WATER AND TOXIC ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 1986 (PROPOSITION 65): A SUMMARY

The following summary has been prepared by the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA), the lead agency for the implementation of the Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (commonly known as “Proposition 65”). A copy of this summary must be included as an attachment to any notice of violation served upon an alleged violator of the Act. The summary provides basic information about the provisions of the law, and is intended to serve only as a convenient source of general information. It is not intended to provide authoritative guidance on the meaning or application of the law. The reader is directed to the statute and OEHHA implementing regulations (see citations below) for further information.

FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING THE BASIS FOR THE ALLEGATIONS IN THE NOTICE RELATED TO YOUR BUSINESS, CONTACT THE PERSON IDENTIFIED ON THE NOTICE.

The text of Proposition 65 (Health and Safety Code Sections 25249.5 through 25249.13) is available online at: <http://oehha.ca.gov/prop65/law/P65law72003.html>. Regulations that provide more specific guidance on compliance, and that specify procedures to be followed by the State in carrying out certain aspects of the law, are found in Title 27 of the California Code of Regulations, sections 25102 through 27001.¹ These implementing regulations are available online at: <http://oehha.ca.gov/prop65/law/P65Regs.html>.

WHAT DOES PROPOSITION 65 REQUIRE?

The “Proposition 65 List.” Under Proposition 65, the lead agency (OEHHA) publishes a list of chemicals that are known to the State of California to cause cancer and/or reproductive toxicity. Chemicals are placed on the Proposition 65 list if they are known to cause cancer and/or birth defects or other reproductive harm, such as damage to

¹ All further regulatory references are to sections of Title 27 of the California Code of Regulations unless otherwise indicated. The statute, regulations and relevant case law are available on the OEHHA website at: <http://www.oehha.ca.gov/prop65/law/index.html>.

female or male reproductive systems or to the developing fetus. This list must be updated at least once a year. The current Proposition 65 list of chemicals is available on the OEHHA website at: http://www.oehha.ca.gov/prop65/prop65_list/Newlist.html.

Only those chemicals that are on the list are regulated under Proposition 65. Businesses that produce, use, release or otherwise engage in activities involving listed chemicals must comply with the following:

Clear and reasonable warnings. A business is required to warn a person before “knowingly and intentionally” exposing that person to a listed chemical unless an exemption applies. The warning given must be “clear and reasonable.” This means that the warning must: (1) clearly make known that the chemical involved is known to cause cancer, or birth defects or other reproductive harm; and (2) be given in such a way that it will effectively reach the person before he or she is exposed to that chemical. Some exposures are exempt from the warning requirement under certain circumstances discussed below.

Prohibition from discharges into drinking water. A business must not knowingly discharge or release a listed chemical into water or onto land where it passes or probably will pass into a source of drinking water. Some discharges are exempt from this requirement under certain circumstances discussed below.

DOES PROPOSITION 65 PROVIDE ANY EXEMPTIONS?

Yes. You should consult the current version of the statute and regulations (<http://www.oehha.ca.gov/prop65/law/index.html>) to determine all applicable exemptions, the most common of which are the following:

Grace Period. Proposition 65 warning requirements do not apply until 12 months after the chemical has been listed. The Proposition 65 discharge prohibition does not apply to a discharge or release of a chemical that takes place less than 20 months after the listing of the chemical.

Governmental agencies and public water utilities. All agencies of the federal, state or local government, as well as entities operating public water systems, are exempt.

Businesses with nine or fewer employees. Neither the warning requirement nor the discharge prohibition applies to a business that employs a total of nine or fewer employees. This includes all employees, not just those present in California.

Exposures that pose no significant risk of cancer. For chemicals that are listed under Proposition 65 as known to the State to cause cancer, a warning is not required if the business causing the exposure can demonstrate that the exposure occurs at a level that poses “no significant risk.” This means that the exposure is calculated to result in not more than one excess case of cancer in 100,000 individuals exposed over a 70-year lifetime. The Proposition 65 regulations identify specific “No Significant Risk Levels” (NSRLs) for many listed carcinogens. Exposures below these levels are exempt from the warning requirement. See OEHHA's website at: <http://www.oehha.ca.gov/prop65/getNSRLs.html> for a list of NSRLs, and Section 25701 *et seq.* of the regulations for information concerning how these levels are calculated.

Exposures that will produce no observable reproductive effect at 1,000 times the level in question. For chemicals known to the State to cause reproductive toxicity, a warning is not required if the business causing the exposure can demonstrate that the exposure will produce no observable effect, even at 1,000 times the level in question. In other words, the level of exposure must be below the “no observable effect level” divided by 1,000. This number is known as the Maximum Allowable Dose Level (MADL). See OEHHA's website at: <http://www.oehha.ca.gov/prop65/getNSRLs.html> for a list of MADLs, and Section 25801 *et seq.* of the regulations for information concerning how these levels are calculated.

Exposures to Naturally Occurring Chemicals in Food. Certain exposures to chemicals that naturally occur in foods (i.e., that do not result from any known human activity, including activity by someone other than the person causing the exposure) are exempt from the warning requirements of the law. If the chemical is a contaminant² it must be reduced to the lowest level feasible. Regulations explaining this exemption can be found in Section 25501.

Discharges that do not result in a “significant amount” of the listed chemical entering any source of drinking water. The prohibition from discharges into drinking water does not apply if the discharger is able to demonstrate that a “significant amount” of the listed chemical has not, does not, or will not pass into or probably pass into a source of drinking water, and that the discharge complies with all other applicable laws, regulations, permits, requirements, or orders. A “significant amount” means any detectable amount, except an amount that would meet the “no significant risk” level for chemicals that cause cancer or that is 1,000 times below the “no observable effect” level for chemicals that cause reproductive toxicity, if an individual were exposed to that amount in drinking water.

² See Section 25501(a)(4).

HOW IS PROPOSITION 65 ENFORCED?

Enforcement is carried out through civil lawsuits. These lawsuits may be brought by the Attorney General, any district attorney, or certain city attorneys. Lawsuits may also be brought by private parties acting in the public interest, but only after providing notice of the alleged violation to the Attorney General, the appropriate district attorney and city attorney, and the business accused of the violation. The notice must provide adequate information to allow the recipient to assess the nature of the alleged violation. The notice must comply with the information and procedural requirements specified in Section 25903 of Title 27 and sections 3100-3103 of Title 11. A private party may not pursue an independent enforcement action under Proposition 65 if one of the governmental officials noted above initiates an enforcement action within sixty days of the notice.

A business found to be in violation of Proposition 65 is subject to civil penalties of up to \$2,500 per day for each violation. In addition, the business may be ordered by a court to stop committing the violation.

A private party may not file an enforcement action based on certain exposures if the alleged violator meets specific conditions. For the following types of exposures, the Act provides an opportunity for the business to correct the alleged violation:

- An exposure to alcoholic beverages that are consumed on the alleged violator's premises to the extent onsite consumption is permitted by law;
- An exposure to a Proposition 65 listed chemical in a food or beverage prepared and sold on the alleged violator's premises that is primarily intended for immediate consumption on- or off-premises. This only applies if the chemical was not intentionally added to the food, and was formed by cooking or similar preparation of food or beverage components necessary to render the food or beverage palatable or to avoid microbiological contamination;
- An exposure to environmental tobacco smoke caused by entry of persons (other than employees) on premises owned or operated by the alleged violator where smoking is permitted at any location on the premises;
- An exposure to listed chemicals in engine exhaust, to the extent the exposure occurs inside a facility owned or operated by the alleged violator and primarily intended for parking non-commercial vehicles.

If a private party alleges that a violation occurred based on one of the exposures described above, the private party must first provide the alleged violator a notice of special compliance procedure and proof of compliance form.

A copy of the notice of special compliance procedure and proof of compliance form is included in Appendix B and can be downloaded from OEHHA's website at:
<http://oehha.ca.gov/prop65/law/p65law72003.html>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE LAW OR REGULATIONS...

Contact the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment's Proposition 65 Implementation Office at (916) 445-6900 or via e-mail at
P65Public.Comments@oehha.ca.gov.

Revised: May 2017

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 25249.12, Health and Safety Code. Reference: Sections 25249.5, 25249.6, 25249.7, 25249.9, 25249.10 and 25249.11, Health and Safety Code.

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 old, and am not a party to the within action. My business address is 410 12th Street, Suite 250, Oakland, California 94607, in Alameda County, where the mailing occurred.

On December 22, 2017, I served the following documents: **(1) NOTICE OF VIOLATIONS OF THE CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE §25249.5 ET SEQ.; (2) CERTIFICATE OF MERIT; (3) THE SAFE DRINKING WATER AND TOXIC ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 1986 (PROPOSITION 65): A SUMMARY** on the following entities by placing a true and correct copy thereof in a sealed envelope with postage fully prepaid for delivery by Certified Mail, addressed to the entity listed below, and placing the envelope for collection and mailing, following our ordinary business practices. I am readily familiar with this business's practice for collecting and processing correspondence for mailing. On the same day that correspondence is placed for collection and mailing, it is deposited in the ordinary course of business with the United States Postal Service.

Current President or CEO
The Hain Celestial Group, Inc.
111 Marcus Avenue, #1
Lake Success, NY 11042

Current President or CEO
Ella's Kitchen, Inc.
111 Marcus Avenue, #1
Lake Success, NY 11042

CT Corporation System
(Registered Agent for Service of Process for
The Hain Celestial Group, Inc.)
818 West Seventh Street, Suite 930
Los Angeles, CA 90017

CT Corporation System
(Registered Agent for Service of Process for
Ella's Kitchen, Inc.)
818 West Seventh Street, Suite 930
Los Angeles, CA 90017

On December 22, 2017, I served the following documents **(1) NOTICE OF VIOLATIONS OF THE CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE §25249.5 ET SEQ.; (2) CERTIFICATE OF MERIT; (3) ADDITIONAL SUPPORTING INFORMATION FOR CERTIFICATE OF MERIT AS REQUIRED BY CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE § 25249.7(d)(1)** on the following party when a true and correct copy thereof was uploaded 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

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copy thereof was sent via electronic mail to the party listed below:

Stacey Grassini, Deputy District Attorney
Contra Costa County
900 Ward Street
Martinez, CA 94553
sgrassini@contracostada.org

Michelle Latimer, Program Coordinator
Lassen County
220 S. Lassen Street
Susanville, CA 96130
mlatimer@co.lassen.ca.us

Dije Ndreu, Deputy District Attorney
Monterey County
1200 Aguajito Road
Monterey, CA 93940
Prop65DA@co.monterey.ca.us

Gary Lieberstein, District Attorney
Napa County
931 Parkway Mall
Napa, CA 94559
CEPD@countyofnapa.org

Paul E. Zellerbach, District Attorney
Riverside County
3072 Orange Street
Riverside, CA 92501
Prop65@rivcoda.org

Anne Marie Schubert, District Attorney
Sacramento County
901 G Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
Prop65@sacda.org

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San Francisco County
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gregory.alker@sfgov.org

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301 Second Street
Woodland, CA 95695
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Executed on December 22, 2017, in Oakland, California.


Daniel Charlier-Smith

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
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District Attorney, Butte
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District Attorney, Calaveras
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District Attorney, Madera
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209 West Yosemite Avenue
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District Attorney, Marin
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District Attorney, Mariposa
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Post Office Box 730
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District Attorney,
Mendocino County
Post Office Box 1000
Ukiah, CA 95482

District Attorney, Merced
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District Attorney, Modoc
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Alturas, CA 96101-4020

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Santa Ana, CA 92701

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Ste 240
Roseville, CA 95678

District Attorney, Plumas
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Quincy, CA 95971

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Hollister, CA 95023

District Attorney, San
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Marysville, CA 95901

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City Hall East
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Los Angeles, CA 90012

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

San Francisco, City Attorney
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1 Dr Carlton B Goodlett PL
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San Jose City Attorney's
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200 East Santa Clara Street,
16th Floor
San Jose, CA 95113

EXHIBIT B



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Oakland, Ca 94607

www.lozeaudrury.com
rebecca@lozeaudrury.com

December 22, 2017

To: President or CEO – The Hain Celestial Group, Inc.
California Attorney's Office
District Attorney's Office for 58 counties
City Attorney's for San Francisco, San Diego, San Jose, and Los Angeles
(See attached Certificate of Service)

From: Community Science Institute

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

Dear Addressees:

This firm represents Community Science Institute ("CSI") 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.* ("Proposition 65"). CSI is a fiscally sponsored project of the non-profit organization Social and Environmental Entrepreneurs. CSI's mission is to unite consumers and industrial neighbors to reform government and industry practices for a toxic free future. This letter serves to provide notification of these violations to you and to the public enforcement agencies of Proposition 65.

This letter constitutes notice that the entity listed below has violated and continues to violate provisions of Proposition 65. Specifically, the entity listed below has violated and continues to violate the warning requirement at § 25249.6 of the California Health & Safety Code, which provides that "[n]o 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..."

Violator: The name of the violator covered by this notice that violated Proposition 65 (hereinafter collectively referred to as the "Violator") is The Hain Celestial Group, Inc.

Listed Chemical: These violations involve exposure to the listed chemical acrylamide. On January 1, 1990, California officially listed acrylamide as a chemical known to the State of California to cause cancer. On February 25, 2011, California officially listed acrylamide as a chemical known to cause reproductive and developmental toxicity.

Consumer Products: The following specific products that are the subject of this notice are causing exposures in violation of Proposition 65 are:

1. Earth's Best Gluten Free Chicken Nuggets

2. Earth's Best Crunchin' Crackers Cheddar
3. Earth's Best Chicken Nuggets for Kids
4. Earth's Best Organic French Toast Sticks
5. Earth's Best Organic Mini Pancakes Blueberry
6. Earth's Best Organic Mini Waffles Blueberry
7. Earth's Best Organic Sunny Days Snack Bars Apple

Violation: The alleged Violator knowingly and intentionally exposed and continues to expose consumers within the State of California to acrylamide without providing a Proposition 65 warning. The Violator 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, acrylamide.

Route of Exposure: Use of the products identified in this notice results in human exposures to acrylamide. The primary route of exposure is ingestion.

Duration of Violation: The violations have been occurring since at least December 22, 2014, and are ongoing.

A summary of Proposition 65, prepared by the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, is enclosed with the copy of this letter sent to the Violator.

Pursuant to California Health & Safety Code § 25249.7(d), CSI intends to file a citizen enforcement action sixty days after effective service of this notice unless the Violator agrees in an enforceable written agreement 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, CSI is interested in seeking a constructive resolution to this matter. Such resolution will avoid both further unwarned consumer exposures to the identified chemical and expensive and time consuming litigation.

CSI's Executive Director is Denny Larson, and is located at 6263 Bernhard Avenue, Richmond, California 94805, Tel. 415-845-4705. CSI has retained my firm in connection with this matter. Please direct all questions concerning this notice to me, Rebecca Davis (rebecca@lozeaudrury.com), Lozeau Drury LLP, 410 12th Street, Suite 250, Oakland, California 94607, (510) 836-4200.

Sincerely,



Rebecca L. Davis

Attachments:

- Certificate of Merit
- Certificate of Service
- OEHHA Summary (to Violators and their Registered Agents for Service of Process only)
- Additional Supporting Information for Certificate of Merit (to AG only)

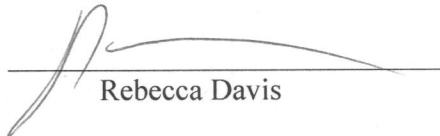
CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

**Re: Community Science Institute's Notice of Proposition 65 Violations by The
Hain Celestial Group, Inc.**

I, Rebecca Davis, declare:

1. This Certificate of Merit accompanies the attached sixty-day notice in which it is alleged that 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, Community Science Institute.
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 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 violator(s) 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, additional factual information sufficient to establish the basis for this certificate has been served on the Attorney General, 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: December 22, 2017


Rebecca Davis

APPENDIX A

OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH HAZARD ASSESSMENT CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

THE SAFE DRINKING WATER AND TOXIC ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 1986 (PROPOSITION 65): A SUMMARY

The following summary has been prepared by the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA), the lead agency for the implementation of the Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (commonly known as “Proposition 65”). A copy of this summary must be included as an attachment to any notice of violation served upon an alleged violator of the Act. The summary provides basic information about the provisions of the law, and is intended to serve only as a convenient source of general information. It is not intended to provide authoritative guidance on the meaning or application of the law. The reader is directed to the statute and OEHHA implementing regulations (see citations below) for further information.

FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING THE BASIS FOR THE ALLEGATIONS IN THE NOTICE RELATED TO YOUR BUSINESS, CONTACT THE PERSON IDENTIFIED ON THE NOTICE.

The text of Proposition 65 (Health and Safety Code Sections 25249.5 through 25249.13) is available online at: <http://oehha.ca.gov/prop65/law/P65law72003.html>. Regulations that provide more specific guidance on compliance, and that specify procedures to be followed by the State in carrying out certain aspects of the law, are found in Title 27 of the California Code of Regulations, sections 25102 through 27001.¹ These implementing regulations are available online at: <http://oehha.ca.gov/prop65/law/P65Regs.html>.

WHAT DOES PROPOSITION 65 REQUIRE?

The “Proposition 65 List.” Under Proposition 65, the lead agency (OEHHA) publishes a list of chemicals that are known to the State of California to cause cancer and/or reproductive toxicity. Chemicals are placed on the Proposition 65 list if they are known to cause cancer and/or birth defects or other reproductive harm, such as damage to

¹ All further regulatory references are to sections of Title 27 of the California Code of Regulations unless otherwise indicated. The statute, regulations and relevant case law are available on the OEHHA website at: <http://www.oehha.ca.gov/prop65/law/index.html>.

female or male reproductive systems or to the developing fetus. This list must be updated at least once a year. The current Proposition 65 list of chemicals is available on the OEHHA website at: http://www.oehha.ca.gov/prop65/prop65_list/Newlist.html.

Only those chemicals that are on the list are regulated under Proposition 65. Businesses that produce, use, release or otherwise engage in activities involving listed chemicals must comply with the following:

Clear and reasonable warnings. A business is required to warn a person before “knowingly and intentionally” exposing that person to a listed chemical unless an exemption applies. The warning given must be “clear and reasonable.” This means that the warning must: (1) clearly make known that the chemical involved is known to cause cancer, or birth defects or other reproductive harm; and (2) be given in such a way that it will effectively reach the person before he or she is exposed to that chemical. Some exposures are exempt from the warning requirement under certain circumstances discussed below.

Prohibition from discharges into drinking water. A business must not knowingly discharge or release a listed chemical into water or onto land where it passes or probably will pass into a source of drinking water. Some discharges are exempt from this requirement under certain circumstances discussed below.

DOES PROPOSITION 65 PROVIDE ANY EXEMPTIONS?

Yes. You should consult the current version of the statute and regulations (<http://www.oehha.ca.gov/prop65/law/index.html>) to determine all applicable exemptions, the most common of which are the following:

Grace Period. Proposition 65 warning requirements do not apply until 12 months after the chemical has been listed. The Proposition 65 discharge prohibition does not apply to a discharge or release of a chemical that takes place less than 20 months after the listing of the chemical.

Governmental agencies and public water utilities. All agencies of the federal, state or local government, as well as entities operating public water systems, are exempt.

Businesses with nine or fewer employees. Neither the warning requirement nor the discharge prohibition applies to a business that employs a total of nine or fewer employees. This includes all employees, not just those present in California.

Exposures that pose no significant risk of cancer. For chemicals that are listed under Proposition 65 as known to the State to cause cancer, a warning is not required if the business causing the exposure can demonstrate that the exposure occurs at a level that poses “no significant risk.” This means that the exposure is calculated to result in not more than one excess case of cancer in 100,000 individuals exposed over a 70-year lifetime. The Proposition 65 regulations identify specific “No Significant Risk Levels” (NSRLs) for many listed carcinogens. Exposures below these levels are exempt from the warning requirement. See OEHHA's website at: <http://www.oehha.ca.gov/prop65/getNSRLs.html> for a list of NSRLs, and Section 25701 *et seq.* of the regulations for information concerning how these levels are calculated.

Exposures that will produce no observable reproductive effect at 1,000 times the level in question. For chemicals known to the State to cause reproductive toxicity, a warning is not required if the business causing the exposure can demonstrate that the exposure will produce no observable effect, even at 1,000 times the level in question. In other words, the level of exposure must be below the “no observable effect level” divided by 1,000. This number is known as the Maximum Allowable Dose Level (MADL). See OEHHA's website at: <http://www.oehha.ca.gov/prop65/getNSRLs.html> for a list of MADLs, and Section 25801 *et seq.* of the regulations for information concerning how these levels are calculated.

Exposures to Naturally Occurring Chemicals in Food. Certain exposures to chemicals that naturally occur in foods (i.e., that do not result from any known human activity, including activity by someone other than the person causing the exposure) are exempt from the warning requirements of the law. If the chemical is a contaminant² it must be reduced to the lowest level feasible. Regulations explaining this exemption can be found in Section 25501.

Discharges that do not result in a “significant amount” of the listed chemical entering any source of drinking water. The prohibition from discharges into drinking water does not apply if the discharger is able to demonstrate that a “significant amount” of the listed chemical has not, does not, or will not pass into or probably pass into a source of drinking water, and that the discharge complies with all other applicable laws, regulations, permits, requirements, or orders. A “significant amount” means any detectable amount, except an amount that would meet the “no significant risk” level for chemicals that cause cancer or that is 1,000 times below the “no observable effect” level for chemicals that cause reproductive toxicity, if an individual were exposed to that amount in drinking water.

² See Section 25501(a)(4).

HOW IS PROPOSITION 65 ENFORCED?

Enforcement is carried out through civil lawsuits. These lawsuits may be brought by the Attorney General, any district attorney, or certain city attorneys. Lawsuits may also be brought by private parties acting in the public interest, but only after providing notice of the alleged violation to the Attorney General, the appropriate district attorney and city attorney, and the business accused of the violation. The notice must provide adequate information to allow the recipient to assess the nature of the alleged violation. The notice must comply with the information and procedural requirements specified in Section 25903 of Title 27 and sections 3100-3103 of Title 11. A private party may not pursue an independent enforcement action under Proposition 65 if one of the governmental officials noted above initiates an enforcement action within sixty days of the notice.

A business found to be in violation of Proposition 65 is subject to civil penalties of up to \$2,500 per day for each violation. In addition, the business may be ordered by a court to stop committing the violation.

A private party may not file an enforcement action based on certain exposures if the alleged violator meets specific conditions. For the following types of exposures, the Act provides an opportunity for the business to correct the alleged violation:

- An exposure to alcoholic beverages that are consumed on the alleged violator's premises to the extent onsite consumption is permitted by law;
- An exposure to a Proposition 65 listed chemical in a food or beverage prepared and sold on the alleged violator's premises that is primarily intended for immediate consumption on- or off-premises. This only applies if the chemical was not intentionally added to the food, and was formed by cooking or similar preparation of food or beverage components necessary to render the food or beverage palatable or to avoid microbiological contamination;
- An exposure to environmental tobacco smoke caused by entry of persons (other than employees) on premises owned or operated by the alleged violator where smoking is permitted at any location on the premises;
- An exposure to listed chemicals in engine exhaust, to the extent the exposure occurs inside a facility owned or operated by the alleged violator and primarily intended for parking non-commercial vehicles.

If a private party alleges that a violation occurred based on one of the exposures described above, the private party must first provide the alleged violator a notice of special compliance procedure and proof of compliance form.

A copy of the notice of special compliance procedure and proof of compliance form is included in Appendix B and can be downloaded from OEHHA's website at:
<http://oehha.ca.gov/prop65/law/p65law72003.html>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE LAW OR REGULATIONS...

Contact the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment's Proposition 65 Implementation Office at (916) 445-6900 or via e-mail at
P65Public.Comments@oehha.ca.gov.

Revised: May 2017

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 25249.12, Health and Safety Code. Reference: Sections 25249.5, 25249.6, 25249.7, 25249.9, 25249.10 and 25249.11, Health and Safety Code.

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 old, and am not a party to the within action. My business address is 410 12th Street, Suite 250, Oakland, California 94607, in Alameda County, where the mailing occurred.

On December 22, 2017, I served the following documents: **(1) NOTICE OF VIOLATIONS OF THE CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE §25249.5 ET SEQ.; (2) CERTIFICATE OF MERIT; (3) THE SAFE DRINKING WATER AND TOXIC ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 1986 (PROPOSITION 65): A SUMMARY** on the following entities by placing a true and correct copy thereof in a sealed envelope with postage fully prepaid for delivery by Certified Mail, addressed to the entity listed below, and placing the envelope for collection and mailing, following our ordinary business practices. I am readily familiar with this business's practice for collecting and processing correspondence for mailing. On the same day that correspondence is placed for collection and mailing, it is deposited in the ordinary course of business with the United States Postal Service.

Current President or CEO
The Hain Celestial Group, Inc.
111 Marcus Avenue, #1
Lake Success, NY 11042

CT Corporation System
(Registered Agent for Service of Process for
The Hain Celestial Group, Inc.)
818 West Seventh Street, Suite 930
Los Angeles, CA 90017

On December 22, 2017, I served the following documents **(1) NOTICE OF VIOLATIONS OF THE CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE §25249.5 ET SEQ.; (2) CERTIFICATE OF MERIT; (3) ADDITIONAL SUPPORTING INFORMATION FOR CERTIFICATE OF MERIT AS REQUIRED BY CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE § 25249.7(d)(1)** on the following party when a true and correct copy thereof was uploaded 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

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Contra Costa County
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Martinez, CA 94553
sgrassini@contracostada.org

Michelle Latimer, Program Coordinator
Lassen County
220 S. Lassen Street
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mlatimer@co.lassen.ca.us

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Monterey County
1200 Aguajito Road
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Executed on December 22, 2017, in Oakland, California.


Daniel Charlier-Smith

Service List

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County
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Oakland, CA 94612

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District Attorney, Amador
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Colusa, CA 95932

District Attorney, Del Norte
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Crescent City, CA 95531

District Attorney, El Dorado
County
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Placerville, CA 95667

District Attorney, Fresno
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County
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Eureka, CA 95501

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230 W. Line Street
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209 West Yosemite Avenue
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District Attorney, Mariposa
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