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FILED BY FAX
 ALAMEDA COUNTY
 July 08, 2019
 CLERK OF
 THE SUPERIOR COURT
 By Shabra Iyamu, Deputy
 CASE NUMBER:
RG19025289

8 **SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**
 9 **COUNTY OF ALAMEDA**

11 **ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH CENTER,**
 12 **INC., a California non-profit corporation**

CASE NO. RG19025289

13 **Plaintiff,**

**FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT FOR
 INJUNCTIVE AND DECLARATORY
 RELIEF AND CIVIL PENALTIES**

14 vs.

15 **BIOSTEEL SPORTS NUTRITION INC.;**
 16 **SMART WAREHOUSING, LLC; and DOES**
 1-100

[Miscellaneous Civil Complaint (42)]
 Proposition 65, Health & Safety Code
 Section 25249.5 et seq.]

17 **Defendants.**

20 Plaintiff Environmental Research Center, Inc. hereby alleges:

21 **I**

22 **INTRODUCTION**

23 1. Plaintiff Environmental Research Center, Inc. (hereinafter "Plaintiff" or "ERC") brings
 24 this action as a private attorney general enforcer and in the public interest pursuant to Health &
 25 Safety Code section 25249.7, subdivision (d). The Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement
 26 Act of 1986 (Health & Safety Code section 25249.5 *et seq.*) also known as "Proposition 65,"
 27 mandates that businesses with ten or more employees must provide a "clear and reasonable
 28 warning" prior to exposing any individual to a chemical known to the state to cause cancer or

1 reproductive toxicity. Lead and cadmium are chemicals known to the State of California to
2 cause cancer, birth defects, and other reproductive harm. This First Amended Complaint seeks
3 injunctive and declaratory relief and civil penalties to remedy the ongoing failure of Defendants
4 BioSteel Sports Nutrition Inc. (“BioSteel”), Smart Warehousing, LLC (“Smart Warehousing”)
5 and Does 1-100 (hereinafter individually referred to as “Defendant” or collectively as
6 “Defendants”), to warn consumers that they have been exposed to lead and/or cadmium from a
7 number of BioSteel’s nutritional health products as set forth in paragraph 3 at levels exceeding
8 the applicable Maximum Allowable Dose Level (“MADL”) and requiring a warning pursuant to
9 Health & Safety Code section 25249.6.

10 II

11 PARTIES

12 2. Plaintiff ERC is a California non-profit corporation dedicated to, among other causes,
13 helping safeguard the public from health hazards by reducing the use and misuse of hazardous
14 and toxic chemicals, facilitating a safe environment for consumers and employees, and
15 encouraging corporate responsibility.

16 3. Defendants BioSteel and Smart Warehousing are businesses that develop, manufacture,
17 market, distribute, and/or sell nutritional health products that have exposed users to lead and/or
18 cadmium in the State of California within the relevant statute of limitations period. These
19 “SUBJECT PRODUCTS” (as identified in the Notices of Violation dated April 11, 2019 and
20 April 18, 2019 attached hereto as **Exhibits A and B**) are: (1) Biosteel Natural High
21 Performance Sports Mix Lemon Lime (lead), (2) Biosteel Sports Nutrition Natural High
22 Performance Sports Mix Blue Raspberry (lead), (3) Biosteel Sports Nutrition Sport Greens High
23 Performance Superfood Pineapple Coconut (lead), (4) Biosteel Sports Nutrition Sport Greens
24 High Performance Superfood Acai Lemonade (lead), (5) Biosteel Sports Nutrition Sport Greens
25 High Performance Superfood Pomegranate Berry (lead), (6) Biosteel Sports Nutrition Natural
26 Isolate Protein Chocolate (lead), (7) Biosteel Natural High Performance Sport Mix Orange
27 (lead), (8) Biosteel Sports Nutrition Organic Recovery Plant Protein Vanilla (lead), (9) Biosteel
28 Sports Nutrition Organic Recovery Plant Protein Chocolate (lead), (10) Biosteel Sports

1 Nutrition Plant-Based Protein Vanilla (lead, cadmium), (11) Biosteel Sports Nutrition Plant-
2 Based Protein Natural (lead, cadmium), (12) Biosteel Natural High Performance Sports Mix
3 Mixed Berry (lead), (13) Biosteel Nutritional Bar Original (lead), (14) Biosteel Recovery
4 Formula Chocolate Peanut Butter (lead, cadmium), (15) Biosteel Sports Nutrition Natural Whey
5 Isolate + Plus Chocolate (lead), (16) Biosteel Sports Nutrition Plant-Based Protein Chocolate
6 (lead, cadmium), (17) Biosteel Recovery Formula Vanilla (lead), (18) Biosteel Sports Nutrition
7 Whey Protein Isolate Vanilla (lead), and (19) Biosteel Sports Nutrition Natural High
8 Performance Sports Mix Grape Raisin (lead). BioSteel and Smart Warehousing are companies
9 subject to Proposition 65 as they each employ ten or more persons and have employed ten or
10 more persons at all times relevant to this action.

11 4. Defendants Does 1-100, are named herein under fictitious names, as their true names
12 and capacities are unknown to ERC. ERC is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that
13 each of said Does is responsible, in some actionable manner, for the events and happenings
14 hereinafter referred to, either through said Does' conduct, or through the conduct of its agents,
15 servants or employees, or in some other manner, causing the harms alleged by ERC in this First
16 Amended Complaint. When said true names and capacities of Does are ascertained, ERC will
17 seek leave to amend this First Amended Complaint to set forth the same.

18 III

19 JURISDICTION AND VENUE

20 5. This Court has jurisdiction pursuant to California Constitution Article VI, Section 10,
21 which grants the Superior Court original jurisdiction in all causes except those given by statute
22 to other trial courts. The statute under which this action is brought does not specify any other
23 basis for jurisdiction.

24 6. This Court has jurisdiction over BioSteel and Smart Warehousing because these
25 Defendants each have sufficient minimum contacts with California, and otherwise intentionally
26 avail themselves of the California market through the marketing, distribution, and/or sale of the
27 SUBJECT PRODUCTS in the State of California so as to render the exercise of jurisdiction
28 over these Defendants by the California courts consistent with traditional notions of fair play

1 and substantial justice.

2 7. The First Amended Complaint is based on allegations contained in the Notices of
3 Violation dated April 11, 2019 and April 18, 2019, served on the California Attorney General,
4 other public enforcers, BioSteel and Smart Warehousing. The Notices of Violation constitute
5 adequate notice to BioSteel and Smart Warehousing because they provided adequate
6 information to allow BioSteel and Smart Warehousing to assess the nature of the alleged
7 violations, consistent with Proposition 65 and its implementing regulations. A certificate of
8 merit and a certificate of service accompanied each copy of the Notices of Violation, and both
9 certificates comply with Proposition 65 and its implementing regulations. The Notices of
10 Violation served on the Defendants also included a copy of “The Safe Drinking Water and
11 Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (Proposition 65): A Summary.” Service of the Notices of
12 Violation and accompanying documents complied with Proposition 65 and its implementing
13 regulations. Attached hereto as **Exhibits A and B** are true and correct copies of the Notices of
14 Violation and associated documents. More than 60 days have passed since ERC mailed the
15 Notices of Violation and no public enforcement entity has filed a Complaint in this case.

16 8. This Court is the proper venue for the action because the causes of action have arisen in
17 the County of Alameda where some of the violations of law have occurred, and will continue to
18 occur, due to the ongoing sale of BioSteel’s products. Furthermore, venue is proper in this
19 Court under Code of Civil Procedure section 395.5 and Health & Safety Code section 25249.7.

20 IV

21 STATUTORY BACKGROUND

22 9. The Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 is an initiative statute
23 passed as “Proposition 65” by an overwhelming majority vote of the people in November of
24 1986.

25 10. The warning requirement of Proposition 65 is contained in Health & Safety Code
26 section 25249.6, which provides:

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

1 reasonable warning to such individual, except as provided in Section
2 25249.10.

3 11. The Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (“OEHHA”), a division of Cal
4 EPA, is the lead agency in charge of the implementation of Proposition 65. OEHHA
5 administers the Proposition 65 program and administers regulations that govern Proposition 65
6 in general, including warnings to comply with the statute. The warning regulations are found at
7 Title 27 of the California Code of Regulations, Article 6. The regulations define expose as “to
8 cause to ingest, inhale, contact via body surfaces or otherwise come into contact with a listed
9 chemical. An individual may come into contact with a listed chemical through water, air, food,
10 consumer products and any other environmental exposure as well as occupational exposures.”
11 (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 27, § 25102, subd. (i).)

12 12. In this case, the exposures are caused by consumer products. A consumer product is
13 defined as “any article, or component part thereof, including food, that is produced, distributed,
14 or sold for the personal use, consumption or enjoyment of a consumer.” (Cal. Code Regs., tit.
15 27, § 25600.1, subd. (d).) Food includes “dietary supplements as defined in California Code of
16 Regulations, title 17, section 10200.” (*Id.* at subd. (g).) A consumer product exposure is “an
17 exposure that results from a person’s acquisition, purchase, storage, consumption, or any
18 reasonably foreseeable use of a consumer product, including consumption of a food.” (*Id.* at
19 subd. (e).)

20 13. On August 30, 2016, the Office of Administrative Law approved the adoption of
21 OEHHA’s amendments to Article 6, Clear and Reasonable Warnings of the California Code of
22 Regulations. This action repealed virtually all the regulatory provisions of Title 27 of the
23 California Code of Regulations, Article 6 (sections 25601 et seq.) The action replaced the
24 repealed sections with a new regulation set forth in two new Subarticles to Article 6 that became
25 operative on August 30, 2018. The repealed and new regulations provide, among other things,
26 methods of transmission and content of warnings deemed to comply with Proposition 65.
27 BioSteel and Smart Warehousing are subject to the warning regulations set forth both prior to
28 and subsequent to August 30, 2018.

1 14. Prior to the enactment of the new warning regulations, whenever a clear and reasonable
2 warning was required under Health & Safety Code section 25249.6, the “method employed to
3 transmit the warning must be reasonably calculated considering the alternative methods
4 available under the circumstances, to make the warning message available prior to exposure.”
5 (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 27, §25601.) The warning requirement would be satisfied by a warning
6 that appeared on a product’s label or other labeling, shelf labeling, signs, a system of signs,
7 public advertising identifying the system and toll-free information services, or any other system,
8 that provided clear and reasonable warnings. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 27, §25603.1, subd. (a)-(d).)
9 Pursuant to the new warning regulations, consumer product warnings “must be prominently
10 displayed on a label, labeling, or sign, and must be displayed with such conspicuousness as
11 compared with other words, statements, designs or devices on the label, labeling, or sign, as to
12 render the warning likely to be seen, read, and understood by an ordinary individual under
13 customary conditions of purchase or use.” (*Id.* at § 25601, subd. (c).)

14 15. Proposition 65 establishes a procedure by which the State is to develop a list of
15 chemicals “known to the State to cause cancer or reproductive toxicity.” (Health & Safety Code,
16 § 25249.8.) There is no duty to provide a clear and reasonable warning until 12-months after
17 the chemical is published on the State list. (Health & Safety Code, § 25249.10, subd. (b).)

18 16. Lead was listed as a chemical known to the State of California to cause developmental
19 toxicity in the fetus and male and female reproductive toxicity on February 27, 1987. Lead was
20 listed as a chemical known to the State of California to cause cancer on October 1, 1992. (State
21 of California EPA OEHHA Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986
22 Chemicals Known to the State to Cause Cancer and Reproductive Toxicity.) The MADL for
23 lead as a chemical known to cause reproductive toxicity is 0.5 micrograms per day. (Cal. Code
24 Regs., tit. 27, §25805, subd. (b).) The No Significant Risk Level for lead as a carcinogen is 15
25 micrograms per day. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 27, §25705, subd. (b).)

26 17. Cadmium was officially listed as a chemical known to cause developmental toxicity and
27 male reproductive toxicity on May 1, 1997, while cadmium and cadmium compounds were
28 listed as chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer on October 1, 1987. (State

1 of California EPA OEHHA Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986
2 Chemicals Known to the State to Cause Cancer and Reproductive Toxicity.) The MADL for
3 cadmium as a chemical known to cause reproductive toxicity is 4.1 micrograms per day. (Cal.
4 Code Regs., tit. 27, §25805, subd. (b).)

5 18. Proposition 65 provides that any person “violating or threatening to violate” Proposition
6 65 may be enjoined in any court of competent jurisdiction. (Health & Safety Code, §25249.7,
7 subd. (a).) To “threaten to violate” means “to create a condition in which there is a substantial
8 probability that a violation will occur.” (Health & Safety Code, § 25249.11, subd. (e).)

9 Furthermore, violators are subject to a civil penalty of up to \$2,500 per day for each violation.
10 (Health & Safety Code, § 25249.7, subd. (b)(1).)

11 19. Proposition 65 may be enforced by any person in the public interest who provides notice
12 sixty days before filing suit to both the violator and designated law enforcement officials. The
13 failure of law enforcement officials to file a timely Complaint enables a citizen suit to be filed
14 pursuant to Health & Safety Code section 25249.7, subdivisions (c) and (d).

15 **V**

16 **STATEMENT OF FACTS**

17 20. BioSteel and/or Smart Warehousing have developed, manufactured, marketed,
18 distributed, and/or sold the SUBJECT PRODUCTS containing lead and/or cadmium into the
19 State of California. Consumption of the SUBJECT PRODUCTS according to the directions
20 and/or recommendations provided for said products causes consumers to be exposed to lead at
21 levels exceeding the 0.5 micrograms per day MADL and/or cadmium at levels exceeding the
22 4.1 micrograms per day MADL and requiring a warning. Consumers have been ingesting these
23 products for many years, without any knowledge of their exposure to these very dangerous
24 chemicals.

25 21. For many years, BioSteel and Smart Warehousing, either individually or collectively,
26 have knowingly and intentionally exposed numerous persons to lead and/or cadmium without
27 providing any type of Proposition 65 warning. Prior to ERC’s Notices of Violation and this
28 First Amended Complaint, BioSteel and Smart Warehousing, either individually or collectively,

1 failed to provide a warning on the labels of the SUBJECT PRODUCTS or provide any other
2 legally acceptable warning. BioSteel and Smart Warehousing, either individually or
3 collectively, have, at all times relevant hereto, been aware that the SUBJECT PRODUCTS
4 contained lead and/or cadmium and that persons using these products have been exposed to
5 these chemicals. BioSteel and Smart Warehousing, either individually or collectively, have
6 been aware of the presence of lead and/or cadmium in the SUBJECT PRODUCTS and have
7 failed to disclose the presence of these chemicals to the public, who undoubtedly believe they
8 have been ingesting totally healthy and pure products pursuant to the company's statements.

9 22. Both prior and subsequent to ERC's Notices of Violation, BioSteel and Smart
10 Warehousing failed to provide consumers of the SUBJECT PRODUCTS with a clear and
11 reasonable warning that they have been exposed to chemicals known to the State of California
12 to cause cancer, birth defects and other reproductive harm. This failure to warn is ongoing.

13 **FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION**
14 **(Violation of Section 25249.6 of the Health and Safety Code, Failure to Provide Clear and**
15 **Reasonable Warning under Proposition 65)**

16 23. ERC refers to paragraphs 1-22, inclusive, and incorporates them herein by this
17 reference.

18 24. By committing the acts alleged above, BioSteel and Smart Warehousing have, in the
19 course of doing business, knowingly and intentionally exposed users of the SUBJECT
20 PRODUCTS to lead and/or cadmium, chemicals known to the State of California to cause
21 cancer, birth defects, and other reproductive harm, without first giving clear and reasonable
22 warning to such individuals within the meaning of Health & Safety Code section 25249.6. In
23 doing so, BioSteel and Smart Warehousing have violated Health & Safety Code section 25249.6
24 and continue to violate the statute with each successive sale of the SUBJECT PRODUCTS.

25 25. Said violations render BioSteel and Smart Warehousing liable for civil penalties, up to
26 \$2,500 per day for each violation, and subject BioSteel and Smart Warehousing to injunction.

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1 **SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION**
2 **(Declaratory Relief)**

3 26. ERC refers to paragraphs 1-25, inclusive, and incorporates them herein by this
4 reference.

5 27. There exists an actual controversy relating to the legal rights and duties of the Parties,
6 within the meaning of Code of Civil Procedure section 1060, between ERC and BioSteel and
7 Smart Warehousing, concerning whether BioSteel and Smart Warehousing have exposed
8 individuals to chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer, birth defects, and
9 other reproductive harm without providing clear and reasonable warning.

10 **VI**

11 **PRAYER**

12 WHEREFORE ERC prays for relief as follows:

13 1. On the First Cause of Action, for civil penalties for each and every violation according
14 to proof;

15 2. On the First Cause of Action, and pursuant to Health & Safety Code section 25249.7,
16 subdivision (a), for such temporary restraining orders, preliminary and permanent injunctive
17 orders, or other orders as are necessary to prevent BioSteel and Smart Warehousing from
18 exposing persons to lead and/or cadmium without providing clear and reasonable warning;

19 3. On the Second Cause of Action, for a declaratory judgment pursuant to Code of Civil
20 Procedure section 1060 declaring that BioSteel and Smart Warehousing have exposed
21 individuals to lead and/or cadmium without providing clear and reasonable warning; and

22 4. On all Causes of Action, for reasonable attorneys' fees pursuant to Code of Civil
23 Procedure section 1021.5 or the substantial benefit theory;

24 5. For costs of suit herein; and

25 6. For such other relief as the Court may deem just and proper.

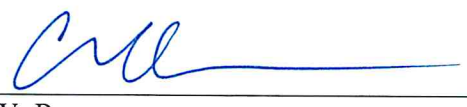
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1 DATED: July 8, 2019

ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH CENTER, INC.



Charles W. Poss
In-House Counsel for Plaintiff

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EXHIBIT A



Environmental Research Center

3111 Camino Del Rio North, Suite 400
San Diego, CA 92108
619-500-3090

April 11, 2019

NOTICE OF VIOLATIONS OF CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE SECTION 25249.5 *ET SEQ.* (PROPOSITION 65)

Dear Alleged Violators and the Appropriate Public Enforcement Agencies:

I am the Executive Director of Environmental Research Center, Inc. (“ERC”). 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.

ERC has identified violations of California’s Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (“Proposition 65”), which is codified at California Health & Safety Code §25249.5 *et seq.*, with respect to the products identified below. These violations have occurred and continue to occur because the alleged Violators identified below failed to provide required clear and reasonable warnings with these products. This letter serves as a notice of these violations to the alleged Violators and the appropriate public enforcement agencies. Pursuant to Section 25249.7(d) of the statute, ERC intends to file a private enforcement action in the public interest 60 days after effective service of this notice unless the public enforcement agencies have commenced and are diligently prosecuting an action to rectify these violations.

General Information about Proposition 65. A copy of a summary of Proposition 65, prepared by the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, is attached with the copy of this letter served to the alleged Violators identified below.

Alleged Violators. The names of the companies covered by this notice that violated Proposition 65 (hereinafter the “Violators”) are:

**BioSteel Sports Nutrition Inc.
Smart Warehousing, LLC**

Consumer Products and Listed Chemicals. The products that are the subject of this notice and the chemicals in those products identified as exceeding allowable levels are:

1. Biosteel Natural High Performance Sports Mix - Lead

2. **Biosteel Natural High Performance Sports Mix Lemon Lime - Lead**
3. **Biosteel Sports Nutrition Natural High Performance Sports Mix Blue Raspberry - Lead**
4. **Biosteel Sports Nutrition Sport Greens High Performance Superfood Pineapple Coconut - Lead**
5. **Biosteel Sports Nutrition Sport Greens High Performance Superfood Acai Lemonade - Lead**
6. **Biosteel Sports Nutrition Sport Greens High Performance Superfood Pomegranate Berry – Lead**
7. **Biosteel Sports Nutrition Natural Isolate Protein Chocolate - Lead**
8. **Biosteel Natural High Performance Sport Mix Orange - Lead**
9. **Biosteel Sports Nutrition Organic Recovery Plant Protein Vanilla - Lead**
10. **Biosteel Sports Nutrition Organic Recovery Plant Protein Chocolate - Lead**
11. **Biosteel Sports Nutrition Plant-Based Protein Vanilla - Lead, Cadmium**
12. **Biosteel Sports Nutrition Plant-Based Protein Natural – Lead, Cadmium**

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.

Cadmium was officially listed as a chemical known to cause developmental toxicity and male reproductive toxicity on May 1, 1997, while cadmium and cadmium compounds were listed as chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer on October 1, 1987.

It should be noted that ERC may continue to investigate other products that may reveal further violations and result in subsequent notices of violations.

Route of Exposure. The consumer exposures that are the subject of this notice result from the recommended use of these products. Consequently, the route of exposure to these chemicals has been and continues to be through ingestion.

Approximate Time Period of Violations. Ongoing violations have occurred every day since at least April 11, 2016, as well as every day since the products were introduced into the California marketplace, and will continue every day until clear and reasonable warnings are provided to product purchasers and users or until these known toxic chemicals are either removed from or reduced to allowable levels in the products. Proposition 65 requires that a clear and reasonable warning be provided prior to exposure to the identified chemicals. The method of warning should be a warning that appears on the product label. The Violators violated Proposition 65 because they failed to provide persons ingesting these products with appropriate warnings that they are being exposed to these chemicals.

Consistent with the public interest goals of Proposition 65 and a desire to have these ongoing violations of California law quickly rectified, ERC is interested in seeking a constructive resolution of this matter that includes an enforceable written agreement by the Violators to: (1) reformulate the identified products so as to eliminate further exposures to the

April 11, 2019

Page 3

identified chemicals, or provide appropriate warnings on the labels of these products; (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. Such a resolution will prevent further unwarned consumer exposures to the identified chemicals, as well as an expensive and time-consuming litigation.

Please direct all questions concerning this notice to ERC at the above listed address and telephone number.

Sincerely,



Chris Heptinstall
Executive Director
Environmental Research Center

Attachments

Certificate of Merit

Certificate of Service

OEHHA Summary (to BioSteel Sports Nutrition Inc., Smart Warehousing, LLC and its 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 BioSteel Sports Nutrition Inc. and Smart Warehousing, LLC

I, Chris Heptinstall, declare:

1. This Certificate of Merit accompanies the attached 60-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 the Executive Director 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 chemicals that are 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: April 11, 2019

Chris Heptinstall

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE PURSUANT TO 27 CCR § 25903

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 and over the age of 18 years of age. 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 April 11, 2019, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time, 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 each of the parties listed below and depositing it in a U.S. Postal Service Office with the postage fully prepaid for delivery by Certified Mail:

Current President or CEO
BioSteel Sports Nutrition Inc.
1-87 Wingold Avenue
North York, ON M6B 1P8
Canada

Current President or CEO
BioSteel Sports Nutrition Inc.
90 Wingold Avenue
Toronto, ON M6B 1P5
Canada

Current President or CEO
Smart Warehousing, LLC
18905 Kill Creek Rd
Edgerton, KS 66021

LJ Wasinger
(Registered Agent for Smart Warehousing, LLC)
1869 N Topping Avenue
Kansas City, MO 64120

Current President or CEO
Smart Warehousing, LLC
16500 E. Truman Rd
Independence, MO 64050

Carl Wasinger
(Registered Agent for Smart Warehousing, LLC)
18905 Kill Creek Rd
Edgerton, KS 66021

Paul Robbin
(Registered Agent for Smart Warehousing, LLC)
1545 E Locust St
Ontario, CA 91761

On April 11, 2019, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time, I verified 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)** were served 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
Post Office Box 70550
Oakland, CA 94612-0550

On April 11, 2019, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time, verified the following documents **NOTICE OF VIOLATIONS, CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE §25249.5 ET SEQ.; CERTIFICATE OF MERIT** were served on the following parties when a true and correct copy thereof was sent via electronic mail to each of the parties listed below:

Notice of Violations of California Health & Safety Code §25249.5 *et seq.*

April 11, 2019

Page 6

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Notice of Violations of California Health & Safety Code §25249.5 *et seq.*

April 11, 2019

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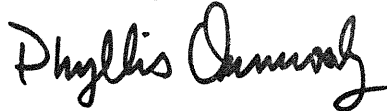
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301 Second Street
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cfepd@yolocounty.org

On April 11, 2019, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time, 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 First Class Mail.

Executed on April 11, 2019, in Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia.



Phyllis Dunwoody

Service List

District Attorney, Alpine
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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.

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EXHIBIT B



Environmental Research Center

3111 Camino Del Rio North, Suite 400
San Diego, CA 92108
619-500-3090

April 18, 2019

NOTICE OF VIOLATIONS OF CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE SECTION 25249.5 ET SEQ. (PROPOSITION 65)

Dear Alleged Violators and the Appropriate Public Enforcement Agencies:

I am the Executive Director of Environmental Research Center, Inc. (“ERC”). 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.

ERC has identified violations of California’s Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (“Proposition 65”), which is codified at California Health & Safety Code §25249.5 *et seq.*, with respect to the products identified below. These violations have occurred and continue to occur because the alleged Violators identified below failed to provide required clear and reasonable warnings with these products. This letter serves as a notice of these violations to the alleged Violators and the appropriate public enforcement agencies. Pursuant to Section 25249.7(d) of the statute, ERC intends to file a private enforcement action in the public interest 60 days after effective service of this notice unless the public enforcement agencies have commenced and are diligently prosecuting an action to rectify these violations.

General Information about Proposition 65. A copy of a summary of Proposition 65, prepared by the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, is attached with the copy of this letter served to the alleged Violators identified below.

Alleged Violators. The names of the companies covered by this notice that violated Proposition 65 (hereinafter the “Violators”) are:

**BioSteel Sports Nutrition Inc.
Smart Warehousing, LLC**

Consumer Products and Listed Chemicals. The products that are the subject of this notice and the chemicals in those products identified as exceeding allowable levels are:

1. **Biosteel Natural High Performance Sports Mix Mixed Berry - Lead**
2. **Biosteel Nutritional Bar Original - Lead**
3. **Biosteel Recovery Formula Chocolate Peanut Butter – Lead, Cadmium**
4. **Biosteel Sports Nutrition Natural Whey Isolate + Plus Chocolate - Lead**
5. **Biosteel Sports Nutrition Plant-Based Protein Chocolate – Lead, Cadmium**
6. **Biosteel Recovery Formula Vanilla - Lead**
7. **Biosteel Sports Nutrition Whey Protein Isolate Vanilla - Lead**
8. **Biosteel Sports Nutrition Natural High Performance Sports Mix Grape Raisin - 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.

Cadmium was officially listed as a chemical known to cause developmental toxicity and male reproductive toxicity on May 1, 1997, while cadmium and cadmium compounds were listed as chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer on October 1, 1987.

It should be noted that ERC may continue to investigate other products that may reveal further violations and result in subsequent notices of violations.

Route of Exposure. The consumer exposures that are the subject of this notice result from the recommended use of these products. Consequently, the route of exposure to these chemicals has been and continues to be through ingestion.

Approximate Time Period of Violations. Ongoing violations have occurred every day since at least April 18, 2016, as well as every day since the products were introduced into the California marketplace, and will continue every day until clear and reasonable warnings are provided to product purchasers and users or until these known toxic chemicals are either removed from or reduced to allowable levels in the products. Proposition 65 requires that a clear and reasonable warning be provided prior to exposure to the identified chemicals. The method of warning should be a warning that appears on the product label. The Violators violated Proposition 65 because they failed to provide persons ingesting these products with appropriate warnings that they are being exposed to these chemicals.

Consistent with the public interest goals of Proposition 65 and a desire to have these ongoing violations of California law quickly rectified, ERC is interested in seeking a constructive resolution of this matter that includes an enforceable written agreement by the Violators to: (1) reformulate the identified products so as to eliminate further exposures to the identified chemicals, or provide appropriate warnings on the labels of these products; (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

April 18, 2019

Page 3

three years. Such a resolution will prevent further unwarned consumer exposures to the identified chemicals, as well as an expensive and time-consuming litigation.

Please direct all questions concerning this notice to ERC at the above listed address and telephone number.

Sincerely,



Chris Heptinstall
Executive Director
Environmental Research Center

Attachments

Certificate of Merit

Certificate of Service

OEHHA Summary (to BioSteel Sports Nutrition Inc., Smart Warehousing, LLC and its 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 BioSteel Sports Nutrition Inc. and Smart Warehousing, LLC

I, Chris Heptinstall, declare:

1. This Certificate of Merit accompanies the attached 60-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 the Executive Director 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 chemicals that are 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: April 18, 2019

Chris Heptinstall

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE PURSUANT TO 27 CCR § 25903

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 and over the age of 18 years of age. 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 April 18, 2019, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time, 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 each of the parties listed below and depositing it in a U.S. Postal Service Office with the postage fully prepaid for delivery by Certified Mail:

Current President or CEO
BioSteel Sports Nutrition Inc.
1-87 Wingold Avenue
North York, ON M6B 1P8
Canada

Current President or CEO
BioSteel Sports Nutrition Inc.
90 Wingold Avenue
Toronto, ON M6B 1P5
Canada

Current President or CEO
Smart Warehousing, LLC
18905 Kill Creek Rd
Edgerton, KS 66021

LJ Wasinger
(Registered Agent for Smart Warehousing, LLC)
1869 N Topping Avenue
Kansas City, MO 64120

Current President or CEO
Smart Warehousing, LLC
16500 E. Truman Rd
Independence, MO 64050

Carl Wasinger
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Edgerton, KS 66021

Paul Robbin
(Registered Agent for Smart Warehousing, LLC)
1545 E Locust St
Ontario, CA 91761

On April 18, 2019, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time, I verified 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)** were served 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
Post Office Box 70550
Oakland, CA 94612-0550

On April 18, 2019, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time, verified the following documents **NOTICE OF VIOLATIONS, CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE §25249.5 ET SEQ.; CERTIFICATE OF MERIT** were served on the following parties when a true and correct copy thereof was sent via electronic mail to each of the parties listed below:

Notice of Violations of California Health & Safety Code §25249.5 *et seq.*

April 18, 2019

Page 6

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Page 7

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Executed on April 18, 2019, in Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia.



Phyllis Dunwoody

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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.