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Counsel for Plaintiff,
ECOLOGICAL RIGHTS FOUNDATION

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

ECOLOGICAL RIGHTS FOUNDATION,

Plaintiff,

v.

BODUM USA, INC., et al.,

Defendant.

Case No. CGC-18-564388

[PROPOSED] CONSENT JUDGMENT
AS TO BODUM USA, INC.

FILED
Superior Court of California
County of San Francisco

MAR 20 2019

CLERK OF THE COURT
BY: [Signature]
Deputy Clerk

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 On February 16, 2018, the Ecological Rights Foundation (“ERF”) acting on behalf of itself and the general public, filed a Complaint for civil penalties and injunctive relief (“Complaint”) in San Francisco Superior Court, Case No. CGC-18-564388 against defendant Bodum USA, Inc. (also referred to herein as “Bodum” or “Defendant”). The Complaint alleges, among other things, that Defendant violated provisions of the Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986, Health and Safety Code Sections 25249.5, *et seq.* (Proposition 65) by failing to give clear and reasonable warnings to those residents of California who use charcoal grills and hibachis (“Covered Products”), that use of those products causes exposures to carbon

1 monoxide. Carbon monoxide is a chemical known to the State of California to cause reproductive
2 toxicity. The Complaint was based upon a 60-Day Notice letter, sent by ERF on August 11, 2017
3 to Bodum, the California Attorney General, all District Attorneys, and all City Attorneys with
4 populations exceeding 750,000.

5 1.2 Defendant is a business that employs more than ten persons, and manufactures,
6 distributes, and sells Covered Products. Some Covered Products that Defendant distributes,
7 markets and sells may use charcoal and the combustion of charcoal creates carbon monoxide to be
8 released into the air, causing inhalation exposures to those using or standing near the Covered
9 Products when they are in use. Pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 25249.8, carbon
10 monoxide is a chemical known to the State of California to cause reproductive toxicity. ERF
11 alleges that Covered Products that are manufactured, distributed or sold by Defendant for use in
12 California require a warning under Proposition 65, pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section
13 25249.6. For purposes of this Consent Judgment, the parties stipulate that this Court has
14 jurisdiction over the allegations of violations contained in the Complaint and personal jurisdiction
15 over Bodum, that venue is proper in the County of San Francisco, and that this Court has
16 jurisdiction to enter this Consent Judgment as a full settlement and resolution of the allegations
17 contained in the Complaint.

18 1.3 This Consent Judgment resolves claims that are denied and disputed. The parties
19 enter into this Consent Judgment pursuant to a full and final settlement of any and all claims
20 between the parties for the purpose of avoiding prolonged litigation. This Consent Judgment shall
21 not constitute an admission with respect to any material allegation of the Complaint, each and
22 every allegation of which Bodum denies, nor may this Consent Judgment, or compliance with it,
23 be used as evidence of any wrongdoing, misconduct, culpability or liability on the part of Bodum.

24 1.4 The term "Effective Date" means the date that Defendant receives Notice that this
25 Consent Judgment was entered by the Court.
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1 **2. INJUNCTIVE RELIEF**

2 **2.1 Warnings on Covered Products**

3 No later than 120 days after the Effective Date, any Covered Products offered for sale in
4 California shall include one of the following warning statements:

5 **WARNING:** Chemicals known to the state of California to cause birth defects or other
6 reproductive harm, including carbon monoxide, are produced by combustion of propane,
7 charcoal or wood when used with this product.

8 Or,

9 **WARNING:** This product can expose you to carbon monoxide, which is a combustion
10 byproduct known to the State of California to cause birth defects or other reproductive
11 harm. For more information go to www.P65Warnings.ca.gov.

12 The warning statements shall be affixed to or printed on packaging for Covered Products, as well
13 as printed in the Covered Products' instruction booklets (if any). The warnings shall be displayed
14 with such conspicuousness, as compared with other words, statements, designs, or devices as to
15 render them likely to be read and understood by an ordinary individual under customary conditions
16 of purchase or use. Warnings may be contained in the same section of the instruction booklets that
17 contains other safety warnings concerning the use of the Covered Products. The type size of the
18 warning must be legible, and no smaller than any other warning provided with the Covered
19 Products. The word "WARNING:" shall be in upper case letters and bold text. Defendant may
20 utilize a symbol consisting of a black exclamation point in a yellow equilateral triangle with a bold
21 black outline or a black exclamation point in a white triangle with black border if no yellow is used
22 in the section of the packaging, print or online material regarding the Covered Products that
23 contains other warning language regarding use of the Covered Products.

24 **2.2 Reporting**

25 No later than 150 days after the Effective Date, Defendant shall provide a certification
26 signed by an officer or director of Defendant to ERF confirming its compliance with the warning
27 requirements of paragraph 2.1, and the payment to OEHHA pursuant to paragraphs 3.1.
28

1 **3. SETTLEMENT PAYMENTS**

2 **3.1 Civil Penalties and Payments In Lieu of Penalties**

3 Pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 25249.7(b)(2), Bodum shall pay \$4,000 in
4 civil penalties. The penalty payment will be allocated in accordance with California Health and
5 Safety Code section 25249.12(c)(1) & (d), with 75% of the penalty amount remitted to the
6 California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (“OEHHA”) and the remaining
7 25% of the penalty amount paid to Ecological Rights Foundation. Defendant will provide these
8 payments in two checks for the following amounts made payable to: 1) “OEHHA” in the amount
9 of \$3,000 and 2) “Ecological Rights Foundation” in the amount of \$1,000.

10 **3.2 Attorneys’ Fees and Litigation Costs**

11 In settlement of all of the claims that are alleged, or could have been alleged, in the
12 Complaint concerning Covered Products, Bodum shall pay \$19,000 to the Ecology Law Center to
13 cover Plaintiff’s attorneys’ fees and costs.

14 **3.3 Payments**

15 All Payments shall be sent no later than 10 days after the Effective Date via USPS certified
16 mail, return receipt requested, to the following addresses: All payments to Ecological Rights
17 Foundation and Ecology Law Center shall be delivered to:

18 Fredric Evenson
19 Ecology Law Center
20 P.O. Box 1000
 Santa Cruz, CA 95061

21 The payment to OEHHA shall be delivered to:

22 Mike Gyurics
23 Fiscal Operations Branch Chief
 Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment
24 P.O. Box 4010
 Sacramento, CA 95812-4010

25 **4. MATTERS COVERED BY THIS CONSENT JUDGMENT**

26 4.1 As to Covered Products, this Consent Judgment is a final and binding resolution
27 between ERF, acting on behalf of itself and (as to those matters raised in the 60-Day Notice Letter)

1 acting in the public interest, and Bodum of: (i) any violation of Proposition 65 (including but not
2 limited to the claims made in the Complaint); and (ii) any other statutory or common law claim to
3 the fullest extent that any of the foregoing described in (i) or (ii) were or could have been asserted
4 by any person or entity against Bodum or its parents, subsidiaries or affiliates, and all of their
5 suppliers, customers, distributors, wholesalers, retailers, and their respective parents, affiliates and
6 subsidiaries or any other person in the course of doing business, and the successors and assigns of
7 any of them, who may use, maintain, distribute or sell Covered Products ("Released Entities"),
8 based on its or their failure to provide clear and reasonable warnings of exposures to carbon
9 monoxide from Covered Products. As to alleged exposures to carbon monoxide from Covered
10 Products, compliance with the terms of this Consent Judgment resolves any issue, now and in the
11 future, concerning compliance by Bodum and the Released Entities, with the requirements of
12 Proposition 65 with respect to Covered Products, and any alleged resulting exposure.

13 4.2 It is possible that other claims not known to the Parties, arising out of the facts
14 alleged in the Notice or the Complaint and relating to the Covered Product, will develop or be
15 discovered. ERF on behalf of itself only, and Bodum on behalf of itself only, acknowledge that
16 this Consent Judgment is expressly intended to cover and include all such claims up through and
17 including the Effective Date, including all rights of action therefor. ERF and Bodum
18 acknowledge that the claims released above may include unknown claims, and nevertheless
19 waive California Civil Code Section 1542 as to any such unknown claims. California Civil Code
20 Section 1542 reads as follows:

21 A GENERAL RELEASE DOES NOT EXTEND TO CLAIMS WHICH THE
22 CREDITOR DOES NOT KNOW OR SUSPECT TO EXIST IN HIS OR HER
23 FAVOR AT THE TIME OF EXECUTING THE RELEASE, WHICH IF
24 KNOWN BY HIM OR HER MUST HAVE MATERIALLY AFFECTED HIS
25 OR HER SETTLEMENT WITH THE DEBTOR.

26 ERF on behalf of itself only, and Bodum on behalf of itself only, acknowledge and understand
27 the significance and consequences of this specific waiver of California Civil Code Section 1542.
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1 **5. ENTRY OF CONSENT JUDGMENT**

2 5.1 The parties hereby request that the Court promptly enter this Consent Judgment.
3 Upon entry of the Consent Judgment, Bodum and ERF waive their respective rights to a hearing
4 or trial on the allegations of the Complaint.

5 **6. ENFORCEMENT OF JUDGMENT**

6 6.1 The terms of this Consent Judgment shall be enforced exclusively by the parties
7 hereto. The parties may, by noticed motion or order to show cause before the Superior Court of
8 San Francisco County, giving the notice required by law, enforce the terms and conditions
9 contained herein.

10 6.2 In any proceeding brought by either party to enforce this Consent Judgment, such
11 party may seek whatever fines, costs, penalties or remedies as may be provided by law for any
12 violation of Proposition 65 or this Consent Judgment.

13 **7. MODIFICATION OF JUDGMENT**

14 7.1 This Consent Judgment may be modified only upon written agreement of the parties
15 and upon entry of a modified Consent Judgment by the Court thereon, or upon motion of any party
16 as provided by law and upon entry of a modified Consent Judgment by the Court.

17 **8. TERMINATION AND RETENTION OF JURISDICTION**

18 8.1 This Court shall retain jurisdiction of this matter to implement and enforce the terms
19 this Consent Judgment.

20 **9. AUTHORITY TO STIPULATE**

21 9.1 Each signatory to this Consent Judgment certifies that he or she is fully authorized
22 by the party he or she represents to enter into this Consent Judgment and to execute it on behalf of
23 the party represented and legally to bind that party.

24 **10. SERVICE ON THE ATTORNEY GENERAL**

25 10.1 ERF shall serve a copy of this Consent Judgment, signed by both parties, on the
26 California Attorney General on behalf of the parties so that the Attorney General may review this
27 Consent Judgment prior to its submittal to the Court for approval. No sooner than forty five (45)
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1 days after the Attorney General has received the aforementioned copy of this Consent Judgment,
2 and in the absence of any written objection by the Attorney General to the terms of this Consent
3 Judgment, the parties may then submit it to the Court for approval.

4 **11. ENTIRE AGREEMENT**

5 11.1 This Consent Judgment contains the sole and entire agreement and understanding
6 of the parties with respect to the entire subject matter hereof and any and all prior discussions,
7 negotiations, commitments and understandings related hereto. No representations, oral or
8 otherwise, express or implied, other than those contained herein have been made by any party
9 hereto. No other agreements not specifically referred to herein, oral or otherwise, shall be deemed
10 to exist or to bind any of the parties.

11 **12. GOVERNING LAW**

12 12.1 The validity, construction and performance of this Consent Judgment shall be
13 governed by the laws of the State of California, without reference to any conflicts of law provisions
14 of California law.

15 **13. EXECUTION AND COUNTERPARTS**

16 13.1 This Consent Judgment may be executed in counterparts which taken together shall
17 be deemed to constitute one document.

18 **14. COURT APPROVAL**

19 14.1 If this Consent Judgment is not approved by the Court, it shall be of no force or
20 effect, and cannot be used in any proceeding for any purpose.

21 **15. NOTICES**

22 15.1 Any notices or payments due under this Consent Judgment shall be sent by USPS
23 certified mail, return receipt requested.

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25 If to Ecological Rights Foundation: Fredric Evenson
26 Ecology Law Center
27 P.O. Box 1000
28 Santa Cruz, CA 95061

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If to Bodum USA, Inc.:

Nicole J. Wing, Esq.
Vedder Price P.C.
222 N. La Salle Street
Chicago Illinois 60601

IT IS SO STIPULATED:

DATED: November 1, 2018

ECOLOGICAL RIGHTS FOUNDATION

Ecological Rights Foundation

BY: James Lamport EXEC. DIR.
JAMES LAMPORT, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DATED:

BODUM USA, INC.

BY: _____

ITS: _____

IT IS SO ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED:

DATED: _____

JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT

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If to Bodum USA, Inc.:

Nicole J. Wing, Esq.
Vedder Price P.C.
222 N. La Salle Street
Chicago Illinois 60601

IT IS SO STIPULATED:

DATED:

ECOLOGICAL RIGHTS FOUNDATION

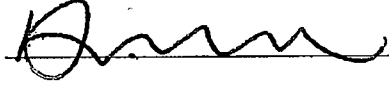
BY:

JAMES LAMPORT, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DATED: 11/1/18

BODUM USA, INC.

BY:



ITS:

CEO & PRESIDENT

IT IS SO ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED:

DATED:

March 19, 2019



ETHAN P. SCHULMAN

JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT