

Mark N. Todzo, State Bar No. 168389 1 Meredyth Merrow, State Bar No. 327338 LEXINGTON LAW GROUP 2 San Francisco County Superior Court 503 Divisadero Street 3 San Francisco, CA 94117 NOV 2 9 2022 Telephone: (415) 913-7800 Facsimile: (415) 759-4112 4 CLERK OF THE COURT mtodzo@lexlawgroup.com 5 mmerrow@lexlawgroup.com 6 Counsel for Plaintiff CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH 7 8 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA 9 **COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO** 10 11 CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH, Case No. CGC-22-598022 12 a non-profit corporation, Assigned For All Purposes To The 13 Honorable Ethan P. Schulman, Dept. 304 Plaintiff, 14 v. 15 [PROPOSED] CONSENT JUDGMENT AS TO DEFENDANT EASY SPIRIT LLC, et al., 16 ZHEJIANG YIHENG TEXTILE TECHNOLOGY CO., LTD. 17 Defendants. 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

DOCUMENT PREPARED ON RECYCLED PAPER

-1-

1.1 The parties to this Consent Judgment ("Parties") are the Center for Environmental Health ("CEH") and Defendant Zhejiang Yiheng Textile Technology Co., Ltd. ("Settling Defendant" or "Zhejiang"). CEH and Settling Defendant are referred to collectively as the "Parties."

- 1.2 Settling Defendant manufactures, distributes, licenses, and/or sells socks made primarily of polyester with spandex that contain Bisphenol A ("BPA") in the State of California ("Covered Products") or has done so in the past.
- 1.3 On June 23, 2022, CEH served a 60-Day Notice of Violation under Proposition 65 (The Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986, California Health & Safety Code §§ 25249.5, et seq.) (the "Notice") to Settling Defendant, the California Attorney General, the District Attorneys of every County in the State of California, and the City Attorneys for every City in the State of California with a population greater than 750,000. The Notice alleges violations of Proposition 65 with respect to the presence of BPA in the Covered Products.
- 1.4 On February 4, 2022 CEH filed the original complaint. On March 21, 2022 CEH filed the operative First Amended Complaint. On September 2, 2022, CEH will amend the Complaint pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure section 474 to add Settling Defendant as a defendant in the action.
- 1.5 For purposes of this Consent Judgment only, the Parties stipulate that: (i) this Court has jurisdiction over the allegations of violations contained in the operative Complaints applicable to Settling Defendant and personal jurisdiction over Settling Defendant as to the acts alleged in the Complaint; (ii) venue is proper in the County of San Francisco; and (iii) this Court has jurisdiction to enter this Consent Judgment.
- 1.6 Nothing in this Consent Judgment is or shall be construed as an admission by the Parties of any fact, conclusion of law, issue of law, or violation of law, nor shall compliance with the Consent Judgment constitute or be construed as an admission by the Parties of any fact, conclusion of law, issue of law, or violation of law. Nothing in this Consent Judgment shall prejudice, waive, or impair any right, remedy, argument, or defense the Parties may have in any

other legal proceeding. This Consent Judgment is the product of negotiation and compromise and is accepted by the Parties for purposes of settling, compromising, and resolving issues disputed in this action.

2. **DEFINITIONS**

- 2.1 "Covered Products" means socks made primarily of polyester with spandex that are manufactured, distributed, licensed or sold by Settling Defendant.
- 2.2 "Effective Date" means the date on which this Consent Judgment is entered by the Court.
- 2.3 "Test Protocol" means a method for measuring total BPA content as set forth in Exhibit A.

3. INJUNCTIVE RELIEF

- 2.1 Reformulation of Covered Products. Within six months following the Effective Date (the "Reformulation Date"), Settling Defendant shall not manufacture, distribute, license, sell, or offer for sale any Covered Product in California that contains BPA except as provided in Section 3.3 below. For purposes of this Consent Judgment, a product "contains BPA" if BPA is an intentionally added ingredient in either the Covered Product or a component of the Covered Product, or contains in excess of 1 part per million BPA as measured by the Test Protocol. Settling Defendant shall not replace the BPA with any other phenol (such as Bisphenol S or BPS). In the event that Settling Defendant learns either through Plaintiff or another means that the Products contain BPA or another phenol in excess of the requirements set forth herein, Settling Defendant shall notify its source supplier that it has breached its specification and take action to rectify the breach to prevent future breaches.
- 3.2 **Specification to Suppliers.** No more than thirty (30) days after the Effective Date, Settling Defendant shall issue specifications to their source suppliers of Covered Products requiring that Covered Products not contain BPA or any other phenol (such as Bisphenol S or BPS).
- 3.3 **Sell-Through for Existing Inventory.** The reformulation requirements of Section 3.1 shall not apply to Covered Products that Settling Defendant had entered into a binding

28
DOCUMENT PREPARED

ON RECYCLED PAPER

agreement to purchase or sell, including product in production for the calendar year 2022 prior to the Effective Date, including but not limited to Covered Products in the process of manufacture, production, distribution, or in inventory in distribution centers, or at retail locations.

3.4 Clear and Reasonable Warnings.

3.4.1 Election to Warn. If Settling Defendant is unable to comply with the Reformulation provision set forth in Section 3.1 or otherwise elects to permanently avail itself of the warning option provided by this Section 3.4, Settling Defendant shall provide written notice to CEH prior to the Reformulation Date, and Settling Defendant concurrently shall make the additional payment specified in Section 5.2.5 below. Settling Defendant shall then provide Clear and Reasonable Warnings for each Covered Product sold in California. A Clear and Reasonable Warning under this Agreement shall state:



WARNING: This product can expose you to chemicals including Bisphenol A which is known to the State of California to cause birth defects or other reproductive harm. For more information go to www.P65Warnings.ca.gov.

The word "WARNING" shall be displayed in all capital letters and bold print and shall be preceded by the yellow warning triangle symbol depicted above, provided however, the symbol may be printed in black and white if the Covered Product label is produced without using the color yellow. This warning statement shall be prominently displayed on the outer packaging of the Covered Product and shall be displayed with such conspicuousness, as compared with other words, statements or designs as to render it likely to be seen, read and understood by an ordinary individual prior to sale. For internet, catalog or any other sale where the consumer is not physically present, the warning statement shall be displayed in such a manner that it is likely to be read and understood by an ordinary individual prior to the authorization of or actual payment.

4. ENFORCEMENT

4.1 Plaintiff may, by motion or application for an order to show cause before the Superior Court of San Francisco County, enforce the terms and conditions contained in this Consent Judgment. Prior to bringing any motion or application to enforce the requirements of

Section 3 above, Plaintiff shall provide Settling Defendant with a Notice of Violation and a copy of any test results which purportedly support the Notice of Violation. The Parties shall then meet and confer regarding the basis for the anticipated motion or application in an attempt to resolve it informally, including providing Settling Defendant(s) with a reasonable opportunity of at least thirty (30) days to cure any alleged violation. Should such attempts at informal resolution fail, Plaintiff may file an enforcement motion or application. This Consent Judgment may only be enforced by the Parties.

5. PAYMENTS

- 2.1 Payments by Settling Defendant. Within ten (10) business days of mutual execution of this Consent Judgment, Settling Defendant shall transfer the total sum of \$30,000 and no cents to its counsel, Rogers Joseph O'Donnell, P.C. via wire transfer to hold in trust pending distribution. Within ten (10) business days of the Effective Date, Settling Defendants' counsel will distribute this sum as a settlement payment as further set forth in this Section. Any payment by Settling Defendant shall be deemed to be timely and not subject to a late charge and/or other penalty if (1) postmarked (if sent by the United States Postal Service) or (2) delivered to an overnight carrier (e.g. Fed Ex), on or (3) wire transferred on or before the deadline set forth in this paragraph
- Allocation of Payments. The total settlement amount shall be paid in five separate checks in the amounts specified below and delivered as set forth below. Any failure by Settling Defendant to comply with the payment terms herein shall be subject to a joint and several stipulated late fee to be paid by Settling Defendant in the amount of \$100 for each day the full payment is not received after the applicable payment due date set forth in Section 5.1. The late fees required under this Section shall be recoverable, together with reasonable attorneys' fees, in an enforcement proceeding brought pursuant to Section 4 of this Consent Judgment. The funds paid by Settling Defendant shall be allocated as set forth below between the following categories and made payable as follows:
- 5.2.1 \$3,900 as a civil penalty pursuant to Health & Safety Code § 25249.7(b). The civil penalty payment shall be apportioned in accordance with Health & Safety

1	Code § 25249.12 (25% to CEH and 75% to the State of California's Office of Environmental			
2	Health Hazard Assessment). Accordingly, the OEHHA portion of the civil penalty payment for			
3	\$2,925 shall be made payable to OEHAA and associated with taxpayer identification number 68-			
4	0284486/ This payment shall be delivered as follows:			
5	For United States Postal Service Delivery:			
6	Attn: Mike Gyurics			
7	Fiscal Operations Branch Chief Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment			
8	P.O. Box 4010, MS #19B			
9	Sacramento, CA 95812-4010			
10	For Non-United States Postal Service Delivery:			
11	Attn: Mike Gyurics			
12	Fiscal Operations Branch Chief Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment			
1	1001 I Street, MS #19B			
13	Sacramento, CA 95814			
14	The CEH portion of the civil penalty payment for \$975 shall be made payable to the Center for			
15	Environmental Health and associated with taxpayer identification number 94-3251981. This			
16	payment shall be delivered to Lexington Law Group, 503 Divisadero Street, San Francisco, CA			
17	94117.			
18	5.2.2 \$2,900 as an Additional Settlement Payment ("ASP") to CEH			
19	pursuant to Health & Safety Code § 25249.7(b), and California Code of Regulations, Title 11, §			
20	3204 and California Code of Regulations, Title 11, § 3204. CEH will use such funds to continue			
21	its work educating and protecting people from exposures to toxic chemicals, including BPA, in			
22	textiles and other products. CEH may also use a portion of such funds to monitor compliance			
23	with this Consent Judgment and to purchase and test Settling Defendant's products to confirm			
24	compliance.			
25	5.2.3 \$23,200 as a reimbursement of a portion of CEH's reasonable			
26	attorneys' fees and costs. The attorneys' fees and cost reimbursement shall be made in two			
27	separate checks as follows: (a) \$20,000 payable to the Lexington Law Group and associated with			
28				
- 1				

DOCUMENT PREPARED ON RECYCLED PAPER taxpayer identification number 94-3317175; and (b) \$3,200 payable to the Center for Environmental Health and associated with taxpayer identification number 94-3251981. Both of these payments shall be delivered to Lexington Law Group, 503 Divisadero Street, San Francisco, CA 94117.

5.2.4 To summarize, Settling Defendant's counsel shall deliver checks made out to the payees and in the amounts set forth below to Lexington Law Group at this address: 503 Divisadero Street, San Francisco, CA 94117 for distribution by the Lexington Law Group as follows:

Payee	Туре	Amount	Deliver To
ОЕННА	Penalty	\$2,925	OEHHA per Section 5.2.1
Center For Environmental Health	Penalty	\$975	LLG
Center For Environmental Health	ASP	\$2,900	LLG
Lexington Law Group	Fee and Cost	\$20,000	LLG
Center For Environmental Health	Fee and Cost	\$3,200	LLG

5.3 If Settling Defendant avails itself of the permanent warning option provided for by Section 3.3, Settling Defendant shall make an additional payment of \$7,000 and no cents to be split between a civil penalty and ASP as set forth herein, concurrently with its written notice as provided in Section 3.2. Of the additional payment, \$3,300 shall be a civil penalty, apportioned in accordance with Health & Safety Code § 25249.12 (25% to CEH and 75% to the State of California's Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment ("OEHHA")). Accordingly, the OEHHA portion of the civil penalty payment of \$2,475 shall be made payable to OEHHA, associated with taxpayer identification number 68-0284486, and sent to the OEHHA address set forth in section 5.2.1 above. The CEH portion of the additional civil penalty payment of \$825 shall be made payable to the Center for Environmental Health and associated with taxpayer identification number 94-3251981. \$1,500 of the additional payment shall be made payable to Lexington Law

Group, 503 Divisadero Street, San Francisco, CA 94117 for fees and costs associated with the additional payment. The remaining \$2,200 of the additional payment shall be made payable to the Center for Environmental Health and associated with taxpayer identification number 94-3251981 and shall be used as set forth in Section 5.2.2 above. Both payments to CEH shall be delivered to Lexington Law Group, 503 Divisadero Street, San Francisco, CA 94117.

6. MODIFICATION

- 6.1 Written Consent. This Consent Judgment may be modified from time to time by express written agreement of the Parties with the approval of the Court, or by an order of this Court upon motion and in accordance with law.
- 6.2 **Meet and Confer.** Any Party seeking to modify this Consent Judgment shall attempt in good faith to meet and confer with all affected Parties prior to filing a motion to modify the Consent Judgment.

7. CLAIMS COVERED AND RELEASED

- 7.1 Provided that Settling Defendant complies in full with its obligations under
 Section 5, this Consent Judgment is a full, final and binding resolution between CEH on behalf of
 itself and the public interest and Settling Defendant and its parents, subsidiaries, affiliated entities
 that are under common ownership, directors, officers, employees, agents, shareholders,
 successors, assigns, and attorneys ("Defendant Releasees"), and all entities to which Settling
 Defendant distributes or sells Covered Products, such as distributors, wholesalers, customers,
 retailers, including specifically Walgreen Co. (and its parents, subsidiaries, affiliated entities that
 are under common ownership, directors, officers, employees, agents, shareholders, successors,
 assigns, and attorneys), franchisees, licensors and licensees ("Downstream Defendant
 Releasees"), of any violation of Proposition 65 based on failure to warn about alleged exposure to
 BPA contained in Covered Products that were sold by Settling Defendant prior to the Effective
 Date.
- 7.2 Provided that Settling Defendant complies in full with its obligations under Section 5, CEH, for itself, its agents, successors and assigns, releases, waives and forever discharges any and all claims against Settling Defendant, Defendant Releasees and Downstream

With copy to:

Renee Wasserman Rogers Joseph O'Donnell, PC 311 California Street, 10th Floor San Francisco, CA 94104-2695 rwasserman@rjo.com

8.3 Any Party may modify the person and address to whom the notice is to be sent by sending the other Party notice by first class and electronic mail.

9. COURT APPROVAL

- 9.1 This Consent Judgment shall become effective upon entry by the Court.

 Plaintiff shall prepare and file a Motion for Approval of this Consent Judgment and Settling

 Defendant shall support entry of this Consent Judgment.
- 9.2 If this Consent Judgment is not entered by the Court, it shall be of no force or effect and shall never be introduced into evidence or otherwise used in any proceeding for any purpose other than to allow the Court to determine if there was a material breach of Section 9.1.

10. GOVERNING LAW AND CONSTRUCTION

The terms of this Consent Judgment shall be governed by the laws of the State of California.

11. ATTORNEYS' FEES

- Should Plaintiff prevail on any motion, application for an order to show cause, or other proceeding to enforce a violation of this Consent Judgment, Plaintiff shall be entitled to its reasonable attorneys' fees and costs incurred as a result of such motion or application. Should Settling Defendant prevail on any motion application for an order to show cause or other proceeding, Settling Defendant may be awarded its reasonable attorneys' fees and costs against Plaintiff as a result of such motion or application upon a finding by the Court that Plaintiff's prosecution of the motion or application lacked substantial justification. For purposes of this Consent Judgment, the term substantial justification shall carry the same meaning as used in the Civil Discovery Act of 1986, Code of Civil Procedure §§ 2016, et seq.
 - 11.2 Except as otherwise provided in this Consent Judgment, each Party shall bear

27

28

DOCUMENT PREPARED ON RECYCLED PAPER

its own attorneys' fees and costs.

11.3 Nothing in this Section 10 shall preclude a Party from seeking an award of sanctions pursuant to law.

12. ENTIRE AGREEMENT

understanding of the Parties with respect to the entire subject matter hereof, and any and all prior discussions, negotiations, commitments or understandings related thereto, if any, are hereby merged herein and therein. There are no warranties, representations or other agreements between the Parties except as expressly set forth herein. No representations, oral or otherwise, express or implied, other than those specifically referred to in this Consent Judgment have been made by any Party hereto. No other agreements not specifically contained or referenced herein, oral or otherwise, shall be deemed to exist or to bind any of the Parties hereto. Any agreements specifically contained or referenced herein, oral or otherwise, shall be deemed to exist or to bind any of the Parties hereto only to the extent that they are expressly incorporated herein. No supplementation, modification, waiver or termination of this Consent Judgment shall be binding unless executed in writing by the Party to be bound thereby. No waiver of any of the provisions of this Consent Judgment shall be deemed or shall constitute a waiver of any of the other provisions hereof whether or not similar, nor shall such waiver constitute a continuing waiver.

13. SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS

13.1 This Consent Judgment shall apply to and be binding upon CEH and Settling Defendant, and their respective divisions, subdivisions and subsidiaries, and the successors or assigns of any of them.

14. RETENTION OF JURISDICTION

14.1 This Court shall retain jurisdiction of this matter to implement or modify the Consent Judgment.

Document Prepared on Recycled Paper

15. AUTHORITY TO STIPULATE TO CONSENT JUDGMENT

15.1 Each signatory to this Consent Judgment certifies that he or she is fully authorized by the Party he or she represents to stipulate to this Consent Judgment and to enter into and execute the Consent Judgment on behalf of the Party represented and legally to bind that Party.

16. NO EFFECT ON OTHER SETTLEMENTS

- 16.1 Nothing in this Consent Judgment shall preclude CEH from resolving any claim against an entity other than Settling Defendant on terms that are different than those contained in this Consent Judgment.
- 16.2 If CEH enters into any consent judgment ("Settlement Document") with any other entity in this action with respect to an alleged failure to warn of alleged exposures to BPA in socks made primarily of polyester with spandex in which it agrees to different injunctive terms, including different testing methodology or reformulation standard, Settling Defendant may seek to modify this Consent Judgment to adopt those injunctive terms and comply with them instead of those presently set forth in Section 3. If either OEHHA or a court of competent jurisdiction determines that a different reformulation standard applies to BPA in socks made primarily of polyester with spandex, Settling Defendant may seek to modify this Consent Judgment to adopt those injunctive terms and comply with them instead of those presently set forth in Section 3. If Settling Defendant seeks to adopt different injunctive terms, it shall provide notice to CEH consistent with Section 6 of this Consent Judgment.

IT IS SO ORDERED:

Dated: NOV 29 ,2022

ludge of the Superior Court

ETHAN P. SCHULMAN

IT IS SO STIPULATED:

1	Dated: August <u>18</u> , 2022	CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
2		
3		
4		Kert
5		Regina Jackson Interim Chief Executive Officer
6		
7		ZHEJIANG YIHENG TEXTILE TECHNOLOGY CO., LTD.
8	Dated: August, 2022	,
9		Signature
10		U
11		Printed Name
12		
13		Title
14		
15		
16		·
17		
18		
19		
20		
21		
22	•	
23		
24		
25		
26		
27		١
28		
DOCUMENT PREPARED ON RECYCLED PAPER		-13-

1	Dated: August, 2022 CEN	NTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
2		
3		
4		
5	Reg	ina Jackson rim Chief Executive Officer
6	Inte	rim Chief Executive Officer
7	ZHI	JIANG YIHENG TEXTILE HNOLOGY CO., LTD.
8	Dated: August 19, 2022	
9	To the state of th	ra Han
10	Sign	ature
11	<u>E</u>	ra Han
12	Print	ed Name
13	Ge	meral manager
14	Title	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
15		
16		•
17		
18		
19		
20		
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		
26		
27		
28		
DOCUMENT PREPARED ON RECYCLED PAPER		-13-

EXHIBIT A

"Test Protocol" as defined in Section 2.3 of the Consent Judgment means the following test method:

a. Obtain homogenized 1 gram sample of the sock by shredding the entire sock and taking a representative 1-gram sample of the shreds.

b. Add the 1-gram sock sample to 10 ml of acetonitrile

c. Heat the solution using a hot plate for 3 hours at 40 degrees Celsius

•

d. Analytical method - Isotope dilution LC-Tandem MS (LC-MS)

e. Limit of detection 1 ppm

f. Reporting -- BPA concentration in mg of BPA per kg of sample

-14-