



Klamath

April 6, 2004

EDWARD G. WEIL
DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
P.O. BOX 70550
OAKLAND CA 94612-0550

Greetings:

This office and the Mateel Environmental Justice Foundation (“Mateel”) give you notice that the private business listed on the attached service list, has been, is, will be, and threatens to be in violation of Cal. Health & Safety Code § 25249.6. Both this office and Mateel are private enforcers of Proposition 65, both may be contacted at the below listed address and telephone number, and I am a responsible individual for both Mateel and this office. The above referenced violations occur when California residents come into contact with hand tools, the handles of which are coated with thermoplastic. Examples of these tools are listed on the attached Appendix A. The plastic on the handles of these tools contains high levels of lead and lead compounds (“lead”), chemicals known to cause cancer, birth defects, and other reproductive harm. These private businesses either make or market the hand tools described herein. People are exposed to lead at work or elsewhere when they use these tools and their skin thus comes into contact with the plastic in the handles. Lead is transferred from the tools to the hands of the people using these products. The lead then enters their bodies when it is absorbed directly through the skin, through mucous membranes, or through cuts and/or abrasions, or when they touch their hands to their mouths and other mucous membranes, or when they touch cigarettes or food and then smoke the cigarettes or ingest the food. These exposures thus occur via the dermal absorption, subcutaneous, inhalation and ingestion routes. These private businesses did not and do not provide people with clear and reasonable warnings before they expose them to lead. The above referenced violations have occurred every day since at least April 6, 2000 and will continue every day until the lead is taken out of these products or until warnings are given. These violations are alleged for occupational exposures as well as for consumer and environmental exposures. We do not, however, allege occupational exposure violations as to any manufacturer of these products for products made outside of California, except as to workplaces the manufacturer itself maintains in California. Exposures constituting Proposition 65 environmental exposure violations occur both on and off the property of these businesses and in each of California’s 58 counties.

APPENDIX A

Company

Product

WMH TOOL GROUP, INC

Columbian 3" Spring Clamp
Columbian 2" Spring Clamp
Columbian 1" Spring Clamp

LOWE'S COMPANIES, INC

Garden Plus 8" By-Pass Pruning Shears Item
#53338
Task Force Hand Tools 8" Linesman Pliers
#52668

ALLIED INTERNATIONAL INC.

Home Repair Tool Set, 200 piece (JC PENNEY)
Allied 100 piece home repair tool set (JC
PENNEY)
Allied lawn care set (JC PENNEY)

AMERICAN POWER PRODUCTS INC.

PowerWise Outdoor 25ft Extension Cord - 16
Gauge - Model #91325

Alltrade

Toolsmith E-Z BUILDING BLOCKS 12 PIECE
HOME/OFFICE TOOL SET MODEL # 93102



SERVICE LIST

EDWARD WEIL
SUPERVISING DEPUTY ATTORNEY
GENERAL
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
P.O. BOX 70550
OAKLAND, CA 94612-0550

OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY
CITY OF OAKLAND
505 14TH ST 12TH FLOOR
OAKLAND, CA 94612

OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY
CITY OF SAN FRANCISCO
CITY HALL ROOM 206
400 VAN NESS
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102

OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY
CITY OF SACRAMENTO
980 9th Street, 10th Floor
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814

OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY
CITY OF SAN JOSE
151 W. MISSION ST.
SAN JOSE, CA 95110

OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY
CITY OF LOS ANGELES
200 N. MAIN ST.
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY
CITY OF SAN DIEGO
202 C ST. FLOOR 3
SAN DIEGO, CA 92101

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF ALAMEDA
225 FALLON ST. #9
OAKLAND, CA 94612

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF ALPINE
P.O. BOX 248
MARKLEEVILLE, CA 96120

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF AMADOR
108 COURT ST. SUITE 202
JACKSON, CA 95642

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF BUTTE
25 COUNTY CENTER DR.
OROVILLE, CA 95965

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF CALAVERAS
GOVERNMENT CENTER
891 MOUNTAIN RANCH ROAD
SAN ANDREAS, CA 95249

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF COLUSA
547 MARKET ST.
COLUSA, CA 95932

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF CONTRA COSTA
P.O. BOX 670
MARTINEZ, CA 94553

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF DEL NORTE
450 H ST #171
CRESCENT CITY, CA 95531

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF EL DORADO
515 MAIN ST.
PLACERVILLE, CA 95667

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF FRESNO
2220 TULARE ST #1000
FRESNO, CA 93721

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF GLENN
P.O. BOX 430
WILLOWS, CA 95988

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT
825 5TH ST.
EUREKA, CA 95501

COUNTY OF IMPERIAL
COURTHOUSE, FLOOR 2
939 W. MAIN ST
EL CENTRO, CA 92243

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF INYO
P.O. DRAWER D
INDEPENDENCE, CA 93526

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF KERN
1215 TRUXTUN AVE. FLOOR 4
BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF KINGS
1400 W. LACEY BLVD.
HANFORD, CA 93230

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF LAKE
255 N. FORBES ST # 424
LAKEPORT, CA 95453

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF LASSEN
COUNTY ADMINISTRATION
BUILDING
707 NEVADA ST.
SUSANVILLE, CA 96130

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
18000 CRIMINAL COURTS
BUILDING
210 W. TEMPLE ST.
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF MADERA
209 W. YOSEMITE AVE.
MADERA, CA 93637

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF MARIN
HALL OF JUSTICE #183
SAN RAFAEL, CA 94903

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF MARIPOSA
P.O. BOX 748
MARIPOSA, CA 95338

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF MENDOCINO
301 S. STATE ST.
UKIAH, CA 95482

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF MERCED
2222 M ST.
MERCED, CA 95340

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF MODOC
P.O. BOX 1171
ALTURAS, CA 9610

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF MONO
P.O. BOX 617
BRIDGEPORT, CA 93517

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF MONTEREY
P.O. BOX 180
SALINAS, CA 93902

COUNTY OF NAPA
931 PARKWAY MALL
P.O. BOX 720
NAPA, CA 94559-0720

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF NEVADA
COURTHOUSE ANNEX
NEVADA CITY, CA 95959

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF ORANGE
700 CIVIC CENTER DR WEST #A-200
SANTA ANA, CA 92701

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF PLACER
11562 B AVE
AUBURN, CA 95603-2687

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF PLUMAS
P.O. BOX 10716
QUINCY, CA 95971

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE
4075 MAIN ST.
RIVERSIDE, CA 92501

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO
P.O. BOX 749
SACRAMENTO, CA 95804

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SAN BENITO
419 4TH ST
HOLLISTER, CA 95023

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO
316 MT. VIEW AVE.
SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92415-0004

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
101 W. BROADWAY #1440
SAN DIEGO, CA 92101

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO
850 BRYANT ST #322
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SAN JOAQUIN
222 E. WEBER AVE #202
STOCKTON, CA 95202

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO
COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER #450
SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA 93408

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
HALL OF JUSTICE AND RECORDS
REDWOOD CITY, CA 94063

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
1105 SANTA BARBARA ST.
SANTA BARBARA, CA 93101

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA
70 W. HEDDING ST.
SAN JOSE, CA 95110

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ
701 OCEAN ST. #200
SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SHASTA
1525 COURT ST.
REDDING, CA 96001

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SIERRA
P.O. BOX 457
DOWNIEVILLE, CA 95936

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SISKIYOU
P.O. BOX 986
YREKA, CA 96097

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SOLANO
600 UNION AVE
FAIRFIELD, CA 94533

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SONOMA
600 ADMINISTRATION DR. #212
SANTA ROSA, CA 95403

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF STANISLAUS
1100 I ST. #200
MODESTO, CA 95354

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF SUTTER
1160 CIVIC CENTER BLVD. #A
YUBA CITY, CA 95993

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF TEHAMA
P.O. BOX 519
REDBLUFF, CA 96080

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF TRINITY
P.O. BOX 310
WEAVERVILLE, CA 96093

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF TULARE
COURTHOUSE #224
VISALIA, CA 93291

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF TUOLUMNE
2 S. GREEN ST.
SONORA, CA 95370

VENTURA COUNTY DISTRICT
ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
c/o GREGORY BROSE D.D.A.
4245 MARKET ST. #205
VENTURA, CA 93003

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF YOLO
204 4TH ST
P.O. BOX 1247
WOODLAND, CA 95695

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT
ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF YUBA
215 5TH ST.
MARYSVILLE, CA 95901

PRESIDENT OR CEO
WMH TOOL GROUP, INC
PO BOX 88839
CHICAGO, IL 60680

PRESIDENT OR CEO
WMH TOOL GROUP, INC
2420 VANTAGE DR
ELGIN, IL 60123

PRESIDENT OR CEO
LOWE'S COMPANIES, INC
1000 LOWE'S BLVD.
MOORESVILLE, NC 28117

PRESIDENT OR CEO
ALLIED INTERNATIONAL INC.
13207 BRADLEY AVE.
SYLMAR CA 91342

SYED M AFZAL HUSSAIN
PRESIDENT
AMERICAN POWER PRODUCTS
INC
5525 BROOKS ST
MONTECLAIR, CA 91763

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

I, William Verick, hereby declare: This Certificate of Merit accompanies the attached sixty-day notice(s) in which it is alleged the parties identified in the notices have violated Health and Safety Code section 25249.6 by failing to provide clear and reasonable warnings. I am the attorney for the noticing party. I have consulted with one or more persons with relevant and appropriate experience or expertise who has reviewed facts, studies, or other data regarding the exposure to the listed chemical that is the subject of the action. Based on the information obtained through those consultations, and on all 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 plaintiffs' case can be established and the information did not prove that the alleged violator will be able to establish any of the affirmative defenses set forth in the statute. The copy of this Certificate of Merit served on the Attorney General attaches to it factual information sufficient to establish the basis for this certificate, including the information identified in Health and Safety Code section 25249.7(h)(2), i.e., (1) the identity of the person(s) consulted with and relied on by the certifier, and (2) the facts, studies, or other data reviewed by those persons.

Dated: April 6, 2004

This notice alleges the violation of Proposition 65 with respect to occupational exposures governed by the California State Plan for Occupational Safety and Health. The State Plan incorporates the provisions of Proposition 65, as approved by Federal OSHA on June 6, 1997. This approval specifically placed certain conditions on Proposition 65, including that it does not apply to the conduct of manufacturers occurring outside the State of California. The approval also provides that an employer may use the means of compliances in the general hazard communication requirements to comply with Proposition 65. It also requires that supplemental enforcement is subject to the supervision of the California Occupational Safety and Health Administration. Accordingly, any settlement, civil complaint, or substantive court orders in this matter must be submitted to the Attorney General.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Gina Klump, declare:

If called, I could and would testify as follows: I am over eighteen. My business address is 424 First Street, Eureka, California, 95501. On April 6, 2004, I caused the attached 60-DAY NOTICE LETTER, or a letter identical in substance, to be served by U.S. Mail on those public enforcement agencies listed on the attached SERVICE LIST; in addition on the same date and by U.S. Mail I caused the attached 60-DAY NOTICE LETTER and PROPOSITION 65: A SUMMARY to be sent by Certified U.S. Mail to the private business entities also listed on the attached SERVICE LIST. I deposited copies of these documents in envelopes, postage pre-paid, with the U.S. Postal Service on the day on which the mail is collected. I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was executed on April 6, 2004, at Eureka, California.