

NOTICE OF VIOLATION

California Safe Drinking Water
and Toxic Enforcement Act

Lead Exposures from Artificial Grass

March 3, 2009

This Notice of Violation is provided to you pursuant to and in compliance with California Health and Safety Code Section 25249.7(d).

- For general information regarding the California Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act, see the attached summary provided by the California EPA (copies not provided to public enforcement agencies).
- This Notice of Violation is provided by the Center for Environmental Health ("CEH"), 2201 Broadway, Suite 302, Oakland, CA 94612 (510) 655-3900. CEH is a nonprofit corporation dedicated to protecting the environment, improving human health and supporting environmentally sound practices. Michael Green is the Executive Director of and a responsible individual within CEH.

Description of Violation:

- Violator: The name and address of the violator is Costco Wholesale Corporation, 999 Lake Drive, Issaquah, WA 98027.
- Time Period of Exposure: The violations have been occurring since at least March 3, 2006, and are ongoing.
- Provision of Proposition 65: This Notice of Violation covers the "warning provision" of Proposition 65, which is found at California Health and Safety Code Section 25249.6.
- Chemical(s) Involved: The names of the listed chemicals involved in these violations are lead and lead compounds ("Lead"). Exposures to Lead occur from use of the product identified in this notice.
- Type of Product: The specific type of products causing these violations is artificial and/or synthetic grass and turf and outdoor carpet ("Artificial Grass"). This Artificial Grass is made of and contains Lead. A non-exclusive example of this specific type of product is Pregra MBS 350.
- Type of Exposure: This notice addresses consumer product exposures to Lead.
- Description of Exposure: Use of the products identified in this notice results in human exposures to Lead. The route of exposure for the violations is ingestion via hand to mouth contact after consumers touch or handle the products or items that have come into contact with the products, and dermal absorption directly through the skin when consumers touch or handle the products as well as walk

or crawl on the products. These exposures occur in homes, workplaces, parks, schools, playgrounds, sports fields, and everywhere else throughout California where these products are handled or used. No clear and reasonable warning is provided with these products regarding the carcinogenic or reproductive hazards of Lead.

Resolution of Noticed Claims:

- Based on the allegations set forth in this Notice, CEH intends to file a citizen enforcement lawsuit against the alleged violator unless such violator enters into a binding written agreement to: (1) recalling products already sold; (2) remove the Lead from the product identified in this notice; (3) provide clear and reasonable warnings to all consumers of the product identified in this notice; and (4) pay an appropriate civil penalty based on the factors enumerated in California Health and Safety Code Section 25249.7(b). If the alleged violator is interested in resolving this dispute without resort to expensive and time-consuming litigation, please feel free to contact CEH through its counsel identified below. It should be noted that CEH cannot: (1) finalize any settlement until after the 60-day notice period has expired; nor (2) speak for the Attorney General or any District or City Attorney who received CEH's 60-day Notice. Therefore, while reaching an agreement with CEH will resolve its claims, such agreement may not satisfy the public prosecutors.

Please direct any inquiries regarding this notice to CEH and its counsel Mark N. Todzo at Lexington Law Group, LLP, 1627 Irving Street, San Francisco, CA 94122, (415) 759-4111.

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT
Health & Safety Code § 25249.7(d)

I, Mark Todzo, hereby declare:

1. This Certificate of Merit accompanies the attached sixty-day notice in which it is alleged that the parties identified in the notice have violated Health & Safety Code § 25249.6 by failing to provide clear and reasonable warnings.

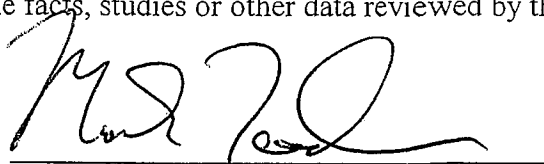
2. I am an attorney with the Lexington Law Group, LLP, and I represent the noticing party, the Center for Environmental Health.

3. Members of my firm and 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 exposures to the listed chemical that is the subject of the action.

4. Based on the information obtained through those consultations, 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 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. The copy of the 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 & 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: March 3, 2009



Mark Todzo
Attorney for CENTER FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

PROOF OF SERVICE BY MAIL

I declare that:

I am employed in San Francisco County, California; my business address is 1627 Irving Street, San Francisco, California 94122. I am over the age of 18 years and not a party to the within cause.

On March 3, 2009, I served true copies of the following documents:

NOTICE OF VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA SAFE DRINKING WATER AND TOXIC ENFORCEMENT ACT;

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT; and

THE SAFE DRINKING WATER AND TOXIC ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 1986 (PROPOSITION 65): A SUMMARY (only sent to those on service list marked with an asterisks).

On this date, I deposited fully prepaid and sealed envelopes containing the above-mentioned documents with the United States Postal Service, addressed to the following individuals:

Please see attached service list.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct, and that this declaration was executed on March 3, 2009, at San Francisco, California.

Signed: _____
Ellen Reed

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