MICHAEL FREUND

ATTORNEY AT LAW

1915 ADDISON STREET

BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA 94704-1101

TEL 510/540-1992

FAX 510/540-5543

EMAIL FREUND1@AOL.COM

January 19, 2010

Re: Notice of Violation Against The Kroger Co. for Violation of California Health & Safety Code Section 25249.6

Dear Prosecutors:

I represent David Steinman, a committed environmentalist, journalist, consumer health advocate, publisher and author. His major books include Diet for a Poisoned Planet (1990, 2007); The Safe Shopper's Bible (1995); Living Healthy in a Toxic World (1996); and Safe Trip to Eden: Ten Steps to Save the Planet Earth from Global Warming Meltdown (2007). Through this Notice of Violation, Mr. Steinman seeks to reduce exposure to 1,4 Dioxane.

This letter constitutes notification that The Kroger Co. has violated the warning requirement of Proposition 65, the Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act (commencing with section 25249.5 of the Health and Safety Code).

In particular, this company has manufactured and distributed products which have exposed and continue to expose numerous individuals within California to 1,4 Dioxane. This chemical was listed pursuant to Proposition 65 as a chemical known to the State of California to cause cancer on January 1, 1988. The time period of these violations commenced one year after the listed dates above. The primary route of exposure has been through dermal contact with the products. Additional exposures may occur through oral and inhalation exposure.

The Kroger Co. is exposing people to 1,4 Dioxane from the following product: Kroger Pyrithione Zinc Dandruff Shampoo.

Proposition 65 requires that a clear and reasonable warning be provided prior to exposure to certain listed chemicals. The Kroger Co. is in violation of Proposition 65 because it failed to provide a warning to persons using their products that they are being exposed to 1,4 Dioxane. (22 C.C.R. section 12601.) While in the course of doing business, the company is knowingly and intentionally exposing people to this chemical, without first providing clear and reasonable warning. (Health and Safety Code section 25249.6.) The method of warning should be a warning that appears on the product's label. 22 C.C.R. section 12601 (b)(1) (A).

Proposition 65 requires that notice and intent to sue be given to a violator 60-days before the suit is filed. With this letter, David Steinman gives notice of the alleged violation to the noticed party and the appropriate governmental authorities. This notice covers all violations of Proposition 65 that are currently known to Mr. Steinman from information now available to us. Mr. Steinman is continuing his investigation that may reveal further violations. A summary of Proposition 65, prepared by the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, and

referenced as Appendix A, has been provided to the noticed party.

If you have any questions, please contact my office at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

Michael Freund

cc: David Steinman

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

Health and Safety Code Section 25249.7 (d)

- I, Michael Freund hereby declare:
- 1. This Certificate of Merit accompanies the attached Notice of Violation in which it is alleged that the party identified in the Notice has violated Health and Safety Code Section 25249.6 by failing to provide clear and reasonable warnings.
- 2. I am the attorney for the noticing party David Steinman. Mr. Steinman is a committed environmentalist, journalist, consumer health advocate, publisher and author. The Notice of Violation alleges that the party identified has exposed persons in California to 1,4 Dioxane from its consumer product. Please refer to the Notice of Violation for additional details regarding the alleged violations.
- 3. 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 alleged exposure to the listed chemical that is the subject of the action. In particular, I have consulted with the primary chemist who conducted the laboratory testing for 1,4 Dioxane of this consumer product and I have relied on the testing results. The testing was conducted by a reputable testing laboratory by experienced scientists. These facts, studies or other data derived through this investigation overwhelmingly demonstrate that the party identified in the Notice exposes persons to 1,4 Dioxane through dermal contact. There may be additional exposures through inhalation and oral exposure.
- 4. Based on my consultation with an experienced scientist in this field, the results of laboratory testing, as well as the published studies on 1,4-Dioxane, it is clear that there is sufficient evidence that human exposures exist from exposure to the products from the noticed party.

Furthermore, as a result of the above, I have concluded that 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 violator will be able to establish any of the affirmative defenses set forth in the statute.

5. The copy of this Certificate of Merit served on the California Attorney General attaches to it factual information sufficient to establish the basis for this certificate, including the information identified in Health & Safety Code Section 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: January 19, 2010

Michael Freund

Attorney for Center for David Steinman

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I am a citizen of the United States and a resident of the County of Alameda. I am over the age of eighteen years and not a party to the within entitled action; my business address is 1915 Addison Street, Berkeley, California 94704. On January 19, 2010 I served the within:

Notice of Violation and Certificate of Merit (Supporting documentation pursuant to 11 CCR section 3102 sent to Attorney General only)

on the parties in said action, by placing a true copy thereof enclosed in a sealed envelope with postage thereon fully prepaid, in the United States Post Office mail box in Oakland, California to said parties addressed as follows:

See Attached Service List

I, Michael Freund, declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on January 19, 2010 at Berkeley, California.

Michael Freund

SERVICE LIST

District Attorney of Alameda County 1225 Fallon Street, Room 900 Oakland, CA 94612

District Attorney of Colusa County 547 Market Street Colusa, CA 95932

District Attorney of Contra Costa County 627 Ferry Street Martinez, CA 94553

District Attorney of Alpine County P.O. Box 248 Markleeville, CA 96120

District Attorney of Del Norte County 450 H Street, Ste 171 Crescent City, CA 95531

District Attorney of Amador County 708 Court Street, #202 Jackson, CA 95642

District Attorney of Butte County 25 County Center Drive Oroville, CA 95965

District Attorney of El Dorado County 515 Main Street Placerville, CA 95667

District Attorney of Calaveras County 891 Mountain Ranch Road San Andreas, CA 95249

District Attorney of Fresno County 2220 Tulare Street, #1000 Fresno, CA 93721

District Attorney of Glenn County P.O. Box 430 Willows, CA 95988

District Attorney of Kings County 1400 West Lacey Hanford, CA 93230

District Attorney of Lake County 255 N. Forbes Street Lakeport, CA 95453

District Attorney of Humboldt County 825 5th Street Eureka, CA 95501 District Attorney of Imperial County 939 Main Street El Centro, CA 92243

District Attorney of Lassen County 220 S. Lassen St., Ste 8 Susanville, CA 96130

District Attorney of Inyo County P.O. Drawer D Independence, CA 93526

District Attorney of Los Angeles County 210 W. Temple Street, Room 345 Los Angeles, CA 90012

District Attorney of Madera County 209 West Yosemite Avenue Madera, CA 93637

District Attorney of Kern County 1215 Truxtun Avenue Bakersfield, CA 93301

District Attorney of Marin County 3501 Civic Center Dr., Room 130 San Rafael, CA 94903

District Attorney of Mono County P.O. Box 617 Bridgeport, CA 93517

District Attorney of Mariposa County P.O. Box 730 Mariposa, CA 95338

District Attorney of Monterey County 230 Church Street, Bldg. 2 Salinas, CA 93901

District Attorney of Mendocino County P.O. Box 1000 Ukiah, CA 95482

District Attorney of Napa County 931 Parkway Mall Napa, CA 94559

District Attorney of Merced County 2222 "M" Street Merced, CA 95340

District Attorney of Nevada County 201 Church St., Suite 8 Nevada City, CA 95959 District Attorney of Orange County 401 Civic Ctr Drive West Santa Ana, CA 92701

District Attorney of Modoc County 204 S Court Street Alturas, CA 96101-4020

District Attorney of Placer County 11562 "B" Avenue Auburn, CA 95603

District Attorney of San Bernardino County 316 N. Mountain View Avenue San Bernardino, CA 92415

District Attorney of Plumas County 520 Main Street, Room 404 Quincy, CA 95971

District Attorney of San Diego County 330 West Broadway, Suite 1320 San Diego, CA 92101

District Attorney of Riverside County 4075 Main Street Riverside, CA 92501

District Attorney of San Francisco County 850 Bryant Street, Rm 325 San Francisco, CA 94103

District Attorney of Sacramento County 901 "G" Street Sacramento, CA 95814

District Attorney of San Joaquin County P.O. Box 990 Stockton, CA 95201

District Attorney of San Luis Obispo County 1050 Monterey St, Room 450 San Luis Obispo, CA 93408

District Attorney of San Benito County 419 Fourth Street, 2nd Floor Hollister, CA 95023 District Attorney of San Mateo . County 400 County Ctr, 3rd FI Redwood City, CA 94063

District Attorney of Sierra County Courthouse, P.O. Box 457 Downieville, CA 95936

District Attorney of Santa Barbara County 1105 Santa Barbara Street Santa Barbara, CA 93101

District Attorney of Siskiyou County P.O. Box 986 Yreka, CA 96097

District Attorney of Solano County 675 Texas Street, Suite 4500 Fairfield, CA 94533

District Attorney of Santa Clara County 70 West Hedding Street, West Wing San Jose, CA 95110

District Attorney of Santa Cruz County 701 Ocean Street, Room 200 Santa Cruz, CA 95060

District Attorney of Sonoma County 600 Administration Drive, Room 212J Santa Rosa, CA 95403

District Attorney of Shasta County 1525 Court Street, Third Floor Redding, CA 96001-1632

District Attorney of Stanislaus County 800 11th Street, Room 200 PO BOX 442 Modesto, CA 95353

District Attorney of Sutter County 446 Second Street Yuba City, CA 95991

District Attorney of Ventura County 800 South Victoria Ave Ventura, CA 93009

District Attorney of Tehama County P.O. Box 519 Red Bluff, CA 96080

District Attorney of Yolo County 301 Second Street Woodland, CA 95695 District Attorney of Trinity County P.O. Box 310 11 Court St. Weaverville, CA 96093

District Attorney of Yuba County 215 Fifth Street Marysville, CA 95901

District Attorney of Tulare County 221 S. Mooney Ave, Room 224 Visalia, CA 93291

District Attorney of Tuolumne County 423 No. Washington Street Sonora, CA 95370

San Jose City Attorney's Office 200 East Santa Clara Street San Jose, CA 95113

Los Angeles City Attorney's Office 800 City Hall East 200 N. Main Street Los Angeles, CA 90012

San Diego City Attorney's Office 1200 3rd Avenue #1620 San Diego, CA 92101

San Francisco City Attorney's Office City Hall, Room 234 San Francisco, CA 94102

California Attorney General's Office Attention: Proposition 65 Coordinator 1515 Clay Street, Suite 2000 P.O. Box 70550 Oakland, CA 94612

David Dillon, Chairman & CEO The Kroger Co. 1014 Vine Street Cincinnati, OH 45202