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June 23, 2010

Re: Notice of Violation Against Ayurvedic Concepts Ltd. for Violation of California Health & Safety Code Section 25249.6

Dear Prosecutors:

I represent the Environmental Research Center ("ERC"), a non-profit California corporation whose mission is to safeguard the public from health hazards that impact families, workers and the environment. ERC is dedicated to reducing the use and misuse of hazardous and toxic chemicals, facilitating a safe environment for consumers and employees and encouraging corporate responsibility. ERC is located at 5694 Mission Center Road, # 199, San Diego, CA 92108. Through this Notice of Violation, ERC seeks to reduce exposure to the public from lead that is contained in the named products manufactured and distributed by Ayurvedic Concepts Ltd.

This letter constitutes notification that Ayurvedic Concepts Ltd., located at 10440 Westoffice Dr., Houston, TX 77042 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 lead. Lead was listed pursuant to Proposition 65 as a chemical known to cause developmental toxicity, and male and female reproductive toxicity on February 27, 1987. Lead was listed pursuant to Proposition 65 as a carcinogen on October 1, 1992. The time period of these violations commenced one year after the listed dates above. The primary route of exposure has been oral through ingestion.

Ayurvedic Concepts Ltd. is exposing people to lead from the following products: Himalaya Herbal Healthcare Mindcare Jr.; Himalaya Herbal Healthcare Heartcare; and Himalaya Herbal Healthcare Organic Chyavanprash.

Proposition 65 requires that a clear and reasonable warning be provided prior to exposure to certain listed chemicals. Ayurvedic Concepts Ltd. is in violation of Proposition 65 because the company failed to provide a warning to persons using their products that they are being exposed to lead. (22 C.C.R. section 12601.) While in the course of doing business, the company is knowingly and intentionally exposing people to lead, 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, ERC 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 ERC from information now available. ERC may continue to investigate other products 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.

Based on the allegations set forth in this Notice, ERC intends to file a citizen enforcement action against Ayurvedic Concepts Ltd. unless the company agrees in an enforceable written instrument to: (1) reformulate these products so as to eliminate further lead exposures; and (2) pay an appropriate civil penalty. Consistent with the public interest goals of Proposition 65 and my client's objectives in pursuing this Notice, ERC will focus its efforts in seeking a constructive resolution of this matter. Such resolution will avoid both further unwarned consumer exposures to lead and expensive and time-consuming litigation.

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

Sincerely,



Michael Freund

cc: Chris Heptinstall, ERC
Karen Evans, Esq. ERC

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

Health and Safety Code Section 25249.7 (d)


I, Michael Freund hereby declare:

1. This Certificate of Merit accompanies the 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 Environmental Research Center (“ERC”). ERC is dedicated to reducing the use and misuse of hazardous and toxic chemicals, facilitating a safe environment for consumers and employees and encouraging corporate responsibility. The Notice of Violation alleges that the party identified has exposed persons in California to lead from products that it manufactures and distributes. 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 laboratory that conducted the testing to determine the concentration of lead in the products identified in the Notice of Violation and I have relied on the testing results. The testing was conducted by a reputable testing laboratory with substantial experience in testing for lead. These facts, studies or other data derived through this investigation overwhelmingly demonstrate that the party identified in the Notice of Violation exposes persons to lead through oral exposure (ingestion).
4. Based on my consultation with the laboratory, the results of the laboratory testing, as well as published studies on lead, it is clear that there is sufficient evidence that human

as well as published studies on lead, 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: June 23, 2010



Michael Freund
Attorney for Environmental Research Center

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 June 23, 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 June 23, 2010 at Berkeley, California.



Michael Freund

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San Francisco City Attorney's Office
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California Attorney General's Office
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