

Environmental Research Center

5694 Mission Center Road #199 San Diego, CA 92108 619.309.4194

July 07, 2010

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL

Current President or CEO NIKKEN INTERNATIONAL, INC. 52 Discovery Rd Irvine, CA 92618

Agent for Service: Bill Simpson 695 Town Center Drive Costa Mesa, CA 92626

Re: Notice of Violation against NIKKEN INTERNATIONAL, INC. for Violation of California Health & Safety Code Section 25249.6

Dear Prosecutors:

The Environmental Research Center ("ERC"), the noticing entity is 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. Tel. (619) 309-4194. 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 NIKKEN INTERNATIONAL, INC.

This letter constitutes notification that NIKKEN INTERNATIONAL, INC., located at 52 Discovery Road, Irvine, CA 92618 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 that 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.

NIKKEN INTERNATIONAL, INC. is exposing people to lead from the following products:

- Kenzen Body Balance Healthy Meal Replacement Mix Natural Chocolate Flavor
- Kenzen Jade GreenZymes
- Kenzen Omega Green + DHA
- Kenzen Mental Clarity
- Kenzen Immunity

Proposition 65 requires that a clear and reasonable warning be provided prior to exposure to certain listed chemicals. NIKKEN INTERNATIONAL, INC. 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. ERC remains open to discussing the possibility of resolving its grievances short of formal litigation. Such resolution will avoid both further unwarned consumer exposures to lead and expensive and time-consuming litigation.

Please direct all questions concerning this notice to ERC's attorney, Karen A. Evans, 4218 Biona Pl., San Diego, CA 92116, telephone no.: 619-640-8100, e-mail: kaevans1@cox.net.

Sincerely,

Chris Heptinstall

Executive Director, Environmental Research Center

cc: Karen A. Evans

Attachments
Certificate of Merit
Certificate of Service
List of Service

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

Health and Safety Code Section 25249.7 (d)

I, Karen A. Evans 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 reviewed the resulting data from 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 persons of appropriate experience, the results of the laboratory testing, 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: July 07, 2010

Karen A. Evans

Attorney for Environmental Research Center

Karen a. Evans

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, the undersigned, declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the following is true and correct:

I am a citizen of the United States, over the age of 18 years of age, and am not a party to the within entitled action. My business address is 306 Joy Street, Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia 30742

On July 07, 2010, I served the following documents: NOTICE OF VIOLATION, CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE §25249.5 ET SEQ.; CERTIFICATE OF MERIT; "SAFE DRINKING WATER AND TOXIC ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 1986: A SUMMARY"

On the following parties by placing a true and correct copy thereof in a sealed envelope, addressed to the party listed below and depositing it in a US Postal Service Office for delivery by Certified Mail:

Current President or CEO NIKKEN INTERNATIONAL, INC. 52 Discovery Rd Irvine, CA 92618

On July 07, 2010, I served the following documents: **NOTICE OF VIOLATION**, **CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE §25249.5** *ET SEQ.*; **CERTIFICATE OF MERIT (including supporting documentation required by Title 11 CCR §3102)** on the following parties by placing a true and correct copy thereof in a sealed envelope, addressed to the party listed below and depositing it in a US Postal Service Office for delivery by Certified Mail:

Office of the California Attorney General Prop 65 Enforcement Reporting 1515 Clay Street, Suite 2000 Post Office Box 70550 Oakland, CA 94612-0550

On July 07, 2010, I served the following documents: **NOTICE OF VIOLATION**, **CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE §25249.5** *ET SEQ*.; **CERTIFICATE OF MERIT** on each of the parties on the Service List attached hereto by placing a true and correct copy thereof in a sealed envelope, addressed to each of the parties on the Service List attached hereto, and depositing it with the U.S. Postal Service for delivery by Priority Mail.

Executed on July 07, 2010, in Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia.

Chris Heptinstall

Service List

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

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

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

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

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

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

District Attorney, Contra Costa County 900 Ward Street Martinez, CA 94553

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

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

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

District Attorney, Glenn County Post Office Box 430 Willows, CA 95988

District Attorney, Humboldt County 825 5th Street Eureka, CA 95501

District Attorney, Imperial County 939 West Main Street, Ste 102 El Centro, CA 92243

District Attorney, Inyo County Post Office Drawer D Independence, CA 93526

District Attorney, Kern County 1215 Truxtun Avenue Bakersfield, CA 93301 District Attorney, Kings County 1400 West Lacey Boulevard Hanford, CA 93230

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

District Attorney, Lassen County 220 South Lassen Street, Ste. 8 Susanville, CA 96130

District Attorney, Los Angeles County 210 West Temple Street, Rm 345 Los Angeles, CA 90012

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

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

District Attorney, Mariposa County Post Office Box 730 Mariposa, CA 95338

District Attorney, Mendocino County Post Office Box 1000 Ukiah, CA 95482

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

District Attorney, Modoc County 204 S Court Street, Room 202 Alturas, CA 96101-4020

District Attorney, Mono County Post Office Box 617 Bridgeport, CA 93517

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

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

District Attorney, Nevada County 110 Union Street Nevada City, CA 95959

District Attorney, Orange County 401 Civic Center Drive West Santa Ana, CA 92701

H. K

District Attorney, Placer County 10810 Justice Center Drive, Ste 240 Roseville, CA 95603

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

District Attorney, Riverside County-4075 Main Street, 1st Floor Riverside, CA 92501

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

District Attorney, San Benito County 419 Fourth Street, 2nd Floor Hollister, CA 95023

District Attorney, San Bernardino County 316 N. Mountain View Avenue San Bernardino, CA 92415-0004

District Attorney, San Diego County 330 West Broadway, Room 1300 San Diego, CA 92112

District Attorney, San Francisco County 850 Bryant Street, Room 325 San Francsico, CA 94103

District Attorney, San Joaquin County Post Office Box 990 Stockton, CA 95202

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

District Attorney, San Mateo County 400 County Ctr., 3rd Floor Redwood City, CA 94063

District Attorney, Santa Barbara County 1105 Santa Barbara Street Santa Barbara, CA 93:101

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

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

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

District Attorney, Sierra County 100 Courthouse Square, 2nd Floor Downieville, CA 95936 District Attorney, Siskiyou County Post Office Box 986 Yreka, CA 96097

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

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

District Attorney, Stanislaus County 832 12th Street, Ste 300 Modesto, CA 95353

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

District Attorney, Tehama County Post Office Box 519 Red Bluff, CA 96080

District Attorney, Trinity County Post Office Box 310 Weaverville, CA 96093

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

District Attorney, Tuolumne County 423 N. Washington Street Sonora, CA 95370

District Attorney, Ventura County 800 South Victoria Avenue Ventura, CA 93009

District Attorney, Yolo County 301 2nd Street Woodland, CA 95695

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

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

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

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

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