

August 24, 2010

BY U.S. FIRST CLASS MAILCurrent CEO or President
Beech-Nut Nutrition Corporation
13 British American Blvd.
Latham, NY 12110Current CEO or President
The Hain Celestial Group, Inc.
58 South Service Road, Suite 250
Melville, NY 11747

Re: Notice of Violation of the Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (Proposition 65), Section 25249.6 of the California Health and Safety Code, for Exposing Consumers to Lead From the Following Foods (For Babies and/or Toddlers): Packaged Carrots, Packaged Pears, Packaged Foods That Include Pears, Packaged Apples, Packaged Foods That Include Apples, Packaged Peaches, Packaged Foods That Include Peaches, And Packaged Sweet Potatoes.

Dear Sir/Madam:

The Environmental Law Foundation (“ELF”) is a California non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation and enhancement of human health and the environment. ELF has a long-standing interest in reducing health hazards to the public posed by toxic chemicals and protecting the public from harmful substances.

This letter constitutes notice that the entities identified in Exhibit A have violated and continue to violate provisions of the Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986, California Health and Safety Code sections 25249.5 et seq. Specifically, these entities have violated and continue to violate the warning requirement at section 25249.6 of the California Health and Safety Code, which provides, “No person in the course of doing business shall knowingly and intentionally expose any individual to a chemical known to the state to cause cancer or reproductive toxicity without first giving clear and reasonable warning to such individual...”

The list of entities subject to this Notice is attached as Exhibit A. Consumer food products sold by these entities contain lead, a chemical known to the State to cause reproductive toxicity and cancer. On each and every day from August 24, 2009 through the present, these entities have exposed and continue to expose consumers of their food products to lead. Exposure to the consumers has occurred through ingestion of the food products. The categories of food products that are the subject of this Notice are the following foods for babies and/or toddlers: packaged carrots, packaged pears, packaged foods that include pears, packaged apples, packaged foods that include apples, packaged peaches, packaged foods that include peaches, and packaged sweet potatoes. Specific, non-exclusive examples of food products that are the subject of this Notice are identified in the document attached as Exhibit B.

Because lead is a chemical listed in Proposition 65 as a human carcinogen and a reproductive toxin, pursuant to Health and Safety Code § 25249.6 the entities in Exhibit A were, and are, required to provide clear and reasonable warnings to all consumers of food products before exposing them to lead. Pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 25249.7(d), ELF intends to bring suit in the public interest



against the entities in Exhibit A sixty days hereafter to correct the violation occasioned by the failure to warn all consumers of the exposure to lead.

Pursuant to 27 California Code of Regulations § 25903(b)(1), attached is a copy of "The Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (Proposition 65): A Summary," a summary of Proposition 65 prepared by the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment of the California Environmental Protection Agency.

Pursuant to Health and Safety Code § 25249.7(d)(1), the undersigned hereby includes with the copy of this notice to the Attorney General a confidential Certificate of Merit.

While violations are occurring throughout the State of California, the noticing parties are unable to know for certain if violations are occurring in all of the 58 counties in California. Therefore, pursuant to 27 California Code of Regulations § 25903(c)(3), the noticing parties are providing this notice to the district attorney for each of the 58 counties in California. Further, the noticing parties provide this notice to the California Attorney General and the city attorneys for the cities of Los Angeles, San Diego, San Francisco and San Jose.

ELF is located at: 1736 Franklin, 9th Floor, Oakland, California 94612, telephone (510) 208-4555. The president of ELF is James Wheaton. ELF is represented in this matter by the law firms of Baron & Budd, P.C. and the Law Offices of April Strauss. All communications concerning this matter should be directed to:

Laura Baughman
Baron & Budd, P.C.
3102 Oak Lawn Ave., Suite 1100
Dallas, Texas 75219
(214) 521-3605.

Sincerely,

BARON & BUDD, P.C.

Laura J. Baughman
Thomas Sims
Attorneys for ELF

Enclosures

cc: Attorney General of California
(with attached confidential factual information supporting Certificate of Merit)
Los Angeles City Attorney
San Diego City Attorney
City Attorney of San Francisco
San Jose City Attorney
District Attorneys for California's 58 Counties
(see attached certificate of service)

Exhibit A

Current CEO or President
Beech-Nut Nutrition Corporation
13 British American Blvd.
Latham, NY 12110

Current CEO or President
The Hain Celestial Group, Inc.
58 South Service Road, Suite 250
Melville, NY 11747

EXHIBIT B

Product Name

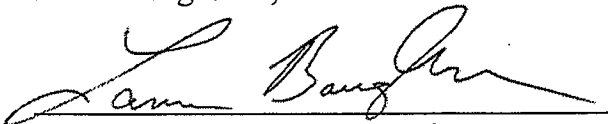
- 1 Beech Nut Cinnamon Raisins & Pears Stage 3
- 2 Beech Nut Oatmeal & Pears with Cinnamon Stage 3
- 3 Beech Nut Rice Cereals & Pears Stage 3
- 4 Beech Nut Sweet Potatoes Stage 3
- 5 Beech Nut Tender Sweet Carrots Stage 2
- 6 Earth's Best Organic Apple Cinnamon Oatmeal Stage 3
- 7 Earth's Best Organic Carrots Stage 2
- 8 Earth's Best Organic Peach Apricot Muesli Stage 3
- 9 Earth's Best Organic Sweet Potatoes Stage 2

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

I, Laura J. Baughman, hereby declare:

1. This Certificate of Merit accompanies the attached notice of violation in which it is alleged that the parties identified in the notice have violated Health & Safety Code section 25249.6 by failing to provide clear and reasonable warnings.
2. I am an attorney representing the Environmental Law Foundation.
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.
4. 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.
5. 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 & 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: August 24, 2010



Laura J. Baughman, Attorney for
Environmental Law Foundation

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I am employed in the City of Dallas in the County of Dallas, Texas. I am over the age of eighteen years and not a party to the within action. My business address is 3102 Oak Lawn Ave., Suite 1100, Dallas, Texas 75219.

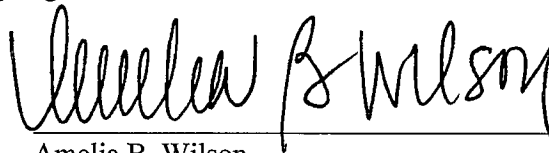
On August 24, 2010 I served the following document(s):

NOTICE OF VIOLATION OF THE SAFE DRINKING WATER AND TOXIC ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 1986 (PROPOSITION 65), SECTION 25249.6 OF THE CALIFORNIA HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE, FOR EXPOSING CONSUMERS TO LEAD FROM THE FOLLOWING FOODS (FOR BABIES AND/OR TODDLERS): PACKAGED CARROTS, PACKAGED PEARS, PACKAGED FOODS THAT INCLUDE PEARS, PACKAGED APPLES, PACKAGED FOODS THAT INCLUDE APPLES, PACKAGED PEACHES, PACKAGED FOODS THAT INCLUDE PEACHES, AND PACKAGED SWEET POTATOES

by UNITED STATE FIRST CLASS MAIL by placing a true and correct copy thereof in an envelope addressed to each of the persons named below at the address shown, and by sealing and depositing said envelope in the United States mail at Dallas, Texas, with postage fully prepaid to:

See Attached List.

Executed on this 24th day of August, 2010 at Dallas, Texas. I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California and Texas that the foregoing is true and correct.



Amelia B. Wilson

SERVICE LIST

Current CEO or President
The Hain Celestial Group, Inc.
58 South Service Road, Suite 250
Melville, NY 11747

Agent for Service of Process
c/o Hain Celestial Group, Inc.
CT Corporation System
818 W. 7th Street
Los Angeles, CA 90017

Current CEO or President
Beech-Nut Nutrition Corporation
13 British American Blvd.
Latham, NY 12110

Current CEO or President
Beech-Nut Nutrition Corporation
100 Hero Drive
Amsterdam, NY 12010

Agent for Service of Process
c/o Beech-Nut Nutrition Corporation
CT Corporation System
111 Eighth Avenue
New York, NY 10011

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

District Attorney of Imperial County
939 Main Street
El Centro, CA 92243

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

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

District Attorney of Contra Costa County
725 Court Street, Room 402
Martinez, CA 94553

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

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

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

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 Marin County
3501 Civic Center Dr., Room 183
San Rafael, CA 94903

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

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

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

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

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

District Attorney of Monterey County
PO Box 1131
Salinas, CA 93901

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 Napa County
931 Parkway Mall
Napa, CA 94559

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

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

District Attorney of Placer County
10810 Justice Center Drive Suite #240
Roseville, CA 95678

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

District Attorney of Riverside County
3960 Orange Street, Ste 5
Riverside, CA 92501

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

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

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

District Attorney of San Diego County
330 West Broadway, Suite 1320
San Diego, CA 92112

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

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

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

District Attorney of San Mateo County
400 County Ctr, 3rd Fl
Redwood City, CA 94063

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

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

District Attorney of Santa Cruz County
701 Ocean Street, Room 200
Santa Cruz, CA 95061

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

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

District Attorney of Solano County
600 Union Avenue
Fairfield, CA 94533

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

District Attorney of Trinity County
P.O. Box 1310
Weaverville, CA 96093

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

District Attorney of Tuolumne County
2 South Green
Sonora, CA 95370

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

District Attorney of Yolo County
301 Second Street
Woodland, CA 95695

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

San Jose City Attorney's Office
151 West Mission Street
San Jose, CA 95110

Los Angeles City Attorney's Office
Room 1800, City Hall East
200 N. Main Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

San Diego City Attorney's Office
1200 3rd Avenue, 12th Floor
San Diego, CA 92101

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

California Attorney General's Office
Attn: Proposition 65 Coordinator
1515 Clay Street
Oakland, CA 94612