

NOTICE OF VIOLATION

California Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act

Lead in Ginger and Fruit Snack Food

January 15, 2013

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. Charlie Pizarro is the Associate Director of and a responsible individual within CEH.

Description of Violation:

- Violators: The names and addresses of the violators are listed on the attached Exhibit 1.
- Time Period of Exposure: The violations have been occurring since at least January 15, 2010, and are continuing to this day.
- 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 consumption of the products identified in this Notice.
- Type of Product: The specific type of product causing this violation is ginger and fruit snack food. Non-exclusive examples of this specific type of product are listed on the attached Exhibit 1. CEH has previously issued Notices of Violation that identify additional non-exclusive examples of ginger and fruit snack foods that contain lead. These Notices may be found on the California Attorney General's website at <http://proposition65.doj.ca.gov/default.asp>.
- Description of Exposure: This Notice addresses consumer exposures to Lead. Consumption of the products identified in this Notice results in human exposures to Lead. The products contain Lead. The primary route of exposure for the violations is direct ingestion when consumers eat the ginger and fruit snack food. These exposures occur in homes, workplaces and everywhere else throughout California where the products are consumed. 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 each of the alleged violators unless such violators agree in a binding written instrument to: (1) recall products already sold; (2) provide clear and reasonable warnings for products sold in the future or reformulate such products to eliminate the Lead exposures; and (3) pay an appropriate civil penalty based on the factors enumerated in California Health and Safety Code Section 25249.7(b). If any of the alleged violators 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 through its counsel Eric S. Somers (esomers at lexlawgroup.com) at Lexington Law Group, 503 Divisadero Street, San Francisco, CA 94117, (415) 913-7800.

EXHIBIT 1
January 15, 2013 Notice of Violation
Lead in Ginger and Fruit Snack Food

Responsible Parties	Non-Exclusive Examples of the Products
<p style="text-align: center;">Aahubarah USA, Inc. 12 Gem Court Hicksville, New York 11801</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Aahu Barah Dry Plum SKU No. 0-88247-50147-4</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">B & V Enterprises, Inc. 10500 South Magnolia Avenue Anaheim, CA 92804</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Aahu Barah Dry Plum SKU No. 0-88247-50147-4</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">C D Food Co., Inc. 222 Keyes Street #105 San Jose, CA 95112</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Plum Candy (Me Cam Thao)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">C.H. Trading Co. 1214 South Amphlett Boulevard San Mateo, CA 94402</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Sweet Sliced Ginger SKU No. 3-576500-803290</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Global Commodities, Inc. 77-17 Parsons Boulevard Fresh Meadows, NY 11366</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Aahu Barah Dry Plum SKU No. 0-88247-50147-4</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Goldstar Supermarket 5815 Stockton Boulevard #B Sacramento, CA 95824</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Plum Candy (Me Cam Thao)</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Good Nature Food Crystalized Ginger SKU No. 6-61799-39559-5</p>

<p>Grand Bk Corp. 47-08 Grand Avenue Maspeth, New York 11378</p>	<p>Goodies By Nature Crystallized Ginger SKU No. 8-46034-01008-6</p>
<p>Hosoda Bros. Inc. 1444 Tennessee Street San Francisco, CA 94107</p>	<p>A Taste Of Maui Crystalized Ginger SKU No. 0-08124-10255-6</p>
<p>Korean Farm, Inc. 12500 East Slauson Avenue, Suite B1A Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670</p>	<p>Crystallized Ginger SKU No. 0-81652-09421-0</p>
<p>Koreana Plaza Market Oakland, Inc. 2370 Telegraph Avenue Oakland, CA 94612</p>	<p>Sweet Sliced Ginger SKU No. 3-576500-803290</p>
	<p>Crystallized Ginger SKU No. 0-81652-09421-0</p>
<p>Nature's World LLC 1524 45th Street #101 Sumner, WA 98390</p>	<p>Ginger Slices SKU No. 0-15953-70054-9</p>
<p>Rhee Bros., Inc. 7461 Coca Cola Drive Hanover, MD 21076</p>	<p>Crystallized Ginger SKU No. 0-81652-09421-0</p>
<p>Safeway Inc. 5918 Stoneridge Mall Road Pleasanton, CA 94588</p>	<p>Ginger Slices SKU No. 0-15953-70054-9</p>

Whole Foods Market California, Inc. 550 Bowie Street Austin, Texas 78703	Reed's Crystallized Ginger SKU No. 0-08274-12345-6
	Bulk Crystallized Ginger Bulk Code No. 5994

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

I, Eric S. Somers, 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, 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.

January 15, 2013



Eric S. Somers
Attorney for CENTER FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

PROOF OF SERVICE BY MAIL AND ELECTRONIC MAIL

I declare that:

I am employed in San Francisco County, California; my business address is 503 Divisadero Street, San Francisco, California 94117. I am over the age of 18 years and not a party to the within cause and my electronic notification address is cfisher@lexlawgroup.com.

On January 15, 2013, 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 asterisk).

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.

Also on this date, I transmitted via electronic mail the documents listed above to the electronic mail addresses set forth below at 2:16 p.m. on January 15, 2013:

Lon Wixson, Deputy District
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The transmission was reported as complete and without error.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct, and that this declaration was executed on January 15, 2013, at San Francisco, California.

Signed: 
Casey Fisher

SERVICE LIST

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Oakland, CA 94612

District Attorney of Alpine County
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San Francisco, CA 94102

San Jose City Attorney's Office
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San Jose, CA 95113

California Attorney General's Office
Attention: Proposition 65
Coordinator and Robert Thomas
1515 Clay Street, Ste. 2000
P.O. Box 70550
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