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August 30, 2013

ATTORNEY GENERAL COPY: CONTAINS OFFICIAL INFORMATION PER EVIDENCE CODE § 1040

NOTICE OF VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE § 25249.5 ET SEQ.

Dear Public Enforcement Agencies:

Shute, Mihaly & Weinberger LLP ("Firm") represents As You Sow ("AYS"), a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation dedicated to, among other causes, the protection of the environment, toxics reduction, the promotion of and improvement of human health, the improvement of worker and consumer rights, environmental education, and corporate accountability. As You Sow is based in Oakland, California and was incorporated in 1992 under the laws of the State of California.

This firm and AYS have documented violations of California's Safe Drinking Water & Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 ("Proposition 65"), codified at Health & Safety Code § 25249.5 et seq. This letter serves to provide this Firm's and AYS's notification of these violations to the public enforcement agencies. Pursuant to § 25249.7(d) of the statute, this Firm intends to bring an enforcement action on behalf of AYS sixty (60) days after effective service of this notice unless the public enforcement agencies have commenced and are diligently prosecuting an action to rectify these violations.

A summary of the statute and its implementing regulations, which was prepared by the lead agency designated under the statute, is enclosed with the copy of this notice served upon the violator. The specific details of the violations that are the subject of this notice are provided below.

Alleged violators. The names of the violators covered by this notice are:

- Market 5201, LLC
- MegaMex Foods, LLC

- Andronico's Community Markets
- Hormel Foods Corporation

Chemicals. These violations involve exposures to lead from the products listed below. The State of California has listed lead as a chemical known to the state to cause reproductive toxicity.

Consumer products. The products that are the subject of this notice are:

- Zaaschila brand Salsa Habanero Mexican Homestyle Salsa, which is manufactured, sold, and/or distributed in California by Market 5201, LLC.
- Bufalo brand Picante Bufalo Salsa Picanta Clasica (Clasica Mexican Hot), which is manufactured, sold, and/or distributed in California by MegaMex Foods, LLC, and Hormel Foods Corporation.
- Bufalo brand Picante Bufalo Salsa Chilpotle (Chilpotle Mexican Hot Sauce), which is manufactured, sold, and/or distributed in California by MegaMex Foods, LLC, Andronico's Community Markets, and Hormel Foods Corporation.
- Bufalo brand Picante Bufalo Salsa Jalapeno Rojo (Jalapeno Mexican Hot Sauce), which is manufactured, sold, and/or distributed in California by MegaMex Foods, LLC, Andronico's Community Markets, and Hormel Foods Corporation.

Route of exposure. Use of the product identified in this notice results in human exposures to lead. The products contain lead. The primary route of exposure is direct ingestion when consumers eat the products. The 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 reproductive toxicity hazards of lead.

Duration of violations. Each of these ongoing violations has occurred on every day since at least August 29, 2012, as well as every day since the products were introduced in the California marketplace, and will continue every day until clear and reasonable warnings are provided to product purchasers and users or until this known toxic chemical is removed from these products.

Pursuant to Title 11, C.C.R. § 3100, a certificate of merit is attached hereto.

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In keeping with its public interest mission and to expeditiously rectify these ongoing violations of California law, AYS is interested in seeking a constructive resolution of this matter without engaging in costly and protracted litigation. You may communicate directly with As You Sow to discuss an early resolution of this matter by contacting Danielle Fugere, President, 1611 Telegraph Avenue, Suite 1450, Oakland, CA 94612, (510) 735-8158. You may also contact AYS' counsel:

Ellison Folk Shute, Mihaly & Weinberger LLP 396 Hayes Street San Francisco, CA 94102 PH: 415.552.7272; Fax: 415.552.5816

Email: folk@smwlaw.com

Very truly yours,

SHUTE, MIHALY & WEINBERGER LLP

Ellison Folk

505857.1

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

(For As You Sow's Notice of Proposition 65 Violation on Market 5201, LLC; Andronico's Community Markets; Hormel Foods Corporation; and MegaMex Foods, LLC.)

I, Ellison Folk, declare:

- 1. This Certificate of Merit accompanies the attached sixty-day notice in which it is alleged that the party in the notice has violated section 25249.6 of the Health and Safety Code by failing to provide clear and reasonable warnings.
- 2. I am an attorney for the noticing party.
- I have consulted with one or more persons with relevant and appropriate experience or expertise who has reviewed facts, studies, or other data regarding exposure to the listed chemicals that are 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 plaintiff's case can be established and that 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 section 25249.7(h)(2) of the Health and Safety Code, 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:	8/29/13	CA	
		Ellison Folk	

Enclosure (For Attorney General Copy only)

506691.1

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, and not a party to the within action; my business address is: 396 Hayes Street, San Francisco, CA 94102.

On August 30, 2013, I served the following documents:

- Notice of Violation of California Health & Safety Code § 25249.5 et seq.
- Certificate of Merit
- "The Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (Proposition 65): A Summary"

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

Jeffrey M. Ettinger President & CEO Hormel Foods Corporation 1 Hormel Place Austin, MN 55912

John N. Howard, President Andronico's Community Markets 14234 Catalina Street San Leandro, CA 94577

Miguel Longoria, CEO Market 5201 LLC 10613 W. Sam Houston Pkwy N Suite 150 Houston, TX 77064 MegaMex Foods, LLC 333 S Anita Drive Suite 1000 Orange, CA 92868

MegaMex Foods, LLC c/o C T Corporation System 818 West Seventh Street 2nd Floor Los Angeles, CA 90017

Miguel Longoria Market 5201 LLC 440 Benmar Drive Houston, TX 77060

On August 30, 2013, I served the following document(s):

- Notice of Violation of California Health & Safety Code § 25249.5 et seq.
- Certificate of Merit, including Supporting Documentation Required by Title 11, C.C.R. § 3102

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

Proposition 65 Enforcement Reporting Attention: Prop 65 Coordinator 1515 Clay Street, Suite 2000 Post Office Box 70550 Oakland, California 94612-0550

On August 30, 2013, I served the following document(s):

- Notice of Violation of 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 at United States Postal Service mail box for delivery by First Class Mail.

Executed on August 30, 2013, at San Francisco, California.

Patricia Spencer

506741.1

SERVICE LIST

HE HONORABLE NANCY E. O'MALLEY JLAMEDA COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY 225 FALLON ST RM 900 **)AKLAND CA 94612**

HE HONORABLE TERESE DRABEC LPINE COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY

'O BOX 248 1ARKLEEVILLE CA 96120

HE HONORABLE TODD D RIEBE MADOR COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY 08 COURT ST STE 202 ACKSON CA 95642

HE HONORABLE MICHAEL RAMSEY JUTTE COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY 5 COUNTY CTR DR #245)ROVILLE CA 95965-3370

HE HONORABLE BARBARA YOOK ;ALAVERAS COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY 91 MTN RANCH RD **IAN ANDREAS CA 95249**

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HE HONORABLE JON ALEXANDER EL NORTE COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY 50 H ST STE 171 RESCENT CITY CA 95531

HE HONORABLE VERN PIERSON IL DORADO COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY 15 MAIN ST 'LACERVILLE CA 95667

HE HONORABLE ELIZABETH EGAN RESNO COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY 220 TULARE ST STE 1000 **RESNO CA 93721**

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THE HONORABLE TONY RACKAUCKAS ORANGE COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY 401 CIVIC CTR DR WEST SANTA ANA CA 92701

SERVICE LIST

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HE HONORABLE DAVID HOLLISTER

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