

June 5, 2015

Rain Bird Corporation c/o Nickolas S. Kaleyias 970 W. Sierra Madre Ave., Suite DIS3 Azusa, CA 91702

Orchard Supply Hardware Stores Corporation c/o CT Corporation System 818 W. 7th St., #930 Los Angeles, CA 90017

### Re: NOTICE OF VIOLATION AGAINST RAIN BIRD CORPORATION AND ORCHARD SUPPLY HARDWARE STORES CORPORATION OF CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE SECTION 25249.6

To Whom It May Concern and to Public Prosecutors:

Ecological Alliance, LLC, a California limited liability company ("Alliance") is a California company acting in the interest of the general public seeking to further, among other causes, the protection of the environment, toxics reduction, the promotion and improvement of human health, the improvement of workers and consumer rights, environmental education and corporate accountability. As described below, Alliance has identified violations of California's Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 ("Proposition 65" or "Act"), codified at Cal. Health & Safety Code §25249.5 *et seq.* by Rain Bird Corporation, a California corporation and Orchard Supply Hardware Stores Corporation, a Delaware corporation (collectively the "Violators"). This letter serves to provide Alliance's notification of these violations to the Violators and elected prosecutors. Pursuant to §25249.7(d) of the statute, Alliance intends to bring an enforcement action sixty (60) days or more after effective service of this amended notice unless the appropriate public enforcement agencies have commenced and are diligently prosecuting an action to rectify these violations.

The products which are causing an exposure without a warning in violation of Proposition 65, are Sprinklers, UPC #077985318000 ("Products") manufactured by Rain Bird Corporation and offered for sale by Orchard Supply Hardware Stores Corporation, to California consumers.

A copy of the Proposition 65 summary prepared by the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment is attached, to the copy of this letter served to the Violators.

Because of this lack of a warning, consumers were exposed to the following chemicals without the proper required Proposition 65 warnings: 1) Lead. The routes of exposure for this chemical are ingestion and dermal. Such exposure can cause birth defects and other reproductive harm. Exposures to the listed chemical from the use of the Products have been occurring without the clear and reasonable warnings required by Proposition 65, dating as far back as June 5, 2014, 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 the Products. Without proper warnings regarding the toxic effects of exposures to the listed chemical resulting from contact with the Products, California citizens lack the information necessary to make informed decisions on whether and how to eliminate (or reduce) the risk of exposure to the listed chemical from reasonable foreseeable use of the Products.

Alliance intends to file a private enforcement action as provided for in the Act for the alleged violations by the Violators, unless Violaters agree in an enforceable written instrument to: (1) recall the listed products so as to eliminate further exposures to the identified chemicals; or (2) affix clear and reasonable Proposition 65 warning labels for products sold in the future or reformulate such products to eliminate the exposures; and (3) pay an appropriate civil penalty.

Consistent with the public interest goals of Proposition 65, Alliance is interested in seeking a constructive resolution to this matter, and invites Violators, should they seek early resolution of this matter, to communicate directly with Alliance's attorneys. Such resolution will avoid further unwarned consumer exposures, as well as resource intensive litigation.

Please direct all questions concerning this notice to Alliance's attorney, Vineet Dubey (dubey@cd-lawyers.com), Custodio & Dubey LLP, 448 S. Hill St., Suite 850, Los Angeles, CA 90013, 213-785-2909.

Sincerely,

Vineet Dubey Custodio & Dubey LLP

cc: see attached distribution list

Attachments: Proposition 65 summary Certificate of Merit Certificate of Service

#### **CERTIFICATE OF MERIT**

Health and Safety Code Section 25249.7(d)

# Re: Ecological Alliance, LLC's Notice of Proposition 65 Violations by Rain Bird Corporation and Orchard Supply Hardware Stores Corporation.

I, Vineet Dubey, hereby declare:

1. This Certificate of Merit accompanies the attached sixty-day notice in which it is alleged the parties identified in the notice violated California Health & Safety Code Section 25249.6 by failing to provide clear and reasonable warnings.

2. I am an attorney for the noticing party.

3. I have consulted with one or more persons with relevant and appropriate experience and have assembled evidence attached to the copy for the California Attorney General as Exhibit 1 to this Certificate of Merit regarding the lack of warnings for the listed chemical that is the subject of the notice.

4. Based on the information obtained 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 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 California Health & Safety Code §25249.7(h)(2).

Dated: June 5, 2015

ineet Dubey, Attorney at Law

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I am over the age of 18 and not a party to this case. I am a resident of or employed in the county where the mailing occurred. My business address is 448 S. Hill St., Ste 850, Los Angeles, CA 90013.

On the date shown below, I served the following:

- 1) Amended 60-Day Notice of Intent to Sue Under Health and Safety Code section 25249.6
- 2) Certificate of Merit; Health and Safety Code Section 25249.7(d)
- 3) Certificate of Merit (Attorney General Copy); Factual information sufficient to establish the basis of the certificate of merit (only sent to Attorney General)
- 4) The Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (Proposition 65); A Summary

on the alleged violator listed below via First Class Certified Mail through the United States Postal Service by placing a true and correct copy in a sealed envelope, addressed to the entity listed below and providing such envelope to a United States Postal Service Representative:

Rain Bird Corporation c/o Nickolas S. Kaleyias 970 W. Sierra Madre Ave., Suite DIS3 Azusa, CA 91702

Orchard Supply Hardware Stores Corporation c/o CT Corporation System 818 W. 7th St., #930 Los Angeles, CA 90017

as well as providing copies of the notice to the public enforcers by placing a true and correct copy in a sealed envelope, addressed to the parties listed on the attached Distribution List.

I declare under penalty of perjury that under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

June 5, 2015

Vineet Dubey

#### Alameda County District Attorney Los Angeles County District Attorney Mono County District Attorney 1225 Fallon St, Room 900 210 W Temple St, 18th Floor P0 Box 617 Oakland, CA 94612 Los Angeles, CA 90012 Bridgeport, CA 93517 Alpine County District Attorney Madera County District Attorney San Joaquin County District Attorney PO Box 248 209 W Yosemite Ave PO Box 990 Markleeville, CA 96120 Madera, CA 93637 Stockton, CA 95201 -0990 Amador County District Attorney Mariposa County District Attorney San Francisco County District Attorney 708 Court, Suite 202 P.O. Box 730 850Bryant St, Rm 322 Jackson, CA 95642 Mariposa, CA 95338 San Francisco, CA 94103 Butte County District Attorney Marin County District Attorney San Diego County District Attorney 25 County Center Dr. 3501 Civic Center Drive, #130 220 W Drandway eta 1200 Oroville, CA 95965-3385 San Rafael, CA 94903 San Diego, CA 92101-3803 Calaveras County District Attorney Mendocino County District Attorney San Bernardino County District Attorney 891 Mountain Ranch Road P.O. Box 1000 316 N Mountain View Ave San Andreas, CA 95249 Ukiah, CA 95482 San Bernardino, CA 92415-0004 Office of the Attorney General Los Angeles City Attorney San Francisco City Attorney P.O. Box 70550 200 N Main St Ste 1800 # 1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place, Suite 234 Oakland, CA 94612-0550 San Francisco, CA 94102 Los Angeles CA 90012 Colusa County District Attorney Inyo County District Attorney Placer County District Attorney Courthouse, 547 Market St Colusa, *CA* 95932 P.O. Drawer D 10810 Justice Center Drive Independence, CA 93526 Suite 240 Roseville, CA 95678-6231 Contra Costa County District Attorney Merced County District Attorney Orange County District Attorney 725 Court St., Room 402 P0 Box 808 550 W. Main Št. Martinez, CA 94553 Santa Ana, CA 92702 Merced, CA 95340 Del Norte County District Attorney Nevada County District Attorney Napa County District Attorney 450 "H" St. 10075 Levon Ave. P0 Box 720 Crescent City, CA 95531 Nana. CA 94559-0720 Riverside County District Attorney Truckee, CA 96161 El Dorado County District Attorney Plumas County District Attorney 515 Main St. 520 Main Street, Rm 404 3960 Orange Street, Suite 6 Placerville, CA 95667-5697 Riverside, CA 92501 San Benito County District Attorney Ouincy, CA 95971 Fresno County District Attorney Sacramento County District Attorney 2220 Tulare Št. Ste. 1000 901 G Street 419 4th St Fresno, CA 93721 Hollister, CA 95023 Siskiyou County District Attorney Sacramento, CA 95814 San Luis Obispo County District Attorney Glenn County District Attorney County Government Center, Rm 450 PO Box 430 PO Box 986 Willows, CA 95988 San Luis Obispo, CA 93408 Yreka, CA 96097 San Mateo County District Attorney Humboldt County District Attorney Solano County District Attorney 825 5th St., 4th Floor 400 County Center 600 Union Ave Eureka, CA 95501 Redwood City, CA 94063 Fairfield, CA 94533 Imperial County District Attorney Santa Barbara County District Attorney Sonoma County District Attorney 939 W. Main St., 2nd Floor 1112 Santa Barbara St. 600 Administration Dr. Santa Barbara, CA 93101 El Centro, CA 92243-2860 Rm 212-1 Santa Rosa. CA 95403 Shasta County District Attorney Kern County District Attorney Santa Clara County District Attorney 70 W Hedding St. San Jose, CA 95110 1215 Truxtun Ave. 1355 West St. Bakersfield, CA 93301 Redding, CA 96001-1632 Santa Cruz County District Attorney Kings County District Attorney Sierra County District Attorney Gov't Ctr, 1400 W Lacey Blvd 701 Ocean St., Room 200 P0 Box 457 Hanford. CA 93230 Santa Cruz, CA 95060 Downieville, CA 95936-0457 Stanislaus County District Attorney Lake County District Attorney Trinity County District Attorney 255 N Forbes St P0 Box 442 PO Box 310 Lakeport, CA 95453-4790 Modesto, CA 95353 Weaverville, CA 96093 Modoc County District Attorney Sutter County District Attorney Yuba County District Attorney 204 S. Court Street 446 Second Street 215 5th St Alturas. CA 96101-4020 Yuba City, CA 95991 Marysville, CA 95901 Monterey County District Attorney San Diego City Attorney Lassen County District Attorney City Center Plaza 200 S Lassen St, Suite 8 PO Box 1131 1200 3rd Ave # 1100 Susanville, CA 96130 Salinas, CA 93902 San Diego, CA 92101 Tuolumne County District Attorney Tulare County District Attorney Yolo County District Attorney 2 S Green St County Civic Center. Rm 224 310 Second St Sonora. CA 95370 Visalia. CA 93291 Woodland, CA 95695 Ventura County District Attorney Tehama County District Attorney San Jose City Attorney 800 S Victoria Ave P.O. Box 519 200 E. Santa Clara St Ventura, CA 93009 Red Bluff: CA 96080 16th Floor

#### **Distribution List**

San Jose, CA 95110