# SIXTY-DAY NOTICE OF INTENT TO SUE FOR VIOLATION OF THE SAFE DRINKING WATER AND TOXIC ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 1986 (Cal. Health & Safety Code § 25249.5, et seq.)

DATE: September 6, 2024

TO: Haan Brand USA Corp.

Luxury Lab LLC iHerb, LLC

Attorney General's Office

District Attorney's Office for All California Counties; and

City Attorneys for Los Angeles, San Diego, San Jose and San Francisco

FROM: Pure.Clean.Healthy LLC

RE: Violation of California Health & Safety Code § 25249.6 concerning Haan Body Wash Morning

Glory containing Coconut Oil Diethanolamine Condensate (Cocamide Diethanolamine, Cocamide

DEA, Coconut Diethanolamine, Coconut Oil Diethanolamine)

## This first amendment amends notice number 2024-03013 filed on 07/19/2024 to correct the service address of violator Haan Brand USA Corp.

Dear Alleged Violators and Appropriate Public Enforcement Agencies:

Torch & Stone Law, APC represents Pure. Clean. Healthy LLC, a California limited liability company ("PCH"). PCH, acting in the interest of the general public, seeks, among other things, to improve and protect the health of the people of California, protect the environment and consumer rights, and hold corporations accountable.

PCH has identified violations of California's Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 ("Proposition 65"), codified at California Health & Safety Code § 25249.5 *et seq.*, perpetrated by Haan Brand USA Corp., Luxury Lab LLC and iHerb, LLC (collectively "Alleged Violators"). Pursuant to California Health & Safety Code § 25249.7(d), PCH serves this SIXTY-DAY NOTICE OF INTENT TO SUE FOR VIOLATION OF THE SAFE DRINKING WATER AND TOXIC ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 1986 ("Notice") on the Alleged Violators for violations of California Health & Safety Code § 25249.6.

The violations addressed by this Notice occurred at numerous locations in each county in California as reflected in the district attorney addresses listed in the attached Distribution List.

Noticing Entity, Responsible Individual: The entity giving this Notice is Pure.Clean.Healthy LLC, with a principal address at 2005 Palo Verde Avenue, Suite 202, Long Beach, CA 90815, 562-844-5286. PCH identifies Michele Reynoso as a responsible individual within the entity. Michele Reynoso requests all communications be directed to PCH's attorneys.

<u>Certificate of Merit</u>: Pursuant to California Health & Safety Code § 25249.7(d) and California Code of Regulations, Title 11, § 3100, a Certificate of Merit is attached hereto. A second copy of this Notice and Certificate of Merit is served on the Attorney General with all supporting documentation required by California Code of Regulations, Title 11, § 3102 attached hereto.

<u>Proposition 65: A Summary:</u> A summary of Proposition 65 and its implementation regulations, prepared by the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment ("OEHHA"), the lead agency designated under Proposition 65, is enclosed with the copy of the Notice served on the Alleged Violators.

<u>Alleged Violation</u>: Alleged Violators caused consumer product exposures in violation of Proposition 65 by producing or making available Haan Body Wash Morning Glory for distribution or sale in California to

consumers, knowingly and intentionally exposing consumers to Coconut Oil Diethanolamine Condensate (Cocamide Diethanolamine) ("Cocamide DEA") without first giving a clear and reasonable warning to these individuals that they are being exposed to chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer or reproductive toxicity.

**Products:** The specific type or category of products ("Products") that are the subject of this Notice are as follows:

Products	Violative Chemical	Alleged Violators
Haan Body Wash Morning Glory	Coconut Oil Diethanolamine	Haan Brand USA Corp., Luxury Lab
UPC: 5060669787211	Condensate	LLC, iHerb, LLC

The above-identified Products, recently purchased and witnessed as being available for sale or use in the State of California, are within the category of offending products covered by this Notice. The identified retailers, manufacturers and/or distributors of the Products are based on publicly available information.

**Listed Chemical:** The chemical that is the subject of this Notice is Coconut Oil Diethanolamine Condensate (Cocamide Diethanolamine). Cocamide DEA is known to the State of California to cause cancer. This chemical was listed as a carcinogen on June 22, 2012.

**Routes of Exposure:** Exposures occur through the purchase, acquisition, handling, and reasonably foreseeable and intended uses of the Haan Body Wash Morning Glory. The primary route of exposure to Cocamide DEA is through dermal absorption. Some amount of exposure through ingestion can occur by touching and/or use of the Products, and subsequent touching of the user's hand to mouth. These exposures take place throughout the State of California.

**Violations and Time Period of Exposure**: Alleged Violators knowingly and intentionally exposed, and continue to knowingly and intentionally expose, individuals within the State of California to Cocamide DEA, without first giving a health hazard warning regarding the chemical's toxic effects, as required by Proposition 65.

Exposures caused by the use of the Products have occurred each day since the Products were introduced into the California marketplace, but, at a minimum, since July 16, 2024. Because the Products lack clear and reasonable warnings regarding the toxic effects of exposures to Cocamide DEA, each Product sold during this period and not accompanied by a warning constitutes a violation by the Alleged Violators and/or other sellers of the Products, whether sold directly through retailers located in, or with locations in, California, via the internet, or through catalog purchases by customers and individuals located in California. Moreover, these exposures are ongoing and will continue either until clear and reasonable warnings are provided to protect consumers and users or until this known toxic chemical is removed from the Products or reduced to allowable levels.

Consistent with the public interest goals of Proposition 65 and a desire to have these ongoing violations of California law quickly rectified, PCH is interested in seeking constructive resolution of this matter.

Please direct all communication regarding this Notice to PCH's attorney, M. Uma Gopalswami (uma@torchstonelaw.com), Torch & Stone Law, APC, 4171 Ball Road, Suite 172, Cypress, CA 90630, 248-930-6180.

Sincerely,

M. Uma Gopalswami, Esq. TORCH & STONE LAW, APC

#### Attachments:

- 1. Haan Body Wash Morning Glory containing Cocamide Diethanolamine (Cocamide DEA) Certificate of Merit;
- 2. Appendix A: OEHHA Proposition 65: A Summary (to Alleged Violators only);
- 3. Confidential Factual Information Supporting Certificate of Merit (to Attorney General only); and
- 4. Certificate of Service and Distribution List.

### Haan Body Wash Morning Glory containing Cocamide Diethanolamine (Cocamide DEA) CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

Health and Safety Code § 25249.7(d)

### I, M. Uma Gopalswami, hereby declare:

- 1. This Certificate of Merit accompanies the attached Sixty-Day Notice in which it is alleged the parties identified in the notice have violated California Health & Safety Code section 25249.6 by failing to provide clear and reasonable warnings.
- 2. I am the attorney for the noticing party.
- 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 chemicals that are the subject of the notice.
- 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. Along with a copy of this Certificate of Merit served on the Attorney General is attached additional factual information sufficient to establish the basis for this certificate, including the information identified in California Health and 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.

Date: September 6, 2024

By: M.H. G. L. F.

M. Uma Gopalswami, Esq. TORCH & STONE LAW, APC

### **APPENDIX A**

### OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH HAZARD ASSESSMENT CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

### THE SAFE DRINKING WATER AND TOXIC ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 1986 (PROPOSITION 65); A SUMMARY

The following summary has been prepared by the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA), the lead agency for the implementation of the Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (commonly known as "Proposition 65"). A copy of this summary must be included as an attachment to any notice of violation served upon an alleged violator of the Act. The summary provides basic information about the provisions of the law, and is intended to serve only as a convenient source of general information. It is not intended to provide authoritative guidance on the meaning or application of the law. The reader is directed to the statute OEHHA implementing regulations (see citations below) for further information.

FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING THE BASIS FOR THE ALLEGATIONS IN THE NOTICE RELATED TO YOUR BUSINESS, CONTACT THE PERSON IDENTIFIED ON THE NOTICE.

The text of Proposition 65 (Health and Safety Code Sections 25249.5 through 25249.13) is available online at: http://oehha.ca.gov/prop65/law/P65law72003.html. Regulations that provide more specific guidance on compliance, and that specify procedures to be followed by the State in carrying out certain aspects of the law, are found in Title 27 of the California Code of Regulations, sections 25102 through 27001. These implementing regulations are available online at: http://oehha.ca.gov/prop65/law/P65Regs.html.

#### WHAT DOES PROPOSITION 65 REQUIRE?

The "Proposition 65 List." Under Proposition 65, the lead agency (OEHHA) publishes a list of chemicals that are known to the State of California to cause cancer and/or reproductive toxicity. Chemicals are placed on the Proposition 65 list if they are known to cause cancer and/or birth defects or other reproductive harm, such as damage to female or male reproductive systems or to the developing fetus. This list must be updated at least once a year. The current Proposition 65 list of chemicals is available on the OEHHA website at:

 $\frac{\text{http://www.oehha.ca.gov/prop65/prop65\_list/Newlist.h}}{\text{tml.}}$ 

Only those chemicals that are on the list are regulated under Proposition 65. Businesses that produce, use, release or otherwise engage in activities involving listed chemicals must comply with the following:

Clear and reasonable warnings. A business is required to warn a person before "knowingly and intentionally" exposing that person to a listed chemical unless an exemption applies. The warning given must be "clear and reasonable." This means that the warning must: (1) clearly make known that the chemical involved is known to cause cancer, or birth defects or other reproductive harm; and (2) be given in such a way that it will effectively reach the person before he or she is exposed to that chemical. Some exposures are exempt from the warning requirement under certain circumstances discussed below.

Prohibition from discharges into drinking water. A business must not knowingly discharge or release a listed chemical into water or onto land where it passes or probably will pass into a source of drinking water. Some discharges are exempt from this requirement under certain circumstances discussed below.

DOES PROPOSITION 65 PROVIDE ANY EXEMPTIONS?

Yes. You should consult the current version of the statute and regulations (<a href="http://www.oehha.ca.gov/prop65/law/index.html">http://www.oehha.ca.gov/prop65/law/index.html</a>) to determine all applicable exemptions, the most common of which are the following:

Grace Period. Proposition 65 warning requirements do not apply until 12 months after the chemical has been listed. The Proposition 65 discharge prohibition does not apply to a discharge or release of a chemical that takes place less than 20 months after the listing of the chemical.

Governmental agencies and public water utilities. All agencies of the federal, state or local government, as well as entities operating public water systems, are exempt.

Businesses with nine or fewer employees. Neither the warning requirement nor the discharge prohibition applies to a business that employs a total of nine or fewer employees. This includes all employees, not just those present in California.

Exposures that pose no significant risk of cancer. For chemicals that are listed under Proposition 65 as known to the State to cause cancer, a warning is not required if the business causing the exposure can demonstrate that the exposure occurs at a level that poses "no significant risk." This means that the exposure is calculated to result in not more than one excess case of cancer in 100,000 individuals exposed over a 70-year lifetime. The Proposition 65 regulations identify specific "No Significant Risk Levels" (NSRLs) for many listed carcinogens. Exposures below these levels are exempt from the warning requirement. See OEHHA's website at: http://www.oehha.ca.gov/prop65/getNSRLs.html for a list of NSRLs, and Section 25701 et seq. of the regulations for information concerning how these levels are calculated.

Exposures that will produce no observable reproductive effect at 1,000 times the level in question. For chemicals known to the State to cause reproductive toxicity, a warning is not required if the business causing the exposure can demonstrate that the exposure will produce no observable effect, even at 1,000 times the level in question. In other words, the level of exposure must be below the "no observable effect level" divided by 1,000. This number is known as the Maximum Allowable Dose Level (MADL). See OEHHA's website at:

http://www.oehha.ca.gov/prop65/getNSRLs.html for a list of MADLs, and Section 25801 et seq. of the regulations for information concerning how these levels are calculated.

Exposures to Naturally Occurring Chemicals in Food. Certain exposures to chemicals that naturally occur in foods (i.e., that do not result from any known human activity, including activity by someone other than the person causing the exposure) are exempt from the warning requirements of the law. If the chemical is a contaminant it must be reduced to the lowest level feasible. Regulations explaining this exemption can be found in Section 25501.

Discharges that do not result in a "significant amount" of the listed chemical entering any source of drinking water. The prohibition from discharges into drinking water does not apply if the discharger is able to demonstrate that a "significant amount" of the listed chemical has not, does not, or will not pass into or probably pass into a source of drinking water, and that the discharge complies with all other applicable laws, regulations, permits, requirements, or orders. A "significant amount" means any detectable amount, except an amount that would meet the "no significant risk" level for chemicals that cause cancer or that is 1,000 times below the "no observable effect" level for chemicals that cause reproductive toxicity, if an individual were exposed to that amount in drinking water.

HOW IS PROPOSITION 65 ENFORCED?

Enforcement is carried out through civil lawsuits. These lawsuits may be brought by the Attorney General, any district attorney, or certain city attorneys. Lawsuits may also be brought by private parties acting in the public interest, but only after providing notice of the alleged violation to the Attorney General, the appropriate district attorney and city attorney, and the business accused of the violation. The notice must provide adequate information to allow the recipient to assess the nature of the alleged violation. The notice must comply with the information and procedural requirements specified in Section 25903 of Title 27 and sections 3100-3103 of Title 11. A private party may not pursue an independent enforcement action under Proposition 65 if one of the governmental officials noted above initiates an enforcement action within sixty days of the notice.

A business found to be in violation of Proposition 65 is subject to civil penalties of up to \$2,500 per day for each violation. In addition, the business may be ordered by a court to stop committing the violation.

A private party may not file an enforcement action based on certain exposures if the alleged violator meets specific conditions. For the following types of exposures, the Act provides an opportunity for the business to correct the alleged violation:

- An exposure to alcoholic beverages that are consumed on the alleged violator's premises to the extent onsite consumption is permitted by law:
- An exposure to a Proposition 65 listed chemical in a food or beverage prepared and sold on the alleged violator's premises that is primarily intended for immediate consumption on- or off-premises. This only applies if the chemical was not intentionally added to the food, and was formed by cooking or similar preparation of food or beverage components necessary to render the food or beverage palatable or to avoid microbiological contamination;
- An exposure to environmental tobacco smoke caused by entry of persons (other than employees) on premises owned or operated by the alleged violator where smoking is permitted at any location on the premises;
- An exposure to listed chemicals in engine exhaust, to the extent the exposure occurs inside a facility owned or operated by the alleged violator and primarily intended for parking non-commercial vehicles.

If a private party alleges that a violation occurred based on one of the exposures described above, the private party must first provide the alleged violator a notice of special compliance procedure and proof of compliance

A copy of the notice of special compliance procedure and proof of compliance form is included in Appendix B and can be downloaded from OEHHA's website at: <a href="http://oehha.ca.gov/prop65/law/p65law72003.html">http://oehha.ca.gov/prop65/law/p65law72003.html</a>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE LAW OR REGULATIONS:

Contact the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment's Proposition 65 Implementation Office at (916) 445-6900 or via e-mail at P65Public.Comments@oehha.ca.gov.

NOTE: Authority cited: Section 25249.12, Health and Safety Code. Reference: Sections 25249.5, 25249.6, 25249.7, 25249.9, 25249.10 and 25249.11, Health and Safety Code.

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, Ricardo Guerrero, am over the age of 18 and am not a party to this action. I am a resident of or employed in the county where the mailing occurred. My address is 11921 Colima Road, Whittier, California 90604.

On September 6, 2024, I served the following documents:

- 1. Sixty-Day Notice of Intent to Sue for Violation of the Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986;
- 2. Haan Body Wash Morning Glory containing Cocamide Diethanolamine (Cocamide DEA) Certificate of Merit;
- 3. Appendix A: Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment California Environmental Protection Agency The Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (Proposition 65): A Summary (to Alleged Violators only); and
- 4. Confidential Factual Information Supporting Certificate of Merit (to Attorney General only).

on the Alleged Violator(s) listed below via First Class 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:

Haan Brand USA Corp.	Luxury Lab LLC	
Attn: Legal Dept.	c/o The Corporation Trust Company	
1613 Hutton Dr	1209 Orange St	
Carrollton, TX 75006-6840	Wilmington, DE 19801	
Luxury Lab LLC	iHerb, LLC	
Attn: Chris Torossian	c/o Paracorp Incorporated	
2311 Kinclair Dr.	2804 Gateway Oaks Dr #100	
Pasadena, CA 91107	Sacramento, CA 95833	

as well as by filing electronically a true and correct copy thereof as permitted through the website of the California Office of the Attorney General via link at oag.ca.gov/prop65:

State of California Department of Justice Office of the Attorney General of California Filing link: oag.ca.gov/prop65

Copies of the notice were provided to the public enforcers by placing a true and correct copy thereof in a sealed envelope, addressed to each of the District Attorney and City Attorney offices the parties listed on the attached Distribution List. The District Attorney and City Attorney offices that have requested electronic service only were served electronically via the email addresses listed on the Distribution List.

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

Date: September 6, 2024

Ricardo Guerrero

### **DISTRIBUTION LIST**

Alpine County District Attorney	Lake County District Attorney	Sierra County District Attorney
PO Box 248	255 North Forbes Street	PO Box 457
Markleeville, CA 96120	Lakeport, CA 95453	Downieville, CA 95936
Amador County District Attorney	Los Angeles County District Atty.	District Attorney's Office
708 Court Street, Suite 202	Hall of Justice	Siskiyou County Courthouse
Jackson, CA 95642	211 W Temple St, Ste 1200	311 Fourth Street, Room 204
buckson, 6/1/30/12	Los Angeles, CA 90012	Yreka, CA 96097
Butte County District Attorney	Madera County District Attorney	Solano County District Attorney
25 County Center Drive, Suite 245	209 West Yosemite Avenue	675 Texas Street, Ste 4500
Oroville, CA 95965	Madera, CA 93637	Fairfield, CA 94533
Colusa County District Attorney	Marin County District Attorney	Stanislaus County District Attorney
310 6th Street	3501 Civic Center Drive, Room 130	832 12th Street, Ste 300
Colusa, CA 95932	San Rafael, CA 94903	Modesto, CA 95354
Del Norte County District Attorney	Mendocino County District Attorney	Sutter County District Attorney
450 H Street, Suite 171	PO Box 1000	446 Second Street
Crescent City, CA 95531	Ukiah, CA 95482	Yuba City, CA 95991
EL Dorado County District Attorney	Modoc County District Attorney	Tehama County District Attorney
778 Pacific Street	204 S Court Street, Room 202	PO Box 519
Placerville, CA 95667	Alturas, CA 96101-4020	Red Bluff, CA 96080
Mono County District Attorney	Orange County District Attorney	Trinity County District Attorney
Post Office Box 617	300 N Flower Street	Post Office Box 310
Bridgeport, CA 93517	Santa Ana, CA 92703	Weaverville, CA 96093
Glenn County District Attorney	San Benito County District Attorney	Tuolumne County District Attorney
Post Office Box 430	419 4th Street	423 North Washington St.
Willows, CA 95988	Hollister, CA 95023	Sonora, CA 95370
Humboldt County District Attorney	San Bernardino County District Attorney	Yuba County District Attorney
825 5th Street 4th Floor	316 No. Mountain View Avenue	215 Fifth Street, Suite 152
Eureka, CA 95501	San Bernardino, CA 92415	Marysville, CA 95901
Imperial County District Attorney	San Mateo County District Attorney	Los Angeles City Attorney's Office
940 West Main Street, Suite 102	400 County Ctr., 3rd Floor	City Hall East
El Centro, CA 92243	Redwood City, CA 94063	200 N Main St, Ste 800
		Los Angeles, CA 90012
Kern County District Attorney	Shasta County District Attorney	Kings County District Attorney
1215 Truxtun Avenue	1355 West Street	1400 West Lacey Blvd.
Bakersfield, CA 93301	Redding, CA 96001	Hanford, CA 93230
Alameda County District Attorney	Calaveras County District Attorney	Contra Costa County District Attorney
CEPDProp65@acgov.org	Prop65Env@co.calaveras.ca.us	sgrassini@contracostada.org
Inyo County District Attorney	Lassen County District Attorney	Mariposa County District Attorney
inyoda@inyocounty.us	mlatimer@co.lassen.ca.us	mcda@mariposacounty.org
Merced County District Attorney	Monterey County District Attorney	Napa County District Attorney
Prop65@countyofmerced.com	Pro65DA@co.monterey.ca.us	CEPD@countyofnapa.org
Nevada County District Attorney	Placer County District Attorney	Plumas County District Attorney
DA.Prop65@co.nevada.ca.us	Prop65@placer.ca.gov	davidhollister@countyofplumas.com
Riverside County District Attorney	Sacramento County District Attorney	San Diego City Attorney
Prop65@rivcoda.org	Prop65@sacda.org	CityAttyProp65@sandiego.gov
San Diego County District Attorney	San Francisco County District Attorney	San Francisco City Attorney
SanDiegoDAProp65@sdcda.org	alexandra.grayner@sfgov.org	Prop65@sfcityatty.org
San Joaquin County District Attorney DA	San Luis Obispo County District Attorney	Santa Barbara County District Attorney
DAConsumer.Environmental@sjcda.org	edobroth@co.slo.ca.us	DAProp65@co.santa-barbara.ca.us
Santa Clara County District Attorney	Santa Cruz County District Attorney	Sonoma County District Attorney
EPU@da.sccgov.org	Prop65DA@santacruzcounty.us	jbarnes@sonoma-county.org
Tulare County District Attorney	Ventura County District Attorney	Yolo County District Attorney
Prop65@co.tulare.ca.us	daspecialops@veutura.org	cfepd@yolocounty.org
San Jose City Attorney's Office	District Attorney Fresno	District Attorney of Roseville
proposition65notices@sanjoseca.gov	consumerprotection@fresnocountyca.gov	pwp65@place.ca.gov