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8 CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

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10 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
11 COUNTY OF ALAMEDA

12  
13 Coordination Proceeding Special Title: ) Judicial Council Coordination  
14 PROPOSITION 65 COCAMIDE DEA CASES ) Proceeding  
15 ) Case No. 4765

16 \_\_\_\_\_ )  
17 This Document Relates To: ) **[PROPOSED] CONSENT**  
18 *CEH v. ABACO Partners LLC, et al.*, A.C.S.C. ) **JUDGMENT AS TO DOLLAR**  
19 Case No. RG 14-717127 ) **GENERAL CORPORATION**

20  
21 **1. INTRODUCTION**

22 1.1 The parties to this Consent Judgment (“Parties”) are the Center for  
23 Environmental Health (“CEH”) and defendant Dollar General Corporation (“Settling  
24 Defendant”). CEH and Settling Defendant are referred to collectively as the “Parties.”

25 1.2 Settling Defendant is a corporation that employs ten (10) or more persons and  
26 that manufactures, distributes, and/or sells shampoo and liquid soaps that contain coconut oil

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1 diethanolamine condensate (cocamide diethanolamine) (hereinafter, “cocamide DEA”) in the  
2 State of California or has done so in the past.

3 1.3 On October 11, 2013, CEH served a 60-Day Notice of Violation under  
4 Proposition 65 (The Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986, California Health  
5 & Safety Code § 25249.5, *et seq.*) (the “Notice”) to Settling Defendant, the California Attorney  
6 General, the District Attorneys of every County in the State of California, and the City Attorneys  
7 for every City in the State of California with a population greater than 750,000. The Notice  
8 alleges violations of Proposition 65 with respect to the presence of cocamide DEA in shampoo  
9 and liquid soaps that are manufactured, distributed, and/or sold by Settling Defendant.

10 1.4 On March 12, 2014, CEH filed the action entitled *Center for Environmental*  
11 *Health v. ABACO Partners LLC, et al.*, Case No. RG 14-717127, in the Superior Court of  
12 California for Alameda County, naming Settling Defendant as a party to that action. On April 1,  
13 2014, the *ABACO* action was coordinated with several other related Proposition 65 actions in the  
14 *Proposition 65 Cocamide DEA Cases*, Case No. JCCP 4765, currently pending before this Court.

15 1.5 For purposes of this Consent Judgment only, the Parties stipulate that: (i) this  
16 Court has jurisdiction over the allegations of violations contained in the operative Complaint  
17 applicable to Settling Defendant (“Complaint”) and personal jurisdiction over Settling Defendant  
18 as to the acts alleged in the Complaint; (ii) venue is proper in the County of Alameda; and (iii)  
19 this Court has jurisdiction to enter this Consent Judgment.

20 1.6 Nothing in this Consent Judgment is or shall be construed as an admission by  
21 the Parties of any fact, conclusion of law, issue of law, or violation of law, nor shall compliance  
22 with the Consent Judgment constitute or be construed as an admission by the Parties of any fact,  
23 conclusion of law, issue of law, or violation of law. Nothing in this Consent Judgment shall  
24 prejudice, waive, or impair any right, remedy, argument, or defense the Parties may have in any  
25 other legal proceeding. This Consent Judgment is the product of negotiation and compromise and  
26 is accepted by the Parties for purposes of settling, compromising, and resolving issues disputed in  
27 this action.  
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**2. DEFINITIONS**

2.1 “Covered Products” means shampoo and liquid soap products manufactured, distributed, and/or sold by CSI Products, Inc., Dolgencorp, LLC, and Transnational Foods, Inc.

2.2 “Effective Date” means the date on which this Consent Judgment is entered by the Court.

**3. INJUNCTIVE RELIEF**

3.1 **Reformulation of Covered Products.** As of the Effective Date, Settling Defendant shall not manufacture, distribute, sell, or offer for sale any Covered Product that contains cocamide DEA and that will be sold or offered for sale to California consumers. For purposes of this Consent Judgment, a product “contains cocamide DEA” if cocamide DEA is an intentionally added ingredient in the product and/or part of the product formulation.

3.2 **Specification to Suppliers.** To the extent that it is reasonably feasible, no more than thirty (30) days after the Effective Date, Settling Defendant shall issue specifications to its suppliers of Covered Products requiring that Covered Products not contain any cocamide DEA, and shall instruct each supplier to use reasonable efforts to eliminate Covered Products containing cocamide DEA on a nationwide basis.

3.3 **Action Regarding Specific Products.**

3.3.1 On or before the Effective Date, Settling Defendant shall cease selling the following products: (i) the SPA Originals Body Wash in Cool Island Paradise, SKU No. 6-35672-99839-5; (ii) the Spring Into Easter Scented Bubble Bath, SKU No. 4-30000-24252-8; (iii) the Rexall Therapeutic T+ Plus Gel Shampoo, SKU No. 0-38488-10500-9; and (iv) the Vitta Soft Care Premier Collection Shower Gel in Chiffon Dream, SKU No. 8-76941-00636-0 (the “Section 3.3 Products”). On or before the Effective Date, Settling Defendant shall also: (i) cease shipping the Section 3.3 Products to any of its stores and/or customers that resell the Section 3.3 Products in California; and (ii) send instructions to its stores and/or customers that resell the Section 3.3 Products in California instructing them either to: (a) return all the Section 3.3 Products to Settling Defendant for destruction, or (b) directly destroy the Section 3.3 Products.

1                   3.3.2 Any destruction of the Section 3.3 Products shall be in compliance with all  
2 applicable laws.

3                   3.3.3 Within sixty (60) days of the Effective Date, Settling Defendant shall  
4 provide CEH with written certification from Settling Defendant confirming compliance with the  
5 requirements of this Section 3.3.

6 **4. ENFORCEMENT**

7                   4.1 CEH may, by motion or application for an order to show cause before the  
8 Superior Court of Alameda County, enforce the terms and conditions contained in this Consent  
9 Judgment. Prior to bringing any motion or application to enforce the requirements of Section 3  
10 above, CEH shall provide Settling Defendant with a Notice of Violation and a copy of any test  
11 results which purportedly support CEH's Notice of Violation. The Parties shall then meet and  
12 confer regarding the basis for CEH's anticipated motion or application in an attempt to resolve it  
13 informally, including providing Settling Defendant a reasonable opportunity of at least thirty (30)  
14 days to cure any alleged violation. Should such attempts at informal resolution fail, CEH may  
15 file its enforcement motion or application. This Consent Judgment may only be enforced by the  
16 Parties.

17 **5. PAYMENTS**

18                   5.1 **Payments by Settling Defendant.** Within five (5) business days of the Effective  
19 Date, Settling Defendant shall pay the total sum of \$35,000 as a settlement payment. Each  
20 settlement payment from Settling Defendant shall be paid in four separate checks delivered to  
21 counsel for CEH at the address set forth in Section 8.1 below. The funds paid by Settling  
22 Defendant shall be allocated between the following categories:

23                   5.1.1 \$3,850 as a civil penalty pursuant to Health & Safety Code § 25249.7(b),  
24 such money to be apportioned by CEH in accordance with Health & Safety Code § 25249.12  
25 (25% to CEH and 75% to the State of California's Office of Environmental Health Hazard  
26 Assessment). The check for this civil penalty shall be made payable to the Center for  
27 Environmental Health.

28                   5.1.2 \$5,250 as payment in lieu of civil penalty to CEH pursuant to Health &

1 Safety Code § 25249.7(b), and California Code of Regulations, Title 11, § 3203(b). CEH will use  
2 such funds to continue its work educating and protecting people from exposures to toxic  
3 chemicals. CEH may also use a portion of such funds to monitor compliance with this Consent  
4 Judgment and to purchase and test Settling Defendant’s products to confirm compliance. In  
5 addition, as part of its Community Environmental Action and Justice Fund, CEH will use four  
6 percent (4%) of such funds to award grants to grassroots environmental justice groups working to  
7 educate and protect people from exposures to toxic chemicals. The method of selection of such  
8 groups can be found at the CEH web site at [www.ceh.org/justicefund](http://www.ceh.org/justicefund). The check for this  
9 payment in lieu of civil penalty shall be made payable to the Center for Environmental Health.

10 5.1.3 \$25,900 as reimbursement of a portion of CEH’s reasonable attorneys’ fees  
11 and costs. A check for \$22,400 shall be made payable to the Lexington Law Group, and a check  
12 for \$3,500 shall be made payable to the Center for Environmental Health.

13 **6. MODIFICATION**

14 6.1 **Written Consent.** This Consent Judgment may be modified from time to  
15 time by express written agreement of the Parties with the approval of the Court, or by an order of  
16 this Court upon motion and in accordance with law.

17 6.2 **Meet and Confer.** Any Party seeking to modify this Consent Judgment shall  
18 attempt in good faith to meet and confer with all affected Parties prior to filing a motion to  
19 modify the Consent Judgment.

20 **7. CLAIMS COVERED AND RELEASED**

21 7.1 This Consent Judgment is a full, final, and binding resolution between CEH on  
22 behalf of itself and the public interest and Settling Defendant, and its parents, subsidiaries,  
23 affiliated entities that are under common ownership, directors, officers, employees, and attorneys  
24 (“Defendant Releasees”), of any violation of Proposition 65 that was or could have been asserted  
25 in the Complaint against Settling Defendant and Defendant Releasees based on failure to warn  
26 about alleged exposure to cocamide DEA contained in Covered Products that were sold by  
27 Settling Defendant prior to the Effective Date.

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1           7.2           Compliance with the terms of this Consent Judgment by Settling Defendant  
2 and Defendant Releasees shall constitute compliance with Proposition 65 by Settling Defendant  
3 and its Defendant Releasees with respect to any alleged failure to warn about cocamide DEA in  
4 Covered Products manufactured, distributed, or sold by Settling Defendant after the Effective  
5 Date.

6           7.3           Nothing in this Section 7 affects CEH's right to commence or prosecute an  
7 action under Proposition 65 against any person other than Settling Defendant and Defendant  
8 Releasees.

9       **8.    NOTICE**

10          8.1           When CEH is entitled to receive any notice under this Consent Judgment, the  
11 notice shall be sent by first class and electronic mail to:

12                           Mark Todzo  
13                           Lexington Law Group  
14                           503 Divisadero Street  
15                           San Francisco, CA 94117  
16                           mtodzo@lexlawgroup.com

17          8.2           When Settling Defendant is entitled to receive any notice under this Consent  
18 Judgment, the notice shall be sent by first class and electronic mail to:

19                           Will Troutman  
20                           Julie Scher  
21                           Norton Rose Fulbright US LLP  
22                           555 South Flower Street, 41st Floor  
23                           Los Angeles, CA 90071  
24                           william.troutman@nortonrosefulbright.com  
25                           julie.scher@nortonrosefulbright.com

26          8.3           Any Party may modify the person and address to whom the notice is to be sent  
27 by sending the other Party notice by first class and electronic mail.

28       **9.    COURT APPROVAL**

          9.1           This Consent Judgment shall become effective upon entry by the Court. CEH  
shall prepare and file a Motion for Approval of this Consent Judgment and Settling Defendant  
shall support entry of this Consent Judgment.

1           9.2           If this Consent Judgment is not entered by the Court, it shall be of no force or  
2 effect and shall never be introduced into evidence or otherwise used in any proceeding for any  
3 purpose other than to allow the Court to determine if there was a material breach of Section 9.1.

4       **10.    ATTORNEYS' FEES**

5           10.1           Should CEH prevail on any motion, application for an order to show cause, or  
6 other proceeding to enforce a violation of this Consent Judgment, CEH shall be entitled to its  
7 reasonable attorneys' fees and costs incurred as a result of such motion or application. Should  
8 Settling Defendant prevail on any motion application for an order to show cause or other  
9 proceeding, Settling Defendant may be awarded its reasonable attorneys' fees and costs as a result  
10 of such motion or application upon a finding by the Court that CEH's prosecution of the motion  
11 or application lacked substantial justification. For purposes of this Consent Judgment, the term  
12 substantial justification shall carry the same meaning as used in the Civil Discovery Act of 1986,  
13 Code of Civil Procedure § 2016, *et seq.*

14           10.2           Except as otherwise provided in this Consent Judgment, each Party shall bear  
15 its own attorneys' fees and costs.

16           10.3           Nothing in this Section 10 shall preclude a Party from seeking an award of  
17 sanctions pursuant to law.

18       **11.    OTHER TERMS**

19           11.1           The terms of this Consent Judgment shall be governed by the laws of the State  
20 of California.

21           11.2           This Consent Judgment shall apply to and be binding upon CEH and Settling  
22 Defendant, and its respective divisions, subdivisions, and subsidiaries, and the successors or  
23 assigns of any of them.

24           11.3           This Consent Judgment contains the sole and entire agreement and  
25 understanding of the Parties with respect to the entire subject matter hereof, and any and all prior  
26 discussions, negotiations, commitments, or understandings related thereto, if any, are hereby  
27 merged herein and therein. There are no warranties, representations, or other agreements between  
28 the Parties except as expressly set forth herein. No representations, oral or otherwise, express or

1 implied, other than those specifically referred to in this Consent Judgment have been made by any  
2 Party hereto. No other agreements not specifically contained or referenced herein, oral or  
3 otherwise, shall be deemed to exist or to bind any of the Parties hereto. No supplementation,  
4 modification, waiver, or termination of this Consent Judgment shall be binding unless executed in  
5 writing by the Party to be bound thereby. No waiver of any of the provisions of this Consent  
6 Judgment shall be deemed or shall constitute a waiver of any of the other provisions hereof  
7 whether or not similar, nor shall such waiver constitute a continuing waiver.

8           11.4           Nothing in this Consent Judgment shall release, or in any way affect any rights  
9 that Settling Defendant might have against any other party, whether or not that party is a settling  
10 defendant.

11           11.5           This Court shall retain jurisdiction of this matter to implement or modify the  
12 Consent Judgment.

13           11.6           The stipulations to this Consent Judgment may be executed in counterparts  
14 and by means of facsimile or portable document format (pdf), which taken together shall be  
15 deemed to constitute one document.

16           11.7           Each signatory to this Consent Judgment certifies that he or she is fully  
17 authorized by the Party he or she represents to stipulate to this Consent Judgment and to enter into  
18 and execute the Consent Judgment on behalf of the Party represented and legally to bind that  
19 Party.

20           11.8           The Parties, including their counsel, have participated in the preparation of  
21 this Consent Judgment and this Consent Judgment is the result of the joint efforts of the Parties.  
22 This Consent Judgment was subject to revision and modification by the Parties and has been  
23 accepted and approved as to its final form by all Parties and their counsel. Accordingly, any  
24 uncertainty or ambiguity existing in this Consent Judgment shall not be interpreted against any  
25 Party as a result of the manner of the preparation of this Consent Judgment. Each Party to this  
26 Consent Judgment agrees that any statute or rule of construction providing that ambiguities are to  
27 be resolved against the drafting Party should not be employed in the interpretation of this Consent  
28 Judgment and, in this regard, the Parties hereby waive California Civil Code § 1654.

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**IT IS SO STIPULATED:**

**CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH**



\_\_\_\_\_  
Charlie Pizarro  
Associate Director

**DOLLAR GENERAL CORPORATION**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

**IT IS SO ORDERED:**

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_, 2015

\_\_\_\_\_  
Judge of the Superior Court

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**IT IS SO STIPULATED:**

**CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Charlie Pizarro  
Associate Director

**DOLLAR GENERAL CORPORATION**

*Larry Gatta*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

LARRY GATTA  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

SVP-GMM Consumables  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Title



**IT IS SO ORDERED:**

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_, 2015

\_\_\_\_\_  
Judge of the Superior Court