

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN APS&EE, LLC AND MUELLER INDUSTRIES, INC.

1. RECITALS

1.1 The Parties

1.1.1 This Settlement Agreement (“Agreement”) is entered into by and between APS&EE, LLC (“APS&EE”), on the one hand, and Mueller Industries, Inc. (“Mueller”) on the other hand. APS&EE and Mueller shall hereinafter collectively be referred to as the “Parties”.

1.1.2 APS&EE is an organization based in California with an interest in protecting the environment, improving human health and the health of ecosystems, and supporting environmentally sound practices, which includes promoting awareness of exposure to toxic chemicals and reducing exposure to hazardous substances found in consumer products.

1.1.3 APS&EE alleges that Mueller is a company in the course of doing business as the term is defined in California *Health & Safety Code* section 25249.6 et seq. (“Proposition 65”).

1.2 Allegations

1.2.1 APS&EE alleges that Mueller sold the Southland brand of galvanized pipes, pipe nipples and malleable iron fittings, including steel pipe nipple 1/2” x 5 1/2”, 563-055HN (hereinafter the “Products”) in the State of California causing users in California to be exposed to unsafe levels of lead, without providing “clear and reasonable warnings”, in violation of Proposition 65. Lead is potentially subject to Proposition 65 warning requirements because it is listed by the State of California as known to cause cancer and birth defects or other reproductive harm.

1.2.2 On October 30, 2017, APS&EE served a Sixty-Day Notice of Violation (the “Notice”) to Mueller and the various public enforcement agencies regarding the alleged violation of Proposition 65 with respect to the Products.

1.3 No Admissions

Mueller denies all allegations in APS&EE's Notice and maintains that the Products have been, and are, in compliance with all laws, and that Mueller has not violated Proposition 65. This Agreement shall not be construed as an admission of liability by Mueller but to the contrary as a compromise of claims that are expressly contested and denied. However, nothing in this section shall affect the Parties' obligations, duties, and responsibilities under this Agreement.

1.4 Compromise

The Parties enter into this Agreement in order to resolve the controversy described above in a manner consistent with prior Proposition 65 settlements and consent judgments that were entered in the public interest and to avoid prolonged and costly litigation between them.

1.5 Effective Date

The "Effective Date" shall be the date upon which a complete and fully executed copy of the Agreement is delivered to each Party's counsel.

2. INJUNCTIVE RELIEF AND REFORMULATION

2.1 Reformulation

Commencing ninety (90) days after the Effective Date, Mueller shall not distribute, sell or offer for sale Products in California unless (a) the galvanizing solution in which the Products are submerged has a lead content by weight of no more than 100 parts per million (0.01%) ("Reformulated Products"), or (b) the Products are distributed, sold, or offered for sale with a clear and reasonable warning as described below in Section 2.2.

2.2 Clear And Reasonable Warnings

2.2.1 For any Products that are not Reformulated Products, such Products shall be accompanied by a clear and reasonable warning. Mueller shall provide the following warning statements (or other warnings consistent with 27 Cal. Code Regs. § 25601, et seq. operative August 30, 2018, or the applicable regulations governing such

warnings) as follows:

“WARNING: This product can expose you to chemicals, including lead, which is known to the State of California to cause cancer and birth defects or other reproductive harm. For more information go to www.P65Warnings.ca.gov.”

OR

“WARNING: Cancer and Reproductive Harm - www.P65Warnings.ca.gov”

The warning shall be accompanied by a symbol consisting of a black exclamation point in a yellow equilateral triangle with a bold black outline. Where the label for the product is not printed using the color yellow, the symbol may be printed in black and white. The symbol shall be placed to the left of the text of the warning, in a size no smaller than the height of the word “WARNING”.

2.2.2 Consistent with 27 Cal. Code Regs. § 25601, et seq. operative August 30, 2018, the Products shall carry said warning directly on each unit or its label or package, with such conspicuousness as compared with other words, statements or designs as to render it likely to be read and understood by an ordinary consumer prior to sale.

3. PAYMENTS

3.1 Civil Penalty Pursuant To Proposition 65

In settlement of all claims referred to in this Agreement, Mueller shall pay a total civil penalty of one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500) to be apportioned in accordance with *Health and Safety Code* section 25249.12(c)(1) and (d), with 75% (\$1,125) for State of California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (“OEHHA”), and the remaining 25% (\$375) for APS&EE.

Mueller shall issue two (2) checks for the civil penalty: (1) a check or money order made payable to “OEHHA” in the amount of \$1,125; and (2) a check or money order made payable to “Law Offices of Lucas T. Novak” in the amount of \$375. Mueller shall remit the payments within fifteen (15) business days of the Effective Date, to:

Lucas T. Novak, Esq.
LAW OFFICES OF LUCAS T. NOVAK
8335 W Sunset Blvd., Suite 217
Los Angeles, CA 90069

3.2 Reimbursement Of APS&EE's Fees And Costs

Mueller shall reimburse APS&EE's reasonable experts' and attorney's fees and costs incurred in prosecuting the instant action, for all work performed through execution of this Agreement. Accordingly, Mueller shall issue a check or money order made payable to "Law Offices of Lucas T. Novak" in the amount of fourteen thousand seven hundred fifty dollars (\$14,750). Mueller shall remit the payment within fifteen (15) business days of the Effective Date, to:

Lucas T. Novak, Esq.
LAW OFFICES OF LUCAS T. NOVAK
8335 W Sunset Blvd., Suite 217
Los Angeles, CA 90069

4. RELEASES

4.1 APS&EE's Release Of Mueller

APS&EE, acting in its individual capacity, in consideration of the promises and monetary payments contained herein, hereby releases Mueller, its parents, subsidiaries, affiliated companies under common ownership or control, shareholders, directors, members, officers, employees, attorneys, successors and assignees, and each entity to whom Mueller directly or indirectly distributes or sells the Products, including, but not limited to, downstream distributors, wholesalers, customers, and retailers (collectively "Releasees"), based on their alleged or actual failure to warn about alleged exposures to Lead in the Products that were distributed or sold by Mueller in California before the Effective Date.

4.2 Mueller's Release Of APS&EE

Mueller, and on behalf of the other Releasees, by this Agreement, waives all

rights to institute any form of legal action against APS&EE, its shareholders, directors, members, officers, employees, attorneys, experts, successors and assignees for actions or statements made or undertaken, whether in the course of investigating claims or seeking enforcement of Proposition 65 against Mueller in this matter.

4.3 Waiver Of Unknown Claims

Each of the Parties acknowledges that it is familiar with Section 1542 of California Civil Code which provides as follows:

“A general release does not extend to claims which the creditor does not know or suspect to exist in his or her favor at the time of executing the release, which if known by him or her must have materially affected his or her settlement with the debtor.”

Each of the Parties waives and relinquishes any right or benefit it has or may have under Section 1542 of California Civil Code or any similar provision under the statutory or non-statutory law of any other jurisdiction to the full extent that it may lawfully waive all such rights and benefits. The Parties acknowledge that each may subsequently discover facts in addition to, or different from, those that it believes to be true with respect to the claims released herein. The Parties agree that this Agreement and the releases contained herein shall be and remain effective in all respects notwithstanding the discovery of such additional or different facts.

5. SEVERABILITY

Should any part or provision of this Agreement for any reason be declared by a Court to be invalid, void or unenforceable, the remaining portions and provisions shall continue in full force and effect.

6. GOVERNING LAW

The terms of this Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of California.

7. NOTICE

All correspondence and Notice required to be provided under this Agreement shall be in writing and delivered personally or sent by first class or certified mail addressed as follows:

TO MUELLER: Mueller Industries, Inc. J. Dustin Geer Corporate Counsel 8285 Tournament Dr. Suite 150 Memphis, TN 38125 <u>with courtesy copy to:</u> Daniel A. Solitro, Esq. Locke Lord LLP 300 South Grand Avenue Suite 2600 Los Angeles, CA 90071	TO APS&EE: Lucas T. Novak, Esq. Law Offices of Lucas T. Novak 8335 W Sunset Blvd., Suite 217 Los Angeles, CA 90069
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8. COUNTERPARTS

This Agreement may be executed in counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, and all of which, when taken together, shall constitute the same document. Execution and delivery of this Agreement by e-mail, facsimile, or other electronic means shall constitute legal and binding execution and delivery. Any photocopy of the executed Agreement shall have the same force and effect as the originals.

9. MODIFICATION

This Settlement Agreement may be modified only by a written agreement of the Parties.

10. ENTIRE AGREEMENT

This Settlement Agreement contains the sole and entire agreement and understanding of the Parties with respect to the subject matter hereof, and any and all prior discussions, negotiations, commitments, and understandings related thereto. No

representations, oral or otherwise, express or implied, other than those contained herein have been made by any Party hereto. No other agreements not specifically referred to herein, oral or otherwise, shall be deemed to exist or to bind any of the Parties.

11. AUTHORIZATION

The undersigned are authorized to execute this Agreement on behalf of their respective Parties. Each Party has read, understood, and agrees to all of the terms and conditions of this Agreement. Each Party warrants to the other that it is free to enter into this Agreement and is not subject to any conflicting obligation that will or might prevent or interfere with the execution or performance of this Agreement by said Party.

AGREED TO:

Date:

7/30/18

By:



Authorized Representative of APS&EE, LLC

AGREED TO:

Date:

7/27/2018

By:



Authorized Representative of Mueller Industries, Inc.

Anthony Steinriede

VP - Corporate Controller