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15 **SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**  
16 **COUNTY OF ALAMEDA**

17 **ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH**  
18 **CENTER, INC., a California non-profit**  
19 **corporation**

20 **Plaintiff,**

21 **vs.**

22 **SOYLENT NUTRITION, INC.; ROSA**  
23 **FOODS, INC., individually and dba**  
24 **SOYLENT; and DOES 1-100**

25 **Defendants.**

26 **CASE NO. RG20070468**

27 **STIPULATED CONSENT**  
28 **JUDGMENT**

Health & Safety Code § 25249.5 *et seq.*

Action Filed: August 10, 2020  
Trial Date: None set

1 **1. INTRODUCTION**

2 **1.1** On August 10, 2020, Plaintiff Environmental Research Center, Inc. (“ERC”), a  
3 non-profit corporation, as a private enforcer and in the public interest, initiated this action by  
4 filing a Complaint for Injunctive and Declaratory Relief and Civil Penalties pursuant to the  
5 provisions of California Health and Safety Code section 25249.5 *et seq.* (“Proposition 65”),

1 against Soy lent Nutrition, Inc., formerly known as Rosa Foods, Inc., (“Soy lent”), Rosa Foods,  
2 Inc. and Does 1-100. Based on ERC’s Notices of Violation (“Notices”) dated April 9, 2020,  
3 May 21, 2020, and February 4, 2021, ERC alleges that nutrition drinks and powders  
4 manufactured, distributed, or sold by Soy lent contain lead, a chemical listed under Proposition  
5 65 as a carcinogen and reproductive toxin, and expose consumers to this chemical at a level  
6 requiring a Proposition 65 warning. These products (referred to hereinafter individually as  
7 “Covered Product” or collectively as “Covered Products”) are: (1) Soy lent Caffeine + L-  
8 Theanine Powdered Food Complete Meal Formula v1.9 Cafe Mocha, (2) Soy lent Ready-To-  
9 Drink Meal Original, (3) Soy lent Stacked Nootropics Drink Complete Energy + Focus +  
10 Protein Chocolate (also known as “Soy lent Complete Energy”), and (4) Soy lent Complete  
11 Protein Chocolate.

12 **1.2** ERC and Soy lent are hereinafter referred to individually as a “Party” or  
13 collectively as the “Parties.”

14 **1.3** ERC is a 501 (c)(3) California non-profit corporation dedicated to, among other  
15 causes, helping safeguard the public from health hazards by reducing the use and misuse of  
16 hazardous and toxic chemicals, facilitating a safe environment for consumers and employees,  
17 and encouraging corporate responsibility.

18 **1.4** For purposes of this Consent Judgment, the Parties agree that each defendant is a  
19 business entity each of which has employed ten or more persons at all times relevant to this  
20 action, and qualifies as a “person in the course of doing business” within the meaning of  
21 Proposition 65. Soy lent manufactures, distributes, and/or sells the Covered Products.

22 **1.5** The original Complaint was based on allegations contained in ERC’s Notices of  
23 Violation dated April 9, 2020 and May 21, 2020 that were served on the California Attorney  
24 General, other public enforcers, and Soy lent (“First Notices”). True and correct copies of the  
25 First Notices, dated April 9, 2020 and May 21, 2020, are attached hereto as *Exhibits A* and *B*  
26 and each is incorporated herein by reference. More than 60 days have passed since the Notices  
27 were served on the Attorney General, public enforcers, and Soy lent and no designated  
28 governmental entity has filed a Complaint against Soy lent with regard to the Covered Products

1 or the alleged violations related to the First Notices. .

2           **1.6**     On February 4, 2021, ERC served a third Notice of Violation (“Third Notice”)  
3 on the California Attorney General, other public enforcers, and Soylent. A true and correct  
4 copy of the Third Notice is attached hereto as *Exhibit C* and incorporated by reference. The  
5 parties agree and stipulate that the original Complaint be deemed amended as of April 6, 2021  
6 to include the products set forth in ERC’s Third Notice and that future references to  
7 “Complaint” shall be in reference to the amended Complaint. This Consent Judgment shall  
8 apply to all Covered Products set forth in Paragraph 1.1, effective 60 days after February 4,  
9 2021, provided no public enforcer is diligently pursuing the allegations set forth in ERC’s  
10 Third Notice. On April 6, 2021 more than 60 days will have passed since ERC’s Third Notice  
11 was served on the Attorney General, public enforcers, and Soylent.

12           **1.7**     ERC’s Notices and Complaint allege that use of the Covered Products by  
13 California consumers exposes them to lead without first receiving clear and reasonable  
14 warnings from Soylent, which is in violation of California Health and Safety Code section  
15 25249.6. Soylent denies all material allegations contained in the Notices and Complaint.

16           **1.8**     The Parties have entered into this Consent Judgment in order to settle,  
17 compromise, and resolve disputed claims and thus avoid prolonged and costly litigation.  
18 Nothing in this Consent Judgment nor compliance with this Consent Judgment shall constitute  
19 or be construed as an admission by any of the Parties or by any of their respective officers,  
20 directors, shareholders, employees, agents, parent companies, subsidiaries, divisions,  
21 franchisees, licensees, customers, suppliers, distributors, wholesalers, or retailers of any fact,  
22 issue of law, or violation of law.

23           **1.9**     Except as expressly set forth herein, nothing in this Consent Judgment shall  
24 prejudice, waive, or impair any right, remedy, argument, or defense the Parties may have in  
25 any current or future legal proceeding unrelated to these proceedings.

26           **1.10**    The Effective Date of this Consent Judgment is the date on which it is entered  
27 as a Judgment by this Court.

28 ///

1     **2.     JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

2             For purposes of this Consent Judgment and any further court action that may become  
3 necessary to enforce this Consent Judgment, the Parties stipulate that this Court has subject matter  
4 jurisdiction over the allegations of violations contained in the Complaint and personal jurisdiction  
5 over Soylent as to the acts alleged in the Complaint, that venue is proper in Alameda County, and  
6 that this Court has jurisdiction to enter this Consent Judgment as a full and final resolution of all  
7 claims up through and including the Effective Date that were or could have been asserted in this  
8 action based on the facts alleged in the Notices and Complaint.

9     **3.     INJUNCTIVE RELIEF, REFORMULATION, TESTING AND WARNINGS**

10            **3.1**     Beginning on the Effective Date, Soylent shall be permanently enjoined from  
11 manufacturing for sale in the State of California, “Distributing into the State of California,” or  
12 directly selling in the State of California, any Covered Products that expose a person to a  
13 “Daily Lead Exposure Level” of more than 0.5 micrograms of lead per day unless it meets the  
14 warning requirements under Section 3.2.

15                    **3.1.1**   As used in this Consent Judgment, the term “Distributing into the State of  
16 California” shall mean to directly ship a Covered Product into California for sale in California or  
17 to sell a Covered Product to a distributor that Soylent knows or has reason to know will sell the  
18 Covered Product in California.

19                    **3.1.2**   For purposes of this Consent Judgment, the “Daily Lead Exposure Level”  
20 shall be measured in micrograms, and shall be calculated using the following formula:

21 micrograms of lead per gram of product, multiplied by grams of product per serving of the  
22 product (using the largest serving size appearing on the product label), multiplied by servings of  
23 the product per day (using the largest number of recommended daily servings appearing on the  
24 label), which equals micrograms of lead exposure per day. For any Covered Product whose  
25 quantity is listed in milliliters rather than grams, for purposes of this calculation and other  
26 calculations referenced in Section 3 one milliliter shall equal one gram. **Clear and Reasonable**

27 **Warnings**

28             If Soylent is required to provide a warning pursuant to Section 3.1, one of the following


1 warnings must be utilized (“Warning”):

2 **OPTION 1:**

3 **WARNING:** Consuming this product can expose you to chemicals including [lead] which  
4 is [are] known to the State of California to cause [cancer and] birth defects or other  
5 reproductive harm. For more information go to [www.P65Warnings.ca.gov/food](http://www.P65Warnings.ca.gov/food).

6 or

7 **OPTION 2:**

8  **WARNING:** [Cancer and] Reproductive Harm – [www.P65 Warnings.ca.gov](http://www.P65Warnings.ca.gov).

9 Soylent shall use the phrase “cancer and” in the Warning if Soylent has reason to believe  
10 that the the “Daily Lead Exposure Level” is greater than 15 micrograms of lead as determined  
11 pursuant to the quality control methodology set forth in Section 3.4 or if Soylent has reason to  
12 believe that another Proposition 65 chemical is present which may require a cancer warning.

13 For the Option 2 Warning, the entire Warning must be in a type size no smaller than the  
14 largest type used for other Consumer Information on the Covered Product, but in no case shall the  
15 Warning appear in a type size smaller than six (6) point type. “Consumer Information” includes  
16 warnings, directions for use, ingredient lists, and nutritional information but does not include the  
17 brand name, product name, company name, location of manufacture, or product advertising. In  
18 addition, for the Option 2 Warning, a symbol consisting of a black exclamation point in a yellow  
19 equilateral triangle with a bold black outline shall be placed to the left of the word “**WARNING**”  
20 in a size no smaller than the height of the word “**WARNING.**” Where the label for the product is  
21 not printed using the color yellow, the symbol may be printed in black and white.

22 Regardless of whether Option 1 or Option 2 is used, the Warning shall be securely  
23 affixed to or printed upon the label of each Covered Product and it must be set off from other  
24 surrounding information and enclosed in a box. In addition, for any Covered Product sold over  
25 the internet, the Warning shall appear on the checkout page when a California delivery address  
26 is indicated for any purchase of any Covered Product. An asterisk or other identifying method  
27 must be utilized to identify which products on the checkout page are subject to the Warning.  
28 The Warning on Soylent’s website may be made through a clearly marked hyperlink using the

1 word “**WARNING**” in all capital and bold letters on the checkout page or the Covered  
2 Product’s primary display page so long as the hyperlink goes directly to a page prominently  
3 displaying the Option 1 or Option 2 Warning without content that detracts from the Warning.

4 The Warning shall be at least the same size as the largest of any other health or safety  
5 warnings also appearing on the website or on the label and the word “**WARNING**” shall be in all  
6 capital letters and in bold print. No statements intended to or likely to have the effect of  
7 diminishing the impact of the Warning on the average lay person shall accompany the Warning.  
8 Further, no statements may accompany the Warning that state or imply that the source of the listed  
9 chemical has an impact on or results in a less harmful effect of the listed chemical.

10 SoyLent must display the above Warning with such conspicuousness, as compared with  
11 other words, statements or designs on the label, or on its website, if applicable, to render the  
12 Warning likely to be read and understood by an ordinary individual under customary conditions  
13 of purchase or use of the product.

14 For purposes of this Consent Judgment, the term “label” means a display of written,  
15 printed or graphic material that is printed on or affixed to a Covered Product or its immediate  
16 container or wrapper.

### 17 **3.3 Conforming Covered Products**

18 A Conforming Covered Product is a Covered Product for which the “Daily Lead Exposure  
19 Level” is no greater than 0.5 micrograms of lead per day, as determined by the quality control  
20 methodology described in Section 3.4, and that is not known by SoyLent to contain other  
21 chemicals that violate Proposition 65’s safe harbor thresholds.

### 22 **3.4 Testing and Quality Control Methodology**

23 **3.4.1** Beginning within one year of the Effective Date, SoyLent shall arrange  
24 for lead testing of the Covered Products at least once a year for a minimum of five consecutive  
25 years by arranging for testing of three (3) randomly selected samples of each of the Covered  
26 Products, in the form intended for sale to the end-user, which SoyLent intends to sell or is  
27 manufacturing for sale in California, directly selling to a consumer in California or  
28 “Distributing into the State of California.” If tests conducted pursuant to this Section

1 demonstrate that no Warning is required for a Covered Product during each of five consecutive  
2 years, then the testing requirements of this Section will no longer be required as to that  
3 Covered Product. However, if during or after the five-year testing period, Soy lent changes  
4 ingredient suppliers for any of the Covered Products and/or reformulates any of the Covered  
5 Products, Soy lent shall test that Covered Product annually for at least four (4) consecutive  
6 years after such change is made.

7 **3.4.2** For purposes of measuring the “Daily Lead Exposure Level,” the highest  
8 lead detection result of the three (3) randomly selected samples of the Covered Products will  
9 be controlling.

10 **3.4.3** All testing pursuant to this Consent Judgment shall be performed using a  
11 laboratory method that complies with the performance and quality control factors appropriate  
12 for the method used, including limit of detection and limit of quantification, sensitivity,  
13 accuracy, and precision that meets the following criteria: Inductively Coupled Plasma-Mass  
14 Spectrometry (“ICP-MS”) achieving a limit of quantification of less than or equal to 0.010  
15 mg/kg.

16 **3.4.4** All testing pursuant to this Consent Judgment shall be performed by an  
17 independent third party laboratory certified by the California Environmental Laboratory  
18 Accreditation Program or an independent third-party laboratory that is registered with the  
19 United States Food & Drug Administration.

20 **3.4.5** Nothing in this Consent Judgment shall limit Soy lent’s ability to  
21 conduct, or require that others conduct, additional testing of the Covered Products, including  
22 the raw materials used in their manufacture.

23 **3.4.6** Within thirty (30) days of ERC’s written request, Soy lent shall deliver  
24 lab reports obtained pursuant to Section 3.4 to ERC. Soy lent shall retain all test results and  
25 documentation for a period of five years from the date of each test.

#### 26 **4. SETTLEMENT PAYMENT**

27 **4.1** In full satisfaction of all potential civil penalties, additional settlement  
28 payments, attorney’s fees, and costs, Soy lent shall make a total payment of \$150,000.00

1 (“Total Settlement Amount”) to ERC within 10 days of the Effective Date (“Due Date”).  
2 Soy lent shall make this payment by wire transfer to ERC’s account, for which ERC will give  
3 Soy lent the necessary account information. The Total Settlement Amount shall be apportioned  
4 as follows:

5 **4.2** \$79,500.00 shall be considered a civil penalty pursuant to California Health and  
6 Safety Code section 25249.7(b)(1). ERC shall remit 75% (\$59,625.00) of the civil penalty to  
7 the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (“OEHHA”) for deposit in the Safe  
8 Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Fund in accordance with California Health and Safety  
9 Code section 25249.12(c). ERC will retain the remaining 25% (\$19,875.00) of the civil  
10 penalty.

11 **4.3** \$2,368.26 shall be distributed to ERC as reimbursement to ERC for reasonable  
12 costs incurred in bringing this action.

13 **4.4** \$59,399.56 shall be distributed to ERC as an Additional Settlement Payment  
14 (“ASP”), pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 11, sections 3203, subdivision (d)  
15 and 3204. ERC will utilize the ASP for activities that address the same public harm as  
16 allegedly caused by Defendant in this matter. These activities are detailed  
17 below and support ERC’s overarching goal of reducing and/or eliminating hazardous and toxic  
18 chemicals in dietary supplement products in California. ERC’s activities have had, and will  
19 continue to have, a direct and primary effect within the State of California because California  
20 consumers will be benefitted by the reduction and/or elimination of exposure to lead in dietary  
21 supplements and/or by providing clear and reasonable warnings to California consumers prior  
22 to ingestion of the products.

23 Based on a review of past years’ actual budgets, ERC is providing the following list of  
24 activities ERC engages in to protect California consumers through Proposition 65 citizen  
25 enforcement, along with a breakdown of how ASP funds will be utilized to facilitate those  
26 activities: (1) ENFORCEMENT (65-80%): obtaining, shipping, analyzing, and testing dietary  
27 supplement products that may contain lead and are sold to California consumers. This work  
28 includes continued monitoring and enforcement of past consent judgments and settlements to



1 ensure companies are in compliance with their obligations thereunder, with a specific focus on  
2 those judgments and settlements concerning lead. This work also includes investigation of new  
3 companies that ERC does not obtain any recovery through settlement or judgment; (2)  
4 VOLUNTARY COMPLIANCE PROGRAM (10-20%): maintaining ERC's Voluntary  
5 Compliance Program by acquiring products from companies, developing and maintaining a  
6 case file, testing products from these companies, providing the test results and supporting  
7 documentation to the companies, and offering guidance in warning or implementing a self-  
8 testing program for lead in dietary supplement products; and (3) "GOT LEAD" PROGRAM  
9 (up to 5%): maintaining ERC's "Got Lead?" Program which reduces the numbers of  
10 contaminated products that reach California consumers by providing access to free testing for  
11 lead in dietary supplement products (Products submitted to the program are screened for  
12 ingredients which are suspected to be contaminated, and then may be purchased by ERC,  
13 catalogued, sent to a qualified laboratory for testing, and the results shared with the consumer  
14 that submitted the product).

15 ERC shall be fully accountable in that it will maintain adequate records to document  
16 and will be able to demonstrate how the ASP funds will be spent and can assure that the funds  
17 are being spent only for the proper, designated purposes described in this Consent Judgment.  
18 ERC shall provide the Attorney General, within thirty days of any request, copies of  
19 documentation demonstrating how such funds have been spent.

20 **4.5** \$8,732.18 shall be distributed to ERC for its in-house legal fees. Except as  
21 explicitly provided herein, each Party shall bear its own fees and costs.

22 **4.6** In the event that SoyLent fails to remit the Total Settlement Amount owed under  
23 Section 4 of this Consent Judgment on or before the Due Date, SoyLent shall be deemed to be  
24 in material breach of its obligations under this Consent Judgment. ERC shall provide written  
25 notice of the delinquency to SoyLent via electronic mail. If SoyLent fails to deliver the Total  
26 Settlement Amount within five (5) days from the written notice, the Total Settlement Amount  
27 shall accrue interest at the statutory judgment interest rate provided in the California Code of  
28 Civil Procedure section 685.010. Additionally, SoyLent agrees to pay ERC's reasonable

1 attorney's fees and costs for any efforts to collect the payment due under this Consent  
2 Judgment.

3 **5. MODIFICATION OF CONSENT JUDGMENT**

4 **5.1** This Consent Judgment may be modified only as to injunctive terms (i) by  
5 written stipulation of the Parties and upon entry by the Court of a modified consent judgment  
6 or (ii) by motion of either Party pursuant to Section 5.3 and upon entry by the Court of a  
7 modified consent judgment.

8 **5.2** If Soylent seeks to modify this Consent Judgment under Section 5.1, then  
9 Soylent must provide written notice to ERC of its intent ("Notice of Intent"). If ERC seeks to  
10 meet and confer regarding the proposed modification in the Notice of Intent, then ERC must  
11 provide written notice to Soylent within thirty (30) days of receiving the Notice of Intent. If  
12 ERC notifies Soylent in a timely manner of ERC's intent to meet and confer, then the Parties  
13 shall meet and confer in good faith as required in this Section. The Parties shall meet in person  
14 or via telephone within thirty (30) days of ERC's notification of its intent to meet and confer.  
15 Within thirty (30) days of such meeting, if ERC disputes the proposed modification, ERC shall  
16 provide to Soylent a written basis for its position. The Parties shall continue to meet and  
17 confer for an additional thirty (30) days in an effort to resolve any remaining disputes. Should  
18 it become necessary, the Parties may agree in writing to different deadlines for the meet-and-  
19 confer period.

20 **5.3** In the event that Soylent initiates or otherwise requests a modification under  
21 Section 5.1, and the meet and confer process leads to a joint motion or application for a  
22 modification of the Consent Judgment, Soylent shall reimburse ERC its costs and reasonable  
23 attorney's fees for the time spent in the meet-and-confer process and filing and arguing the  
24 motion or application.

25 **6. RETENTION OF JURISDICTION, ENFORCEMENT OF CONSENT**  
26 **JUDGMENT**

27 **6.1** This Court shall retain jurisdiction of this matter to enforce, modify, or  
28 terminate this Consent Judgment.

1           **6.2**     If ERC alleges that any Covered Product fails to qualify as a Conforming  
2 Covered Product (for which ERC alleges that no Warning has been provided), then ERC shall  
3 inform Soylent in a reasonably prompt manner of its test results, including information  
4 sufficient to permit Soylent to identify the Covered Products at issue. Soylent shall, within  
5 thirty (30) days following such notice, provide ERC with testing information, from an  
6 independent third-party laboratory meeting the requirements of Sections 3.4.3 and 3.4.4,  
7 demonstrating Soylent’s compliance with the Consent Judgment. The Parties shall first attempt  
8 to resolve the matter prior to ERC taking any further legal action.

9           **7.     APPLICATION OF CONSENT JUDGMENT**

10           This Consent Judgment may apply to, be binding upon, and benefit the Parties and their  
11 respective officers, directors, shareholders, employees, agents, parent companies, subsidiaries,  
12 divisions, franchisees, licensees, customers (excluding private labelers), distributors, wholesalers,  
13 retailers, predecessors, successors, and assigns. This Consent Judgment shall have no  
14 application to any Covered Product that is distributed or sold exclusively outside the State of  
15 California and that is not used by California consumers.

16           **8.     BINDING EFFECT, CLAIMS COVERED AND RELEASED**

17           **8.1**           This Consent Judgment is a full, final, and binding resolution between ERC,  
18 on behalf of itself and in the public interest, and Soylent and its respective officers, directors,  
19 shareholders, employees, agents, parent companies, subsidiaries, divisions, suppliers,  
20 franchisees, licensees, customers (not including private label customers of Soylent),  
21 distributors, wholesalers, retailers, and all other upstream and downstream entities in the  
22 distribution chain of any Covered Product, and the predecessors, successors, and assigns of any  
23 of them (collectively, “Released Parties”).

24           **8.2**           ERC, acting in the public interest, releases the Released Parties from any  
25 and all claims for violations of Proposition 65 up through the Effective Date based on exposure  
26 to lead from the Covered Products as set forth in the Notices of Violation. ERC, on behalf of  
27 itself only, hereby fully releases and discharges the Released Parties from any and all claims,  
28 actions, causes of action, suits, demands, liabilities, damages, penalties, fees, costs, and

1 expenses asserted, or that could have been asserted from the handling, use, or consumption of  
2 the Covered Products, as to any alleged violation of Proposition 65 or its implementing  
3 regulations arising from the failure to provide Proposition 65 warnings on the Covered  
4 Products regarding lead up to and including the Effective Date.

5 **8.3** ERC on its own behalf only, and Soy lent on its own behalf only, further  
6 waive and release any and all claims they may have against each other for all actions or  
7 statements made or undertaken in the course of seeking or opposing enforcement of  
8 Proposition 65 in connection with the Notices and Complaint up through and including the  
9 Effective Date, provided, however, that nothing in Section 8 shall affect or limit any Party's  
10 right to seek to enforce the terms of this Consent Judgment.

11 **8.4** It is possible that other claims not known to the Parties, arising out of the facts  
12 alleged in the Notices and Complaint, and relating to the Covered Products, will develop or be  
13 discovered. ERC on behalf of itself only, and Soy lent on behalf of itself only, acknowledge  
14 that this Consent Judgment is expressly intended to cover and include all such claims up  
15 through and including the Effective Date, including all rights of action therefore. ERC and  
16 Soy lent acknowledge that the claims released in Sections 8.2 and 8.3 above may include  
17 unknown claims, and nevertheless waive California Civil Code section 1542 as to any such  
18 unknown claims. California Civil Code section 1542 reads as follows:

19 A GENERAL RELEASE DOES NOT EXTEND TO CLAIMS THAT THE  
20 CREDITOR OR RELEASING PARTY DOES NOT KNOW OR SUSPECT TO  
21 EXIST IN HIS OR HER FAVOR AT THE TIME OF EXECUTING THE RELEASE  
22 AND THAT, IF KNOWN BY HIM OR HER, WOULD HAVE MATERIALLY  
AFFECTED HIS OR HER SETTLEMENT WITH THE DEBTOR OR RELEASED  
PARTY.

23 ERC on behalf of itself only, and Soy lent on behalf of itself only, acknowledge and understand  
24 the significance and consequences of this specific waiver of California Civil Code section  
25 1542.

26 **8.5** Compliance with the terms of this Consent Judgment shall be deemed to  
27 constitute compliance with Proposition 65 by any Released Parties regarding alleged exposures  
28 to lead in the Covered Products as set forth in the Notices and Complaint.

1           **8.6**     Nothing in this Consent Judgment is intended to apply to any occupational or  
2 environmental exposures arising under Proposition 65, nor shall it apply to any of Soylent’s  
3 products other than the Covered Products.

4           **9.     SEVERABILITY OF UNENFORCEABLE PROVISIONS**

5           In the event that any of the provisions of this Consent Judgment are held by a court to be  
6 unenforceable, the validity of the remaining enforceable provisions shall not be adversely  
7 affected.

8           **10.    GOVERNING LAW**

9           The terms and conditions of this Consent Judgment shall be governed by and construed in  
10 accordance with the laws of the State of California.

11          **11.    PROVISION OF NOTICE**

12          All notices required to be given to either Party to this Consent Judgment by the other shall  
13 be in writing and sent to the following agents listed below via first-class mail or via electronic  
14 mail where required. Courtesy copies via email may also be sent.

15 **FOR ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH CENTER, INC.:**

16 Chris Heptinstall, Executive Director, Environmental Research Center  
17 3111 Camino Del Rio North, Suite 400  
18 San Diego, CA 92108  
19 Ph: (619) 500-3090  
20 Email: chris.heptinstall@erc501c3.org

21 With a copy to:  
22 Charles W. Poss  
23 Environmental Research Center, Inc.  
24 3111 Camino Del Rio North, Suite 400  
25 San Diego, CA 92108  
26 Ph: (619) 500-3090  
27 Email: charles.poss@erc501c3.org

28 **FOR SOYLENT NUTRITION, INC.;**

Mr. Demir Vangelov  
777 S Alameda St 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90021  
Email: demir@soylent.com

///

1 With a copy to:  
2 Whitney Jones Roy  
3 Sheppard Mullin  
4 333 S Hope St, Fl 43  
5 Los Angeles, CA 90071-1422  
6 Ph: (213) 617-4292  
7 Email: [wroy@sheppardmullin.com](mailto:wroy@sheppardmullin.com)

8 **12. COURT APPROVAL**

9 **12.1** Upon execution of this Consent Judgment by the Parties, ERC shall notice a  
10 Motion for Court Approval. The Parties shall use their best efforts to support entry of this  
11 Consent Judgment.

12 **12.2** If the California Attorney General objects to any term in this Consent Judgment,  
13 the Parties shall use their best efforts to resolve the concern in a timely manner, and if possible  
14 prior to the hearing on the motion.

15 **12.3** If this Stipulated Consent Judgment is not approved by the Court, it shall be  
16 void and have no force or effect.

17 **13. EXECUTION AND COUNTERPARTS**

18 This Consent Judgment may be executed in counterparts, which taken together shall be  
19 deemed to constitute one document. A facsimile or .pdf signature shall be construed to be as valid  
20 as the original signature.

21 **14. DRAFTING**

22 The terms of this Consent Judgment have been reviewed by the respective counsel for  
23 each Party prior to its signing, and each Party has had an opportunity to fully discuss the terms  
24 and conditions with legal counsel. The Parties agree that, in any subsequent interpretation and  
25 construction of this Consent Judgment, no inference, assumption, or presumption shall be drawn,  
26 and no provision of this Consent Judgment shall be construed against any Party, based on the fact  
27 that one of the Parties and/or one of the Parties' legal counsel prepared and/or drafted all or any  
28 portion of the Consent Judgment. It is conclusively presumed that all of the Parties participated  
equally in the preparation and drafting of this Consent Judgment.

///

1     **15. GOOD FAITH ATTEMPT TO RESOLVE DISPUTES**

2             If a dispute arises with respect to either Party’s compliance with the terms of this Consent  
3 Judgment entered by the Court, the Parties shall meet and confer in person, by telephone, and/or  
4 in writing and endeavor to resolve the dispute in an amicable manner. No action or motion may  
5 be filed in the absence of such a good faith attempt to resolve the dispute beforehand.

6     **16. ENFORCEMENT**

7             ERC may, by motion or order to show cause before the Superior Court of Alameda  
8 County, enforce the terms and conditions contained in this Consent Judgment. In any action  
9 brought by ERC to enforce this Consent Judgment, ERC may seek whatever fines, costs,  
10 penalties, or remedies as are provided by law for failure to comply with the Consent Judgment.  
11 To the extent the failure to comply with the Consent Judgment constitutes a violation of  
12 Proposition 65 or other laws, ERC shall not be limited to enforcement of this Consent  
13 Judgment, but may seek in another action whatever fines, costs, penalties, or remedies as are  
14 provided by law for failure to comply with Proposition 65 or other laws.

15     **17. ENTIRE AGREEMENT, AUTHORIZATION**

16             **17.1** This Consent Judgment contains the sole and entire agreement and  
17 understanding of the Parties with respect to the entire subject matter herein, and any and all  
18 prior discussions, negotiations, commitments, and understandings related hereto. No  
19 representations, oral or otherwise, express or implied, other than those contained herein have  
20 been made by any Party. No other agreements, oral or otherwise, unless specifically referred to  
21 herein, shall be deemed to exist or to bind any Party.

22             **17.2** Each signatory to this Consent Judgment certifies that he or she is fully  
23 authorized by the Party he or she represents to stipulate to this Consent Judgment.

24     **18. REQUEST FOR FINDINGS, APPROVAL OF SETTLEMENT AND ENTRY OF**  
25 **CONSENT JUDGMENT**

26             This Consent Judgment has come before the Court upon the request of the Parties. The  
27 Parties request the Court to fully review this Consent Judgment and, being fully informed  
28 regarding the matters which are the subject of this action, to:

1 (1) Find that the terms and provisions of this Consent Judgment represent a fair and  
2 equitable settlement of all matters raised by the allegations of the Complaint that the matter has  
3 been diligently prosecuted, and that the public interest is served by such settlement; and

4 (2) Make the findings pursuant to California Health and Safety Code section  
5 25249.7(f)(4), approve the Settlement, and approve this Consent Judgment.

6 **IT IS SO STIPULATED:**

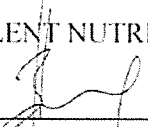
7 Dated: 2/22/ 2022

ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH  
CENTER, INC.

8  
9  
10 By:   
Chris Hepinstall, Executive Director

11  
12 Dated: 2/18 2022

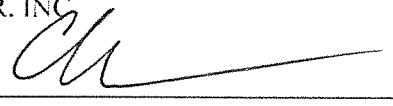
SOYLENT NUTRITION, INC.

13  
14 By:   
Demir Vangelov  
15 Its: CEO

16 **APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

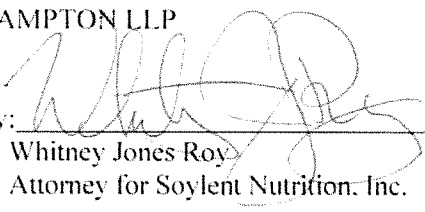
17  
18 Dated: February 22 2022

ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH  
CENTER, INC.

19  
20 By:   
Charles W. Poss  
21 In-House Counsel

22  
23 Dated: February 22 2022

SHEPPARD MULLIN RICHTER &  
HAMPTON LLP

24  
25 By:   
Whitney Jones Roy  
26 Attorney for Soylent Nutrition, Inc.  
27  
28



**ORDER AND JUDGMENT**

Based upon the Parties’ Stipulation, and good cause appearing, this Consent Judgment is approved and Judgment is hereby entered according to its terms.

IT IS SO ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_, 2022 \_\_\_\_\_  
Judge of the Superior Court

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# **EXHIBIT A**



## Environmental Research Center

3111 Camino Del Rio North, Suite 400  
San Diego, CA 92108  
619-500-3090

April 9, 2020

### NOTICE OF VIOLATIONS OF CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE SECTION 25249.5 *ET SEQ.* (PROPOSITION 65)

Dear Alleged Violators and the Appropriate Public Enforcement Agencies:

I am the Executive Director of Environmental Research Center, Inc. (“ERC”). ERC is a California non-profit corporation dedicated to, among other causes, helping safeguard the public from health hazards by bringing about a reduction in the use and misuse of hazardous and toxic chemicals, facilitating a safe environment for consumers and employees, and encouraging corporate responsibility.

ERC has identified violations of California’s Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (“Proposition 65”), which is codified at California Health & Safety Code §25249.5 *et seq.*, with respect to the product identified below. These violations have occurred and continue to occur because the alleged Violators identified below failed to provide required clear and reasonable warnings with this product. This letter serves as a notice of these violations to the alleged Violators and the appropriate public enforcement agencies. Pursuant to Section 25249.7(d) of the statute, ERC intends to file a private enforcement action in the public interest 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.

**General Information about Proposition 65.** A copy of a summary of Proposition 65, prepared by the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, is attached with the copy of this letter served to the alleged Violators identified below.

**Alleged Violators.** The names of the companies covered by this notice that violated Proposition 65 (hereinafter the “Violators”) are:

**Soylent Nutrition, Inc.**  
**Rosa Foods, Inc., individually and dba Soylent**

**Consumer Product and Listed Chemical.** The product that is the subject of this notice and the chemical in that product identified as exceeding allowable levels is:

**Soylent Caffeine + L-Theanine Powdered Food Complete Meal Formula v1.9 Cafe Mocha – Lead**

On February 27, 1987, the State of California officially listed lead as a chemical known to cause developmental toxicity, and male and female reproductive toxicity. On October 1, 1992, the State of California officially listed lead and lead compounds as chemicals known to cause cancer.

It should be noted that ERC may continue to investigate other products that may reveal further violations and result in subsequent notices of violations.

**Route of Exposure.** The consumer exposures that are the subject of this notice result from the recommended use of this product. Consequently, the route of exposure to this chemical has been and continues to be through ingestion.

**Approximate Time Period of Violations.** Ongoing violations have occurred every day since at least April 9, 2017, as well as every day since the product was introduced into 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 either removed from or reduced to allowable levels in the product. Proposition 65 requires that a clear and reasonable warning be provided prior to exposure to the identified chemical. The method of warning should be a warning that appears on the product label. The Violators violated Proposition 65 because they failed to provide persons ingesting this product with appropriate warnings that they are being exposed to this chemical.

Consistent with the public interest goals of Proposition 65 and a desire to have these ongoing violations of California law quickly rectified, ERC is interested in seeking a constructive resolution of this matter that includes an enforceable written agreement by the Violators to: (1) reformulate the identified product so as to eliminate further exposures to the identified chemical, or provide appropriate warnings on the labels of this product; (2) pay an appropriate civil penalty; and (3) provide clear and reasonable warnings compliant with Proposition 65 to all persons located in California who purchased the above product in the last three years. Such a resolution will prevent further unwarned consumer exposures to the identified chemical, as well as an expensive and time-consuming litigation.

Please direct all questions concerning this notice to ERC at the above listed address and telephone number.

Sincerely,



---

Chris Heptinstall  
Executive Director  
Environmental Research Center

Attachments

Certificate of Merit

Certificate of Service

OEHHA Summary (to Soylent Nutrition, Inc., Rosa Foods, Inc., individually and dba Soylent, and its Registered Agents for Service of Process only)

Additional Supporting Information for Certificate of Merit (to AG only)

**CERTIFICATE OF MERIT**

**Re: Environmental Research Center, Inc.'s Notice of Proposition 65 Violations by Soylent Nutrition, Inc. and Rosa Foods, Inc., individually and dba Soylent**

I, Chris Heptinstall, declare:

1. This Certificate of Merit accompanies the attached 60-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 the Executive Director for the noticing party.

3. I have consulted with one or more persons with relevant and appropriate experience or expertise who have reviewed facts, studies, or other data regarding the exposure to the listed chemical that is the subject of the notice.

4. Based on the information obtained through those consultants, 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 Violators will be able to establish any of the affirmative defenses set forth in the statute.

5. Along with the 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 & Safety Code §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.



Dated: April 9, 2020

---

Chris Heptinstall

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE PURSUANT TO 27 CCR § 25903**

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 and over the age of 18 years of age. My business address is 306 Joy Street, Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia 30742. I am a resident or employed in the county where the mailing occurred. The envelope or package was placed in the mail at Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia.

On April 9, 2020, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time, I served the following documents: **NOTICE OF VIOLATIONS 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 parties by placing a true and correct copy thereof in a sealed envelope, addressed to each of the parties listed below and depositing it in a U.S. Postal Service Office with the postage fully prepaid for delivery by Certified Mail:

Current President or CEO  
Soylent Nutrition, Inc.  
767 S Alameda St, Ste 450  
Los Angeles, CA 90021

Current President or CEO  
Soylent Nutrition, Inc.  
1651 California St, Ste A  
Redlands, CA 92374

Current President or CEO  
Soylent Nutrition, Inc.  
555 Mateo St, Ste 227  
Los Angeles, CA 90013

CT Corporation System  
(Registered Agent for Soylent Nutrition, Inc.)  
818 W 7<sup>th</sup> St, Ste 930  
Los Angeles, CA 90017

Current President or CEO  
Rosa Foods, Inc., individually and  
dba Soylent  
767 S Alameda St, Ste 450  
Los Angeles, CA 90021

V Corp Services, LLC  
(Registered Agent for Soylent Nutrition, Inc.)  
1013 Centre Rd Ste 403B  
Wilmington DE 19805

Current President or CEO  
Rosa Foods, Inc., individually and  
dba Soylent  
555 Mateo St, Ste 227  
Los Angeles, CA 90013

Current President or CEO  
Rosa Foods, Inc., individually and  
dba Soylent  
1651 California St, Ste A  
Redlands, CA 92374

Current President or CEO  
Rosa Foods, Inc., individually and  
dba Soylent  
207 S Broadway Fl 7  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

On April 9, 2020, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time, I verified the following documents **NOTICE OF VIOLATIONS, CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE §25249.5 ET SEQ.; CERTIFICATE OF MERIT; ADDITIONAL SUPPORTING INFORMATION FOR CERTIFICATE OF MERIT AS REQUIRED BY CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE §25249.7(d)(1)** were served on the following party when a true and correct copy thereof was uploaded on the California Attorney General’s website, which can be accessed at <https://oag.ca.gov/prop65/add-60-day-notice> :

Office of the California Attorney General  
Prop 65 Enforcement Reporting  
1515 Clay Street, Suite 2000  
Post Office Box 70550  
Oakland, CA 94612-0550

Notice of Violations of California Health & Safety Code §25249.5 *et seq.*

April 9, 2020

Page 5

On April 9, 2020, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time, verified the following documents **NOTICE OF VIOLATIONS, CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE §25249.5 ET SEQ.; CERTIFICATE OF MERIT** were served on the following parties when a true and correct copy thereof was sent via electronic mail to each of the parties listed below:

Nancy O'Malley, District Attorney  
Alameda County  
7677 Oakport Street, Suite 650  
Oakland, CA 94621  
CEPDProp65@acgov.org

Anne Marie Schubert, District Attorney  
Sacramento County  
901 G Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
Prop65@sacda.org

Barbara Yook, District Attorney  
Calaveras County  
891 Mountain Ranch Road  
San Andreas, CA 95249  
Prop65Env@co.calaveras.ca.us

Summer Stephan, District Attorney  
San Diego County  
330 West Broadway  
San Diego, CA 92101  
SanDiegoDAProp65@sdcda.org

Stacey Grassini, Deputy District Attorney  
Contra Costa County  
900 Ward Street  
Martinez, CA 94553  
sgrassini@contracostada.org

Mark Ankcorn, Deputy City Attorney  
San Diego City Attorney  
1200 Third Avenue  
San Diego, CA 92101  
CityAttyProp65@sandiego.gov

Thomas L. Hardy, District Attorney  
Inyo County  
168 North Edwards Street  
Independence, CA 93526  
inyoda@inyocounty.us

Gregory Alker, Assistant District Attorney  
San Francisco County  
732 Brannan Street  
San Francisco, CA 94103  
gregory.alker@sfgov.org

Michelle Latimer, Program Coordinator  
Lassen County  
220 S. Lassen Street  
Susanville, CA 96130  
mlatimer@co.lassen.ca.us

Valerie Lopez, Deputy City Attorney  
San Francisco City Attorney  
1390 Market Street, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor  
San Francisco, CA 94102  
Valerie.Lopez@sfcityatty.org

Jeannine M. Pacioni, District Attorney  
Monterey County  
1200 Aguajito Road  
Monterey, CA 93940  
Prop65DA@co.monterey.ca.us

Tori Verber Salazar, District Attorney  
San Joaquin County  
222 E. Weber Avenue, Room 202  
Stockton, CA 95202  
DAConsumer.Environmental@sjcda.org

Gary Lieberstein, District Attorney  
Napa County  
931 Parkway Mall  
Napa, CA 94559  
CEPD@countyofnapa.org

Eric J. Dobroth, Deputy District Attorney  
San Luis Obispo County  
County Government Center Annex, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408  
edobroth@co.slo.ca.us

Paul E. Zellerbach, District Attorney  
Riverside County  
3072 Orange Street  
Riverside, CA 92501  
Prop65@rivcoda.org

Christopher Dalbey, Deputy District Attorney  
Santa Barbara County  
1112 Santa Barbara Street  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
DAProp65@co.santa-barbara.ca.us

Notice of Violations of California Health & Safety Code §25249.5 *et seq.*

April 9, 2020

Page 6

Bud Porter, Supervising Deputy District Attorney  
Santa Clara County  
70 W Hedding St  
San Jose, CA 95110  
EPU@da.sccgov.org

Phillip J. Cline, District Attorney  
Tulare County  
221 S Mooney Blvd  
Visalia, CA 95370  
Prop65@co.tulare.ca.us

Jeffrey S. Rosell, District Attorney  
Santa Cruz County  
701 Ocean Street  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060  
Prop65DA@santacruzcounty.us

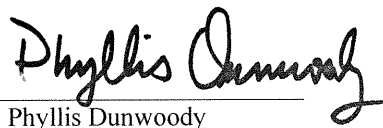
Gregory D. Totten, District Attorney  
Ventura County  
800 S Victoria Ave  
Ventura, CA 93009  
daspecialops@ventura.org

Stephan R. Passalacqua, District Attorney  
Sonoma County  
600 Administration Dr  
Sonoma, CA 95403  
jbarnes@sonoma-county.org

Jeff W. Reisig, District Attorney  
Yolo County  
301 Second Street  
Woodland, CA 95695  
cfepd@yolocounty.org

On April 9, 2020, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time, I served the following documents: **NOTICE OF VIOLATIONS, 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 with the U.S. Postal Service with the postage fully prepaid for delivery by First Class Mail.

Executed on April 9, 2020, in Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia.

  
Phyllis Dunwoody



**Service List**

District Attorney, Alpine  
County  
P.O. Box 248  
Markleeville, CA 96120

District Attorney, Amador  
County  
708 Court Street, Suite 202  
Jackson, CA 95642

District Attorney, Butte  
County  
25 County Center Drive, Suite  
245  
Oroville, CA 95965

District Attorney, Colusa  
County  
346 Fifth Street Suite 101  
Colusa, CA 95932

District Attorney, Del Norte  
County  
450 H Street, Room 171  
Crescent City, CA 95531

District Attorney, El Dorado  
County  
778 Pacific St.  
Placerville, CA 95667

District Attorney, Fresno  
County  
2220 Tulare Street, Suite 1000  
Fresno, CA 93721

District Attorney, Glenn  
County  
Post Office Box 430  
Willows, CA 95988

District Attorney, Humboldt  
County  
825 5th Street 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Eureka, CA 95501

District Attorney, Imperial  
County  
940 West Main Street, Ste 102  
El Centro, CA 92243

District Attorney, Kern County  
1215 Truxtun Avenue  
Bakersfield, CA 93301

District Attorney, Kings  
County  
1400 West Lacey Boulevard  
Hanford, CA 93230

District Attorney, Lake County  
255 N. Forbes Street  
Lakeport, CA 95453

District Attorney, Los Angeles  
County  
Hall of Justice  
211 West Temple St., Ste 1200  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

District Attorney, Madera  
County  
209 West Yosemite Avenue  
Madera, CA 93637

District Attorney, Marin  
County  
3501 Civic Center Drive,  
Room 130  
San Rafael, CA 94903

District Attorney, Mariposa  
County  
Post Office Box 730  
Mariposa, CA 95338

District Attorney, Mendocino  
County  
Post Office Box 1000  
Ukiah, CA 95482

District Attorney, Merced  
County  
550 W. Main Street  
Merced, CA 95340

District Attorney, Modoc  
County  
204 S Court Street, Room 202  
Alturas, CA 96101-4020

District Attorney, Mono  
County  
Post Office Box 617  
Bridgeport, CA 93517

District Attorney, Nevada  
County  
201 Commercial Street  
Nevada City, CA 95959

District Attorney, Orange  
County  
401 West Civic Center Drive  
Santa Ana, CA 92701

District Attorney, Placer  
County  
10810 Justice Center Drive,  
Ste 240  
Roseville, CA 95678

District Attorney, Plumas  
County  
520 Main Street, Room 404  
Quincy, CA 95971

District Attorney, San Benito  
County  
419 Fourth Street, 2nd Floor  
Hollister, CA 95023

District Attorney, San  
Bernardino County  
303 West Third Street  
San Bernadino, CA 92415

District Attorney, San Mateo  
County  
400 County Ctr., 3rd Floor  
Redwood City, CA 94063

District Attorney, Shasta  
County  
1355 West Street  
Redding, CA 96001

District Attorney, Sierra  
County  
100 Courthouse Square, 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Floor  
Downieville, CA 95936

District Attorney, Siskiyou  
County  
Post Office Box 986  
Yreka, CA 96097

District Attorney, Solano  
County  
675 Texas Street, Ste 4500  
Fairfield, CA 94533

District Attorney, Stanislaus  
County  
832 12th Street, Ste 300  
Modesto, CA 95354

District Attorney, Sutter  
County  
463 2<sup>nd</sup> Street  
Yuba City, CA 95991

District Attorney, Tehama  
County  
Post Office Box 519  
Red Bluff, CA 96080

District Attorney, Trinity  
County  
Post Office Box 310  
Weaverville, CA 96093

District Attorney, Tuolumne  
County  
423 N. Washington Street  
Sonora, CA 95370

District Attorney, Yuba  
County  
215 Fifth Street, Suite 152  
Marysville, CA 95901

Los Angeles City Attorney's  
Office  
City Hall East  
200 N. Main Street, Suite 800  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

San Jose City Attorney's  
Office  
200 East Santa Clara Street,  
16th Floor  
San Jose, CA 95113

## 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 and 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.<sup>1</sup> 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

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<sup>1</sup> All further regulatory references are to sections of Title 27 of the California Code of Regulations unless otherwise indicated. The statute, regulations and relevant case law are available on the OEHHA website at: <http://www.oehha.ca.gov/prop65/law/index.html>.

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: [http://www.oehha.ca.gov/prop65/prop65\\_list/Newlist.html](http://www.oehha.ca.gov/prop65/prop65_list/Newlist.html).

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 (<http://www.oehha.ca.gov/prop65/law/index.html>) 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<sup>2</sup> 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.

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<sup>2</sup> See Section 25501(a)(4).

## *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 form.

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:  
<http://oehha.ca.gov/prop65/law/p65law72003.html>.

*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](mailto:P65Public.Comments@oehha.ca.gov).

Revised: May 2017

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.

# **EXHIBIT B**



## Environmental Research Center

3111 Camino Del Rio North, Suite 400  
San Diego, CA 92108  
619-500-3090

May 21, 2020

### NOTICE OF VIOLATIONS OF CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE SECTION 25249.5 *ET SEQ.* (PROPOSITION 65)

Dear Alleged Violators and the Appropriate Public Enforcement Agencies:

I am the Executive Director of Environmental Research Center, Inc. (“ERC”). ERC is a California non-profit corporation dedicated to, among other causes, helping safeguard the public from health hazards by bringing about a reduction in the use and misuse of hazardous and toxic chemicals, facilitating a safe environment for consumers and employees, and encouraging corporate responsibility.

ERC has identified violations of California’s Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (“Proposition 65”), which is codified at California Health & Safety Code §25249.5 *et seq.*, with respect to the products identified below. These violations have occurred and continue to occur because the alleged Violators identified below failed to provide required clear and reasonable warnings with these products. This letter serves as a notice of these violations to the alleged Violators and the appropriate public enforcement agencies. Pursuant to Section 25249.7(d) of the statute, ERC intends to file a private enforcement action in the public interest 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.

**General Information about Proposition 65.** A copy of a summary of Proposition 65, prepared by the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, is attached with the copy of this letter served to the alleged Violators identified below.

**Alleged Violators.** The names of the companies covered by this notice that violated Proposition 65 (hereinafter the “Violators”) are:

**Soylent Nutrition, Inc.**  
**Rosa Foods, Inc., individually and dba Soylent**

**Consumer Products and Listed Chemical.** The products that are the subject of this notice and the chemical in those products identified as exceeding allowable levels are:

- 1. Soylent Ready-To-Drink Meal Original - Lead**
- 2. Soylent Stacked Nootropics Drink Complete Energy + Focus + Protein Chocolate - Lead**



On February 27, 1987, the State of California officially listed lead as a chemical known to cause developmental toxicity, and male and female reproductive toxicity. On October 1, 1992, the State of California officially listed lead and lead compounds as chemicals known to cause cancer.

It should be noted that ERC may continue to investigate other products that may reveal further violations and result in subsequent notices of violations.

**Route of Exposure.** The consumer exposures that are the subject of this notice result from the recommended use of these products. Consequently, the route of exposure to this chemical has been and continues to be through ingestion.

**Approximate Time Period of Violations.** Ongoing violations have occurred every day since at least May 21 2017, as well as every day since the products were introduced into 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 either removed from or reduced to allowable levels in the products. Proposition 65 requires that a clear and reasonable warning be provided prior to exposure to the identified chemical. The method of warning should be a warning that appears on the product label. The Violators violated Proposition 65 because they failed to provide persons ingesting these products with appropriate warnings that they are being exposed to this chemical.

Consistent with the public interest goals of Proposition 65 and a desire to have these ongoing violations of California law quickly rectified, ERC is interested in seeking a constructive resolution of this matter that includes an enforceable written agreement by the Violators to: (1) reformulate the identified products so as to eliminate further exposures to the identified chemical, or provide appropriate warnings on the labels of these products; (2) pay an appropriate civil penalty; and (3) provide clear and reasonable warnings compliant with Proposition 65 to all persons located in California who purchased the above products in the last three years. Such a resolution will prevent further unwarned consumer exposures to the identified chemical, as well as an expensive and time-consuming litigation.

Please direct all questions concerning this notice to ERC at the above listed address and telephone number.

Sincerely,



---

Chris Heptinstall  
Executive Director  
Environmental Research Center

Attachments

Certificate of Merit

Certificate of Service

OEHHA Summary (to Soylent Nutrition, Inc., Rosa Foods, Inc., individually and dba Soylent, and its Registered Agents for Service of Process only)

Additional Supporting Information for Certificate of Merit (to AG only)

**CERTIFICATE OF MERIT**

**Re: Environmental Research Center, Inc.'s Notice of Proposition 65 Violations by Soylent Nutrition, Inc. and Rosa Foods, Inc., individually and dba Soylent**

I, Chris Heptinstall, declare:

1. This Certificate of Merit accompanies the attached 60-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 the Executive Director for the noticing party.

3. I have consulted with one or more persons with relevant and appropriate experience or expertise who have reviewed facts, studies, or other data regarding the exposure to the listed chemical that is the subject of the notice.

4. Based on the information obtained through those consultants, 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 Violators will be able to establish any of the affirmative defenses set forth in the statute.

5. Along with the 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 & Safety Code §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.



Dated: May 21, 2020

---

Chris Heptinstall

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE PURSUANT TO 27 CCR § 25903**

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 and over the age of 18 years of age. My business address is 306 Joy Street, Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia 30742. I am a resident or employed in the county where the mailing occurred. The envelope or package was placed in the mail at Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia.

On May 21, 2020, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time, I verified the following documents: **NOTICE OF VIOLATIONS 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”** were served on the following party when a true and correct copy thereof was sent via electronic mail to the party listed below, through its attorney pursuant to agreement:

Soylent Nutrition, Inc. and Rosa Foods, Inc.,  
individually and dba Soylent  
c/o Whitney J. Roy  
Sheppard Mullin  
333 S Hope St, Fl 43  
Los Angeles, CA 90071-1422  
Email: wroy@sheppardmullin.com

On May 21, 2020, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time, I verified the following documents **NOTICE OF VIOLATIONS, CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE §25249.5 ET SEQ.; CERTIFICATE OF MERIT; ADDITIONAL SUPPORTING INFORMATION FOR CERTIFICATE OF MERIT AS REQUIRED BY CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE §25249.7(d)(1)** were served on the following party when a true and correct copy thereof was uploaded on the California Attorney General’s website, which can be accessed at <https://oag.ca.gov/prop65/add-60-day-notice> :

Office of the California Attorney General  
Prop 65 Enforcement Reporting  
1515 Clay Street, Suite 2000  
Post Office Box 70550  
Oakland, CA 94612-0550

On May 21, 2020, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time, I verified the following documents **NOTICE OF VIOLATIONS, CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE §25249.5 ET SEQ.; CERTIFICATE OF MERIT** were served on the following parties when a true and correct copy thereof was sent via electronic mail to each of the parties listed below:

Nancy O’Malley, District Attorney  
Alameda County  
7677 Oakport Street, Suite 650  
Oakland, CA 94621  
CEPDProp65@acgov.org

Stacey Grassini, Deputy District Attorney  
Contra Costa County  
900 Ward Street  
Martinez, CA 94553  
sgrassini@contracostada.org

Barbara Yook, District Attorney  
Calaveras County  
891 Mountain Ranch Road  
San Andreas, CA 95249  
Prop65Env@co.calaveras.ca.us

Thomas L. Hardy, District Attorney  
Inyo County  
168 North Edwards Street  
Independence, CA 93526  
inyoda@inyocounty.us

Notice of Violations of California Health & Safety Code §25249.5 *et seq.*

May 21, 2020

Page 5

Michelle Latimer, Program Coordinator  
Lassen County  
220 S. Lassen Street  
Susanville, CA 96130  
mlatimer@co.lassen.ca.us

Jeannine M. Pacioni, District Attorney  
Monterey County  
1200 Aguajito Road  
Monterey, CA 93940  
Prop65DA@co.monterey.ca.us

Gary Lieberstein, District Attorney  
Napa County  
931 Parkway Mall  
Napa, CA 94559  
CEPD@countyofnapa.org

Paul E. Zellerbach, District Attorney  
Riverside County  
3072 Orange Street  
Riverside, CA 92501  
Prop65@rivcoda.org

Anne Marie Schubert, District Attorney  
Sacramento County  
901 G Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
Prop65@sacda.org

Summer Stephan, District Attorney  
San Diego County  
330 West Broadway  
San Diego, CA 92101  
SanDiegoDAProp65@sdca.org

Mark Ankcorn, Deputy City Attorney  
San Diego City Attorney  
1200 Third Avenue  
San Diego, CA 92101  
CityAttyProp65@sandiego.gov

Gregory Alker, Assistant District Attorney  
San Francisco County  
732 Brannan Street  
San Francisco, CA 94103  
gregory.alker@sfgov.org

Valerie Lopez, Deputy City Attorney  
San Francisco City Attorney  
1390 Market Street, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor  
San Francisco, CA 94102  
Valerie.Lopez@sfcityatty.org

Tori Verber Salazar, District Attorney  
San Joaquin County  
222 E. Weber Avenue, Room 202  
Stockton, CA 95202  
DAConsumer.Environmental@sjcda.org

Eric J. Dobroth, Deputy District Attorney  
San Luis Obispo County  
County Government Center Annex, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408  
edobroth@co.slo.ca.us

Christopher Dalbey, Deputy District Attorney  
Santa Barbara County  
1112 Santa Barbara Street  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
DAProp65@co.santa-barbara.ca.us

Bud Porter, Supervising Deputy District Attorney  
Santa Clara County  
70 W Hedding St  
San Jose, CA 95110  
EPU@da.sccgov.org

Jeffrey S. Rosell, District Attorney  
Santa Cruz County  
701 Ocean Street  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060  
Prop65DA@santacruzcounty.us

Stephan R. Passalacqua, District Attorney  
Sonoma County  
600 Administration Dr  
Sonoma, CA 95403  
jbarnes@sonoma-county.org

Phillip J. Cline, District Attorney  
Tulare County  
221 S Mooney Blvd  
Visalia, CA 95370  
Prop65@co.tulare.ca.us

Gregory D. Totten, District Attorney  
Ventura County  
800 S Victoria Ave  
Ventura, CA 93009  
daspecialops@ventura.org

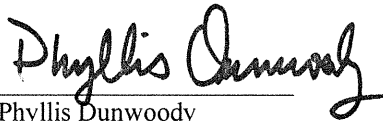
Jeff W. Reisig, District Attorney  
Yolo County  
301 Second Street  
Woodland, CA 95695  
cfepd@yolocounty.org

May 21, 2020

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On May 21, 2020, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time, I served the following documents: **NOTICE OF VIOLATIONS, 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 with the U.S. Postal Service with the postage fully prepaid for delivery by First Class Mail.

Executed on May 21, 2020, in Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Phyllis Dunwoody". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "P".

---

Phyllis Dunwoody

**Service List**

District Attorney, Alpine  
County  
P.O. Box 248  
Markleeville, CA 96120

District Attorney, Amador  
County  
708 Court Street, Suite 202  
Jackson, CA 95642

District Attorney, Butte  
County  
25 County Center Drive, Suite  
245  
Oroville, CA 95965

District Attorney, Colusa  
County  
346 Fifth Street Suite 101  
Colusa, CA 95932

District Attorney, Del Norte  
County  
450 H Street, Room 171  
Crescent City, CA 95531

District Attorney, El Dorado  
County  
778 Pacific St.  
Placerville, CA 95667

District Attorney, Fresno  
County  
2220 Tulare Street, Suite 1000  
Fresno, CA 93721

District Attorney, Glenn  
County  
Post Office Box 430  
Willows, CA 95988

District Attorney, Humboldt  
County  
825 5th Street 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Eureka, CA 95501

District Attorney, Imperial  
County  
940 West Main Street, Ste 102  
El Centro, CA 92243

District Attorney, Kern County  
1215 Truxtun Avenue  
Bakersfield, CA 93301

District Attorney, Kings  
County  
1400 West Lacey Boulevard  
Hanford, CA 93230

District Attorney, Lake County  
255 N. Forbes Street  
Lakeport, CA 95453

District Attorney, Los Angeles  
County  
Hall of Justice  
211 West Temple St., Ste 1200  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

District Attorney, Madera  
County  
209 West Yosemite Avenue  
Madera, CA 93637

District Attorney, Marin  
County  
3501 Civic Center Drive,  
Room 130  
San Rafael, CA 94903

District Attorney, Mariposa  
County  
Post Office Box 730  
Mariposa, CA 95338

District Attorney, Mendocino  
County  
Post Office Box 1000  
Ukiah, CA 95482

District Attorney, Merced  
County  
550 W. Main Street  
Merced, CA 95340

District Attorney, Modoc  
County  
204 S Court Street, Room 202  
Alturas, CA 96101-4020

District Attorney, Mono  
County  
Post Office Box 617  
Bridgeport, CA 93517

District Attorney, Nevada  
County  
201 Commercial Street  
Nevada City, CA 95959

District Attorney, Orange  
County  
401 West Civic Center Drive  
Santa Ana, CA 92701

District Attorney, Placer  
County  
10810 Justice Center Drive,  
Ste 240  
Roseville, CA 95678

District Attorney, Plumas  
County  
520 Main Street, Room 404  
Quincy, CA 95971

District Attorney, San Benito  
County  
419 Fourth Street, 2nd Floor  
Hollister, CA 95023

District Attorney, San  
Bernardino County  
303 West Third Street  
San Bernadino, CA 92415

District Attorney, San Mateo  
County  
400 County Ctr., 3rd Floor  
Redwood City, CA 94063

District Attorney, Shasta  
County  
1355 West Street  
Redding, CA 96001

District Attorney, Sierra  
County  
100 Courthouse Square, 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Floor  
Downieville, CA 95936

District Attorney, Siskiyou  
County  
Post Office Box 986  
Yreka, CA 96097

District Attorney, Solano  
County  
675 Texas Street, Ste 4500  
Fairfield, CA 94533

District Attorney, Stanislaus  
County  
832 12th Street, Ste 300  
Modesto, CA 95354

District Attorney, Sutter  
County  
463 2<sup>nd</sup> Street  
Yuba City, CA 95991

District Attorney, Tehama  
County  
Post Office Box 519  
Red Bluff, CA 96080

District Attorney, Trinity  
County  
Post Office Box 310  
Weaverville, CA 96093

District Attorney, Tuolumne  
County  
423 N. Washington Street  
Sonora, CA 95370

District Attorney, Yuba  
County  
215 Fifth Street, Suite 152  
Marysville, CA 95901

Los Angeles City Attorney's  
Office  
City Hall East  
200 N. Main Street, Suite 800  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

San Jose City Attorney's  
Office  
200 East Santa Clara Street,  
16th Floor  
San Jose, CA 95113

## 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 and 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.<sup>1</sup> 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

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<sup>1</sup> All further regulatory references are to sections of Title 27 of the California Code of Regulations unless otherwise indicated. The statute, regulations and relevant case law are available on the OEHHA website at: <http://www.oehha.ca.gov/prop65/law/index.html>.

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: [http://www.oehha.ca.gov/prop65/prop65\\_list/Newlist.html](http://www.oehha.ca.gov/prop65/prop65_list/Newlist.html).

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 (<http://www.oehha.ca.gov/prop65/law/index.html>) 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<sup>2</sup> 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.

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<sup>2</sup> See Section 25501(a)(4).

## *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 form.

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:  
<http://oehha.ca.gov/prop65/law/p65law72003.html>.

*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](mailto:P65Public.Comments@oehha.ca.gov).

Revised: May 2017

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.

# **EXHIBIT C**



## Environmental Research Center

3111 Camino Del Rio North, Suite 400  
San Diego, CA 92108  
619-500-3090

February 4, 2021

### NOTICE OF VIOLATIONS OF CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE SECTION 25249.5 *ET SEQ.* (PROPOSITION 65)

Dear Alleged Violators and the Appropriate Public Enforcement Agencies:

I am the Executive Director of Environmental Research Center, Inc. (“ERC”). ERC is a California non-profit corporation dedicated to, among other causes, helping safeguard the public from health hazards by bringing about a reduction in the use and misuse of hazardous and toxic chemicals, facilitating a safe environment for consumers and employees, and encouraging corporate responsibility.

ERC has identified violations of California’s Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (“Proposition 65”), which is codified at California Health & Safety Code §25249.5 *et seq.*, with respect to the product identified below. These violations have occurred and continue to occur because the alleged Violators identified below failed to provide required clear and reasonable warnings with this product. This letter serves as a notice of these violations to the alleged Violators and the appropriate public enforcement agencies. Pursuant to Section 25249.7(d) of the statute, ERC intends to file a private enforcement action in the public interest 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.

**General Information about Proposition 65.** A copy of a summary of Proposition 65, prepared by the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, is attached with the copy of this letter served to the alleged Violators identified below.

**Alleged Violators.** The names of the companies covered by this notice that violated Proposition 65 (hereinafter the “Violators”) are:

**Soylent Nutrition, Inc.**  
**Rosa Foods, Inc., individually and dba Soylent**

**Consumer Product and Listed Chemical.** The product that is the subject of this notice and the chemical in that product identified as exceeding allowable levels is:

**Soylent Complete Protein Chocolate – Lead**

On February 27, 1987, the State of California officially listed lead as a chemical known to cause developmental toxicity, and male and female reproductive toxicity. On October 1, 1992, the State of California officially listed lead and lead compounds as chemicals known to cause cancer.

It should be noted that ERC may continue to investigate other products that may reveal further violations and result in subsequent notices of violations.

**Route of Exposure.** The consumer exposures that are the subject of this notice result from the recommended use of this product. Consequently, the route of exposure to this chemical has been and continues to be through ingestion.

**Approximate Time Period of Violations.** Ongoing violations have occurred every day since at least February 4, 2018, as well as every day since the product was introduced into 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 either removed from or reduced to allowable levels in the product. Proposition 65 requires that a clear and reasonable warning be provided prior to exposure to the identified chemical. The method of warning should be a warning that appears on the product label. The Violators violated Proposition 65 because they failed to provide persons ingesting this product with appropriate warnings that they are being exposed to this chemical.

Consistent with the public interest goals of Proposition 65 and a desire to have these ongoing violations of California law quickly rectified, ERC is interested in seeking a constructive resolution of this matter that includes an enforceable written agreement by the Violators to: (1) reformulate the identified product so as to eliminate further exposures to the identified chemical, or provide appropriate warnings on the labels of this product; (2) pay an appropriate civil penalty; and (3) provide clear and reasonable warnings compliant with Proposition 65 to all persons located in California who purchased the above product in the last three years. Such a resolution will prevent further unwarned consumer exposures to the identified chemical, as well as an expensive and time-consuming litigation.

Please direct all questions concerning this notice to ERC at the above listed address and telephone number.

Sincerely,



---

Chris Heptinstall  
Executive Director  
Environmental Research Center

Attachments

Certificate of Merit

Certificate of Service

OEHHA Summary (to Soylent Nutrition, Inc. and Rosa Foods, Inc., individually and dba Soylent)

Additional Supporting Information for Certificate of Merit (to AG only)

**CERTIFICATE OF MERIT**

**Re: Environmental Research Center, Inc.’s Notice of Proposition 65 Violations by Soy lent Nutrition, Inc. and Rosa Foods, Inc., individually and dba Soy lent**

I, Chris Heptinstall, declare:

1. This Certificate of Merit accompanies the attached 60-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 the Executive Director for the noticing party.

3. I have consulted with one or more persons with relevant and appropriate experience or expertise who have reviewed facts, studies, or other data regarding the exposure to the listed chemical that is the subject of the notice.

4. Based on the information obtained through those consultants, 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 Violators will be able to establish any of the affirmative defenses set forth in the statute.

5. Along with the 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 & Safety Code §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.



Dated: February 4, 2021

---

Chris Heptinstall

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE PURSUANT TO 27 CCR § 25903**

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 and over the age of 18 years of age. My business address is 306 Joy Street, Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia 30742. I am a resident or employed in the county where the mailing occurred. The envelope or package was placed in the mail at Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia.

On February 4, 2021, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time, I verified the following documents: **NOTICE OF VIOLATIONS 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”** were served on the following parties when a true and correct copy thereof was sent via electronic mail to the parties listed below, through their attorney pursuant to agreement:

Soylent Nutrition, Inc. and Rosa Foods, Inc.,  
individually and dba Soylent  
c/o Whitney J. Roy  
Sheppard Mullin  
333 S Hope St, Fl 43  
Los Angeles, CA 90071-1422  
Email: wroy@sheppardmullin.com

On February 4, 2021, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time, I verified the following documents **NOTICE OF VIOLATIONS, CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE §25249.5 ET SEQ.; CERTIFICATE OF MERIT; ADDITIONAL SUPPORTING INFORMATION FOR CERTIFICATE OF MERIT AS REQUIRED BY CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE §25249.7(d)(1)** were served on the following party when a true and correct copy thereof was uploaded on the California Attorney General’s website, which can be accessed at <https://oag.ca.gov/prop65/add-60-day-notice> :

Office of the California Attorney General  
Prop 65 Enforcement Reporting  
1515 Clay Street, Suite 2000  
Post Office Box 70550  
Oakland, CA 94612-0550

On February 4, 2021, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time, verified the following documents **NOTICE OF VIOLATIONS, CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE §25249.5 ET SEQ.; CERTIFICATE OF MERIT** were served on the following parties when a true and correct copy thereof was sent via electronic mail to each of the parties listed below:

Nancy O’Malley, District Attorney  
Alameda County  
7677 Oakport Street, Suite 650  
Oakland, CA 94621  
CEPDProp65@acgov.org

Stacey Grassini, Deputy District Attorney  
Contra Costa County  
900 Ward Street  
Martinez, CA 94553  
sgrassini@contracostada.org

Barbara Yook, District Attorney  
Calaveras County  
891 Mountain Ranch Road  
San Andreas, CA 95249  
Prop65Env@co.calaveras.ca.us

Thomas L. Hardy, District Attorney  
Inyo County  
168 North Edwards Street  
Independence, CA 93526  
inyoda@inyocounty.us



Notice of Violations of California Health & Safety Code §25249.5 *et seq.*

February 4, 2021

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Michelle Latimer, Program Coordinator  
Lassen County  
220 S. Lassen Street  
Susanville, CA 96130  
mlatimer@co.lassen.ca.us

Jeannine M. Pacioni, District Attorney  
Monterey County  
1200 Aguajito Road  
Monterey, CA 93940  
Prop65DA@co.monterey.ca.us

Gary Lieberstein, District Attorney  
Napa County  
931 Parkway Mall  
Napa, CA 94559  
CEPD@countyofnapa.org

Paul E. Zellerbach, District Attorney  
Riverside County  
3072 Orange Street  
Riverside, CA 92501  
Prop65@rivcoda.org

Anne Marie Schubert, District Attorney  
Sacramento County  
901 G Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
Prop65@sacda.org

Summer Stephan, District Attorney  
San Diego County  
330 West Broadway  
San Diego, CA 92101  
SanDiegoDAProp65@sdca.org

Mark Ankcorn, Deputy City Attorney  
San Diego City Attorney  
1200 Third Avenue  
San Diego, CA 92101  
CityAttyProp65@sandiego.gov

Alethea Sargent, Assistant District Attorney  
White Collar Division  
San Francisco District Attorney's Office  
350 Rhode Island Street  
North Building, Suite 400N  
San Francisco, CA 94103  
alethea.sargent@sfgov.org

Valerie Lopez, Deputy City Attorney  
San Francisco City Attorney  
1390 Market Street, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor  
San Francisco, CA 94102  
Valerie.Lopez@sfcityatty.org

Tori Verber Salazar, District Attorney  
San Joaquin County  
222 E. Weber Avenue, Room 202  
Stockton, CA 95202  
DAConsumer.Environmental@sjcda.org

Eric J. Dobroth, Deputy District Attorney  
San Luis Obispo County  
County Government Center Annex, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408  
edobroth@co.slo.ca.us

Christopher Dalbey, Deputy District Attorney  
Santa Barbara County  
1112 Santa Barbara Street  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
DAProp65@co.santa-barbara.ca.us

Bud Porter, Supervising Deputy District Attorney  
Santa Clara County  
70 W Hedding St  
San Jose, CA 95110  
EPU@da.sccgov.org

Jeffrey S. Rosell, District Attorney  
Santa Cruz County  
701 Ocean Street  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060  
Prop65DA@santacruzcounty.us

Stephan R. Passalacqua, District Attorney  
Sonoma County  
600 Administration Dr  
Sonoma, CA 95403  
jbarnes@sonoma-county.org

Phillip J. Cline, District Attorney  
Tulare County  
221 S Mooney Blvd  
Visalia, CA 95370  
Prop65@co.tulare.ca.us

Gregory D. Totten, District Attorney  
Ventura County  
800 S Victoria Ave  
Ventura, CA 93009  
daspecialops@ventura.org

Jeff W. Reisig, District Attorney  
Yolo County  
301 Second Street  
Woodland, CA 95695  
cfepd@yolocounty.org

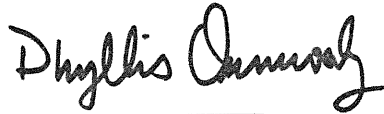
Notice of Violations of California Health & Safety Code §25249.5 *et seq.*

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On February 4, 2021, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time, I served the following documents: **NOTICE OF VIOLATIONS, 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 with the U.S. Postal Service with the postage fully prepaid for delivery by First Class Mail.

Executed on February 4, 2021, in Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Phyllis Dunwoody", written in a cursive style.

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Phyllis Dunwoody

**Service List**

District Attorney, Alpine  
County  
P.O. Box 248  
Markleeville, CA 96120

District Attorney, Amador  
County  
708 Court Street, Suite 202  
Jackson, CA 95642

District Attorney, Butte  
County  
25 County Center Drive, Suite  
245  
Oroville, CA 95965

District Attorney, Colusa  
County  
346 Fifth Street Suite 101  
Colusa, CA 95932

District Attorney, Del Norte  
County  
450 H Street, Room 171  
Crescent City, CA 95531

District Attorney, El Dorado  
County  
778 Pacific St.  
Placerville, CA 95667

District Attorney, Fresno  
County  
2220 Tulare Street, Suite 1000  
Fresno, CA 93721

District Attorney, Glenn  
County  
Post Office Box 430  
Willows, CA 95988

District Attorney, Humboldt  
County  
825 5th Street 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Eureka, CA 95501

District Attorney, Imperial  
County  
940 West Main Street, Ste 102  
El Centro, CA 92243

District Attorney, Kern County  
1215 Truxtun Avenue  
Bakersfield, CA 93301

District Attorney, Kings  
County  
1400 West Lacey Boulevard  
Hanford, CA 93230

District Attorney, Lake County  
255 N. Forbes Street  
Lakeport, CA 95453

District Attorney, Los Angeles  
County  
Hall of Justice  
211 West Temple St., Ste 1200  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

District Attorney, Madera  
County  
209 West Yosemite Avenue  
Madera, CA 93637

District Attorney, Marin  
County  
3501 Civic Center Drive,  
Room 130  
San Rafael, CA 94903

District Attorney, Mariposa  
County  
Post Office Box 730  
Mariposa, CA 95338

District Attorney, Mendocino  
County  
Post Office Box 1000  
Ukiah, CA 95482

District Attorney, Merced  
County  
550 W. Main Street  
Merced, CA 95340

District Attorney, Modoc  
County  
204 S Court Street, Room 202  
Alturas, CA 96101-4020

District Attorney, Mono  
County  
Post Office Box 617  
Bridgeport, CA 93517

District Attorney, Nevada  
County  
201 Commercial Street  
Nevada City, CA 95959

District Attorney, Orange  
County  
401 West Civic Center Drive  
Santa Ana, CA 92701

District Attorney, Placer  
County  
10810 Justice Center Drive,  
Ste 240  
Roseville, CA 95678

District Attorney, Plumas  
County  
520 Main Street, Room 404  
Quincy, CA 95971

District Attorney, San Benito  
County  
419 Fourth Street, 2nd Floor  
Hollister, CA 95023

District Attorney, San  
Bernardino County  
303 West Third Street  
San Bernadino, CA 92415

District Attorney, San Mateo  
County  
400 County Ctr., 3rd Floor  
Redwood City, CA 94063

District Attorney, Shasta  
County  
1355 West Street  
Redding, CA 96001

District Attorney, Sierra  
County  
100 Courthouse Square, 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Floor  
Downieville, CA 95936

District Attorney, Siskiyou  
County  
Post Office Box 986  
Yreka, CA 96097

District Attorney, Solano  
County  
675 Texas Street, Ste 4500  
Fairfield, CA 94533

District Attorney, Stanislaus  
County  
832 12th Street, Ste 300  
Modesto, CA 95354

District Attorney, Sutter  
County  
463 2<sup>nd</sup> Street  
Yuba City, CA 95991

District Attorney, Tehama  
County  
Post Office Box 519  
Red Bluff, CA 96080

District Attorney, Trinity  
County  
Post Office Box 310  
Weaverville, CA 96093

District Attorney, Tuolumne  
County  
423 N. Washington Street  
Sonora, CA 95370

District Attorney, Yuba  
County  
215 Fifth Street, Suite 152  
Marysville, CA 95901

Los Angeles City Attorney's  
Office  
City Hall East  
200 N. Main Street, Suite 800  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

San Jose City Attorney's  
Office  
200 East Santa Clara Street,  
16th Floor  
San Jose, CA 95113

## 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 and 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.<sup>1</sup> 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

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<sup>1</sup> All further regulatory references are to sections of Title 27 of the California Code of Regulations unless otherwise indicated. The statute, regulations and relevant case law are available on the OEHHA website at: <http://www.oehha.ca.gov/prop65/law/index.html>.

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: [http://www.oehha.ca.gov/prop65/prop65\\_list/Newlist.html](http://www.oehha.ca.gov/prop65/prop65_list/Newlist.html).

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 (<http://www.oehha.ca.gov/prop65/law/index.html>) 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<sup>2</sup> 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.

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<sup>2</sup> See Section 25501(a)(4).

## *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 form.

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:  
<http://oehha.ca.gov/prop65/law/p65law72003.html>.

*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](mailto:P65Public.Comments@oehha.ca.gov).

Revised: May 2017

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.