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California Department of Public Health



ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER
Governor

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To: Manufacturers of Certified Water Treatment Devices

As you are most likely aware, Assembly Bill (AB) 1953 (Lead-free Plumbing) was signed by the Governor of California in 2006. Additional related legislative action, Senate Bills 1395 and 1334, were adopted in 2008. AB 1953, Health and Safety Code Section 116875, contains requirements designed to reduce exposure of lead to the public. Section 116875 states that:

No person shall introduce into commerce any pipe, pipe or plumbing fitting, or fixture intended to convey or dispense water for human consumption through drinking or cooking that is not lead free, as defined in subdivision (e). This includes kitchen faucets, bathroom faucets, and any other end-use devices intended to convey or dispense water for human consumption through drinking or cooking, but excludes service saddles, backflow preventers for nonpotable services such as irrigation and industrial, and water distribution main gate valves that are two inches in diameter and above.

AB 1953 did not change the applicability of low lead requirements for pipes, plumbing, or other components. Products that had to meet the previous lead limits are subject to the new requirements, and products that were not subject to those requirements are not subject to them now.

Currently the process for certification as a water treatment device in California includes an extraction test that provides data on lead that may leach into the water from the water treatment device components. The results of this testing data must show that the water tested during the extraction test meets the State Action Level for lead. This requirement has not been changed.

Accordingly, the California Department of Public Health will make no revisions to the water treatment device certification program for AB 1953. We understand from

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conversations with the independent testing agencies that there is ongoing work to revise standards to address revised lead content requirements. We will continue to support this effort.

Sincerely,



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Enclosure

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