



RE: Safety of Caramel Color

January 1, 2020

Dear Sethness Customer,

Sethness Products Company has been manufacturing and marketing Caramel Color since 1880. For generations Caramel Colors have been safely manufactured and used throughout the world. All of the Caramel Colors manufactured by Sethness Products Company adhere to the Standard of Identify for Caramel Color (21 CFR 73.85). Caramel Colors have undergone full regulatory review and are approved as GRAS (Generally Recognized as Safe) for both food (21 CFR 182.1235) and feed (21 CFR 582.1235). They are also approved for both drug (21 CFR 73.1085) and cosmetic (21 CFR 73.2085) use.

Effective January 7, 2012 California Proposition 65 began enforcing the listing of 4-Methylimidazole (4-MeI) as a carcinogen. 4-MeI is a low molecular weight compound that is present in Class III and Class IV Caramel Colors. 4-MeI is also present in a great many other food and beverage products, many of which do not contain any Caramel Color. Sethness also manufactures Class I and Class II Caramel Colors which do not contain any 4-MeI.

Sethness Products Company does not agree with the decision by the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) to list 4-MeI on the list of potential carcinogens found in California Proposition 65. We want to assure you that Caramel Colors have been subjected to full testing for carcinogenicity and were found to be negative for cancer in humans.

California OEHHA has instituted a No Significant Risk Level (NSRL) of 29 micrograms per day for 4-MeI. This is based on average daily intake of the finished products in question and not necessarily on a per serving basis. It is very important for each customer to carefully identify the average daily intake over the lifetime of the average consumer of their products in California before making any formulation changes. Sethness Products Company will be happy to provide the average 4-MeI levels in any of our Liquid and Powder Caramel Colors.

As always, we genuinely appreciate your continued support and loyalty to Sethness Products Company.

Yours very truly,

President

Sethness Roquette

Sethness Products Company

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