

CALIFORNIA PROPOSITION 65 REGULATIONS

On December 18, 2009, the State of California approved legislation that added wood dust to the list of carcinogenic materials in the "Safe Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986", also known as Proposition 65. The State of California requires compliance with the warning requirements within 12 months so retail outlets that sell lumber are required to post placards regarding wood dust by December 18, 2010. The warning placards must convey "clear and reasonable warnings". The following is an example of a statement:

WARNING

Drilling, sawing, sanding or machining wood products generates wood dust, a substance known to the State of California to cause cancer. Avoid inhaling wood dust or use a respirator, dust mask or other safeguards for personal protection.

California Health and Safety Code Section 25249.6

Title 22, Article 6, Section 12601 in the California Code of Regulations specifies what constitutes a "clear and reasonable warning" as well as the sign requirements. An internet search indicates there are several companies advertising Proposition 65-compliant signs. The Lumberman Association of California and Nevada (www.lumberassociation.org) is offering free placards for its members. There is a stipulation in the Proposition 65 regulations that requires a mill's customers to confirm that the warning has been received and mills shall maintain a record of their customer's confirmation.

We bring this to your attention so you can take the appropriate steps to comply with the regulations by December 18. Please contact the WCLIB office if you have any questions.