



U.S. CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20207

Record of Commission Action  
Commissioners Voting by Ballot

1111 18th Street, NW  
Washington, DC

Voting: Chairman Byington  
Commissioner Franklin  
Commissioner Pittle

ITEM

Lead-Core Wick Candles; Letter on behalf of The Atkins and Pearce Manufacturing Company requesting the Commission to issue a regulation that would require candles with lead-core wicks to be labeled so as to indicate they are made with lead-core wicks

(Briefing material transmitted by the Office of the Secretary on December 22, 1977 and February 13, 1978)

DECISION

Based on the information presented in the above-referenced materials, the Commission declines to issue the requested regulation. A copy of the letter to the requester outlining the reasons for the Commission's decision is attached.

VOTE

Concurring:

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, likely belonging to the Chairman Byington.

Chairman Byington (1/4/78) & (2/15/78)

A handwritten signature in black ink, likely belonging to Commissioner Franklin.

Commissioner Franklin (1/3/78) & (2/27/78)

A handwritten signature in black ink, likely belonging to Commissioner Pittle.

Commissioner Pittle (1/3/78) & (2/22/78)

Submitted by the Office of the Secretary



85 File

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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20207

MAR 1 1979

Mr. Joseph H. Head, Jr.  
Graydan, Head and Ritchey  
1900 Fifth Third Center  
511 Walnut Street  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

Dear Mr. Head:

This is in response to your letter of July 13, 1977 on behalf of The Atkins and Pearce Manufacturing Company requesting that the Commission issue a regulation requiring that candles with lead-core wicks be labeled so as to indicate they are made with a lead-core wick.

The Commission has recently considered your request and declines to issue the requested regulation at this time. In taking this action, the Commission notes that it has previously denied two petitions to ban lead-wick candles, HP 74-3 and HP 74-13.

Although the Commission believes the hazard posed by the candles is not great enough to warrant regulatory action in light of more serious hazards posed by other products and our limited resources to address them, the Commission also believes that the unnecessary addition of lead to the environment is unwise and that unnecessary sources of human lead intake should be reduced or eliminated whenever practicable. Therefore, the Commission strongly recommends and requests again that manufacturers not produce lead-core wick candles.

The Commission appreciates the voluntary action on the part of The Atkins and Pearce Manufacturing Company in ceasing production of such candles and hopes that the company will continue with this policy.

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY  
SADYE DUNN

Sadye Dunn  
Acting Secretary

Drafted by Carol Roth, OGC