

Date: February 12, 2024

VIA Electronic Mail (Delivery Receipt Requested)

RE: Reese's Law Implementation Dates

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to ensure you are aware that CPSC's button cell and coin battery safety regulations issued under Sections 2 and 3 of Reese's Law are scheduled to be enforced starting next month, March 2024.

Section 2(a)(1) of Reese's Law requires the Commission to publish a final consumer product safety standard with performance requirements for button cell or coin battery compartments in consumer products to eliminate or adequately reduce the risk of injury from ingestion of button cell or coin batteries by children who are six years old or younger, 15 U.S.C. 2056e(a)(1). Pursuant to this directive, on September 21, 2023, the Commission published a direct final rule to establish a Safety Standard for Button Cell or Coin Batteries and Consumer Products Containing Such Batteries, 16 C.F.R. Part 1263. At the same time, however, the Commission granted a 180-day transitional period of enforcement discretion for these requirements, to allow the necessary adjustments by industry and avoid disruption for consumers. This period of enforcement discretion ends on March 19, 2024.

Section 3 of Reese's Law, Pub. L. 117–171, § 3, separately requires that all button cell or coin batteries be packaged in accordance with the poison prevention packaging standards in section 16 C.F.R. § 1700.15. On March 8, 2023, the Commission announced that it would exercise <u>enforcement discretion</u> for packaging containing zinc-air batteries subject to Section 3 of Reese's Law. This period of enforcement discretion ends on March 8, 2024.

The Commission has received requests for extensions of both periods of enforcement discretion, all of which are in the record. However, to date the Commission has not granted any further extensions. Accordingly, the enforcement discretion periods are scheduled to expire as indicated above.

Failure to comply with the new requirements could result in enforcement action, including civil penalties. Further, we remind you that section 15(b) of the Consumer Product Safety Act requires manufacturers, importers, distributors, and retailers of consumer products to report immediately to the CPSC when they obtain information which reasonably supports the conclusion that products distributed in commerce fail to comply with an applicable consumer product safety standard or ban that the Commission enforces.

The Commission is aware that stakeholders have questions about the implementation of these requirements and has been regularly updating its <u>Button Cell and Coin Battery Business Guidance</u> webpage with information.



Thank you for your prompt attention and cooperation.

Sincerely,

Rob S. Kaye Robert S. Kaye

Director

Office of Compliance and Field Operations