

*Commissioners of Public Works of the City of Charleston (d.b.a. Charleston Water System) v.
DUDE Products Inc.
Case No. 2:24-cv-02935-RMG*

United States District Court for the District of South Carolina, Charleston Division

IF YOU ARE A SEWAGE TREATMENT SYSTEM OPERATOR IN THE UNITED STATES WHOSE SYSTEM WAS IN OPERATION BETWEEN MAY 9, 2021 AND MAY 31, 2024, A CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT MAY AFFECT YOUR RIGHTS.

A federal court authorized this Notice. You are not being sued. This is not a solicitation from a lawyer.

- A proposed settlement (“Settlement”) has been reached in the above class action with Defendant DUDE Products Inc. (“Defendant”). The action challenges the manufacturing, design, marketing and/or sale of Defendant’s flushable wipes.¹ Defendant denies the allegations about its flushable wipes and maintains that its products perform as advertised. There has been no finding of liability against DUDE Products Inc. Defendant has agreed to the Settlement to avoid the uncertainties and expenses associated with continuing the case.

WHO IS IN THE SETTLEMENT CLASS?

If you own[ed] or operate[d] a sewage or wastewater conveyance and treatment plant, such as a municipality, authority or wastewater district in the United States whose system was in operation between May 9, 2021 and May 31, 2024, you are part of the Settlement Class.

The Court-certified Settlement Class is defined as “All STP (Sewage Treatment Plant) Operators in the United States whose systems were in operation between May 9, 2021 and the date of preliminary approval.”

WHAT DOES THE SETTLEMENT PROVIDE?

Defendant has agreed to implement certain modifications to its business practices and the Settling Parties have made certain representations and commitments with respect to the flushable wipes Products, including DUDE Wipes flushable wipes. The details of these business practice modifications are set forth in the Notice which is located at www.charlestonwipessettlement.com.

YOUR RIGHTS AND OPTIONS

Do Nothing.

¹ The terms of the Settlement is in the Stipulation of Settlement, dated May 10, 2024 (the “Stipulation”), which can be viewed at www.charlestonwipessettlement.com. All capitalized terms not defined in this Notice have the same meanings as in the Stipulation.

By doing nothing, you will receive the benefits of the Settlement with Defendant in the form of business practice modifications described in the Notice. You will automatically receive the benefits of this Settlement.

Object to the Settlement or the Request for Attorneys' Fees and Expenses.

You can object to the Settlement and/or Class Counsel's request for attorneys' fees and expenses of up to \$275,000. Objections must be received **no later than September 6, 2024**, by the Court, either by mailing it to the Class Action Clerk, United States District Court for the District of South Carolina, Charleston Division, J. Waties Waring Judicial Center, 83 Meeting Street, Charleston, South Carolina 29401, or by filing it in person at any location of the United States District Court for the District of South Carolina.

Should I Hire an Attorney?

You do not need to hire your own attorney because Class Counsel is working on your behalf. If you retain your own attorney, you will need to pay for that attorney.

Final Approval Hearing.

The Court will hold the Final Approval Hearing on September 27, 2024, at 10:00 a.m., at the United States District Court for the District of South Carolina, Charleston Division, J. Waties Waring Judicial Center, 83 Meeting Street, Charleston, South Carolina 29401. You can go to this hearing, but you do not have to. The Court will hear any objections, determine if the Settlement with Defendant is fair, and consider Class Counsel's request for an award of attorneys' fees and expenses. Class Counsel's request for fees and expenses will be posted on the Settlement Website after it is filed.

HOW DO I GET MORE INFORMATION?

This Notice is only a summary. For more information, including the Stipulation and other legal documents, visit www.charlestonwipessettlement.com.

PLEASE DO NOT CALL OR WRITE THE COURT FOR INFORMATION OR ADVICE.