

**LEGAL NOTICE OF CERTIFICATION AND SETTLEMENT APPROVAL
TO OWNERS OF CERTAIN PLASTIC PLUMBING AND HEATING SYSTEMS
SOMETIMES REFERRED TO AS POLYBUTYLENE PLUMBING AND HEATING SYSTEMS**

**THIS NOTICE MAY AFFECT YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS
PLEASE READ THIS NOTICE CAREFULLY**

Who should read this notice

You should read this notice if you are a past or present owner of any real property or structures in Canada with a polybutylene plumbing and/or heating system with acetal plastic insert fittings. The polybutylene plumbing and heating systems covered by this notice generally contain gray plastic pipes made of polybutylene and gray plastic fittings made of acetal that may, but do not necessarily, carry the following markings: bow, Q, SG, W, A/I.

Why this notice has been published

Legal proceedings were initiated in British Columbia, Ontario, and Quebec relating to polybutylene plumbing and heating systems in Canadian properties by certain past or present property owners. This notice pertains to a settlement with one of the three defendants in those legal proceedings, E.I. DuPont de Nemours and Company ("DuPont USA").

Settlement Approval

At settlement approval hearings in Ontario, British Columbia and Quebec, the Courts certified class proceedings against DuPont USA solely for purposes of settlement and approved the settlement with DuPont USA. The Courts also approved representative plaintiffs and settlement class definitions.

Settlement Class

You are a member of the settlement class if you are a person or entity, who as of the date of the first publication of this legal notice:

- (1) who owns or who previously owned any improvements to real property or structures in any of the Canadian provinces or territories in which there is or was during the time of such ownership, a polybutylene plumbing system with acetal insert fittings, and/or
- (2) who owns or who previously owned any improvements to real property or structures in any of the Canadian provinces or territories in which there is or was during the time of such ownership, a polybutylene heating system with acetal insert fittings.

subject to certain exclusions in the DuPont USA Settlement Agreement. The class does not include persons or entities who submit a timely request to opt out from the class, in accordance with the directions below.

If you are a class member, your rights against DuPont USA will be affected by the settlement. Your rights against the other defendants in the litigation, Shell Oil Company ("Shell") and Hoechst Celanese ("Celanese"), may also be affected.

No Admission of Liability

DuPont USA does not admit any wrongdoing or liability on its part. The settlement is a compromise of disputed claims against DuPont USA and is only a partial settlement of the legal proceedings. Another defendant, Shell, has entered into a separate settlement with Class Counsel, which is in the process of approval by the Courts. To learn about the status of that settlement and the proceedings against the other defendants Shell and Celanese, who are not participants in the DuPont USA settlement, you should contact Class Counsel (see below for contact information).

Settlement Terms

Under the terms of the DuPont USA Settlement Agreement, DuPont USA will fund up to CDN\$30 million for payments to class members subject to terms, conditions and limitations. DuPont USA will pay 25% of the cost of a replumb of a polybutylene plumbing system and damage caused by a leak in a polybutylene plumbing system of a class member who meets the requirements, including completion of a replumb. DuPont USA will also pay part of the cost of repair of a polybutylene heating system of a class member who meets the requirements. DuPont USA will also pay the expenses of maintaining a facility for receiving and handling claims, subject to certain terms and conditions. DuPont USA will also pay solicitors' costs of Class Counsel in connection with the claims against DuPont USA of CDN\$4,500,000, as approved by the Courts.

A copy of the complete DuPont USA Settlement Agreement and information about how to make a claim are posted at <http://www.pbsettlement.ca> and can also be obtained by calling the toll-free number at 1-866-599-4599. If you are uncertain whether you have a plumbing or heating system covered by this notice, you can obtain pictures of the pipe and fittings at the website, by calling the toll-free 866 number or contacting Class Counsel at the addresses below. A copy of the Settlement Agreement is also available at the courthouse in Quebec City.

Opting-Out of the Settlement

If you are a person or entity within the class definition above, but do not wish to take part in the DuPont USA settlement, you may opt out by returning an opt out form postmarked on or before August 11, 2004. A DuPont USA class member may obtain the opt out form at <http://www.pbsettlement.ca> or by calling the toll free number at 1-866-599-4599.

No person may opt out minors or mentally incapable persons without permission of the Court after notice to the Children's Lawyer and/or the Public Guardian and Trustee.

Prohibition Against Further Action

Each class member will be conclusively deemed to have released DuPont USA from all claims relating to polybutylene plumbing or heating systems and will be barred from asserting any further claims against DuPont USA in connection with those systems. Rights against the other defendants may also be affected.

Additional Information and Questions for Class Counsel

Do not contact the Courts about this notice or the proceedings. Please address requests for additional information and any questions to Class Counsel:

British Columbia

James Poyner
Poyner, Baxter, Poyner
408 - 145 Chadwick Court
North Vancouver, BC V7M 3K1
Tel.: (604) 988-6321
Fax: (604) 988-3632
poyner.baxter@telus.net

Quebec

Claude Desmeules
Siskinds, Desmeules, Avocats
43, rue Buade, bureau 320
Quebec City, Quebec G1R 4A2
Tel.: (418) 694-2009
Fax: (418) 694-0281
claudio.desmeules@siskindsdesmeules.com

**Ontario and all other Provinces
and Territories (except British
Columbia and Quebec)**

Elizabeth deBoer
Siskind, Cromarty, Ivey & Dowler
680 Waterloo Street
London, Ontario N6A 3V8
Tel: (519) 672-2121
Fax: (519) 672-3093
elizabeth.deboer@siskinds.com

Courts Approving Notice

This Notice has been approved by the following Courts:

- Ontario Superior Court of Justice: Garipey v. Shell Oil and others Court File No. 30781/99
- Supreme Court of British Columbia: Furlan v. Shell Oil and others Court File No. C967236
- Quebec Superior Court of Justice: Couture v. Shell Oil and others Court File No. 200 06-000001-985

May 14, 2004