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Press Release

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Brenda Duty, Food Safety & Sanitation Program, (907) 451-2178

or visit www.dec.state.ak.us/eh/fss/recalls/food_recalls.html

DEC Warns Consumers Not to Eat

Discover Cuisine™ –Red Curry Chicken & Jasmine Rice Entrees

Risk of Listeriosis

DEC is warning the public not to consume "Discover Cuisine™ Red Curry Chicken & Jasmine Rice" in four-pack 12-ounce packages. Costco is voluntarily recalling approximately 10,368 pounds of these frozen chicken entrées because they may be contaminated with *Listeria monocytogenes*.

The product has been sent to retail establishments in Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Utah and Washington. Although no longer available through Costco stores in Alaska, the product could still be in smaller stores that buy from Costco or in people's freezers. The frozen chicken entrées were produced on Oct. 18, 2007, and sold through January 15, 2008. No illnesses have been reported at this time.

The following product is subject to recall:

- Four-pack of 12-ounce packages of "Discover Cuisine™ Red Curry Chicken & Jasmine Rice." Each package bears the Canadian establishment number "Est. 302" inside the Canadian Food Inspection Agency mark of inspection as well as a "Best By" date of "12 18 08." The item number "2880" also appears by the UPC code on the package.

Eating food contaminated with *Listeria monocytogenes* can cause listeriosis, an uncommon but potentially fatal disease. Healthy people rarely contract listeriosis; however, listeriosis can cause miscarriages

and stillbirths, as well as serious and sometimes fatal infections in those with weakened immune systems, such as infants, the elderly and persons with HIV infection or undergoing chemotherapy. Symptoms include high fever, severe headache, neck stiffness and nausea. If you have consumed the product and are experiencing any of these symptoms, contact a physician immediately. Consumers can return the product to Costco for a refund.

If you have questions about this recall, please contact the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation's Food Safety and Sanitation Program at 1-87-SAFE-FOOD or 1-877-233-3663 or visit the website at www.dec.state.ak.us/eh/fss/recalls/food_recalls.html



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