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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE July 27, 2012 CONTACT: Lorinda Lohtka, FSS Program Manager, (907) 451-2119

Gills Onions Expands Onion Recall for Possible Health Risk

(JUNEAU, AK) – Gills Onions, LLC has voluntarily expanded its recall of products that may be contaminated with *Listeria monocytogenes*.

Listeria monocytogenes is an organism which can cause serious and sometimes fatal infections in young children, frail or elderly people, and others with weakened immune systems. Although healthy individuals may suffer only short-term symptoms such as high fever, severe headache, stiffness, nausea, abdominal pain and diarrhea, Listeria infection can cause miscarriages and stillbirths among pregnant women.

This recall affects retail stores as well as restaurant distributors. Recalled products include:

Recalled Lot Code	Product Description	Use-by-date	UPCode*
All	Diced Yellow Onions, 7 oz, "Gills Onions" label	On or before August 3	643550000405
All	Diced Red Onions, 7 oz "Gills Onions" label	On or before August 3	643550000412
All	Slivered Yellow Sweet Onions, 5oz, "Gills Onions" label	On or before August 3	643550000092
All	Slivered Red Onions, 5 oz, "Gills Onions" label	On or before August 3	643550000009
All	Diced Celery and Onion, 7 oz , "Gills Onions" label	On or before August 3	643550000429
All	Diced Celery and Onion, 19 oz, "Gills Onions" label	On or before August 3	643550000351
All	Diced yellow onions, 5 lb bag "True Leaf" label	On or before August 3	898634001018
All	Whole peeled yellow onions, "Western Onion" label	On or before August 3	02060042553

Alaska DEC has confirmed distribution of one or more of these products in Alaska. To date, there have been no reported illnesses in Alaska or other states. Alaska DEC is contacting distributors to assure that they have received the recall information, have pulled any affected product and have notified their customers. Consumers who have this product are asked to discard it. Consumers with questions about the recall, including refunds, should contact Gills Onions at 888-220-0436 Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. PDT. Visit <u>www.gillsonions.com</u> for updates.

More information can be found at: <u>http://www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls/ucm313399.htm?source=govdelivery</u>.

For more information on recalls affecting Alaskans, visit DEC's website: <u>http://www.dec.alaska.gov/eh/fss/recalls/recallsalerts.html</u>.

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