

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 4
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

FEB 14 2012

CERTIFIED MAIL RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Todd Griffith Regulatory Compliance Supervisor ExxonMobil Production Co. P.O. Box 4358 Houston, Texas 77210-4358

RE: ExxonMobil Production Co.

Consent Agreement and Final Order Docket No. EPCRA-04-2012-2014(b)

Dear Mr. Griffith:

Enclosed please find an executed copy of the Consent Agreement and Final Order that resolves the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act of 1986 matter (Docket No. EPCRA-04-2012-2014(b)) involving ExxonMobil Production Co. The CAFO was filed with the Regional Hearing Clerk, as required by 40 C.F.R. Part 22 and became effective on the date of the filing.

Also enclosed, please find a copy of the "Notice of Securities and Exchange Commission Registrants' Duty to Disclose Environmental Legal Proceedings." This document puts you on notice of your potential duty to disclose to the Security and Exchange Commission any environmental enforcement actions taken by the Environmental Protection Agency. If you have any questions with regards to the SEC's environmental disclosure requirements, you may refer to the contact phone number at the bottom of the SEC Notice.

If you have any questions, please call Mr. Jyoti Bhushan at (404) 562-9182.

Caron B. Falcener

Chief

EPCRA Enforcement Section

Enclosures

UNITED STATES EN	VIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 4	″ ÆA	2012 FEI	EPA R
IN THE MATTER OF:)	RING	B = .	RE CO
ExxonMobil Production Company) Docket Number: EPCRA-04-2012-2014(b)	313	3	28
Respondent.) _)	RX	8	****

CONSENT AGREEMENT AND FINAL ORDER

I. Nature of the Action

- 1. This is a civil penalty proceeding pursuant to Section 325 of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA), 42 U.S.C. § 11045 and pursuant to the Consolidated Rules of Practice Governing Administrative Assessment of Civil Penalties, and the Revocation/Termination or Suspension of Permits (Consolidated Rules), codified at 40 C.F.R. Part 22. Complainant is the Director of the Air, Pesticides and Toxics Management Division, Region 4, United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Respondent is ExxonMobil Production Company.
- 2. Complainant and Respondent have conferred for the purpose of settlement pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 22.18(b) and desire to resolve this matter and settle the allegations described herein without a formal hearing. Therefore, without the taking of any evidence or testimony, the making of any argument, or the adjudication of any issue in this matter, and in accordance with 40 C.F.R. §§ 22.13(b) and 22.18(b), this Consent Agreement and Final Order (CAFO) will simultaneously commence and conclude this matter.

II. Preliminary Statements

- 3. The authority to take action under Section 325 of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11045, is vested in the Administrator of EPA. The Administrator of EPA has delegated this authority under CERCLA and under EPCRA to the Regional Administrators by EPA Delegation 22-3-A, dated May 11, 1994. The Regional Administrator, Region 4, has redelegated to the Director, Air, Pesticides and Toxics Management Division, the authority under EPCRA by EPA Region 4 Delegation 22-3-A, dated November 8, 1994. Pursuant to these delegations, the Director of the Air, Pesticides and Toxics Management Division has the authority to commence an enforcement action as the Complainant in this matter.
 - 4. Respondent is a corporation doing business in the State of Alabama.
- 5. Respondent is a "person" as defined in Section 329(7) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11049(7).

- 6. Respondent has a "facility" as that term is defined by Section 329(4) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11049(4).
 - 7. Respondent's facility is located at 6000 Deakle Road, Theodore, Alabama.

III. EPA's Allegations of Violations

- 8. Section 304(a) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. §11004(a) and the regulations found at 40 C.F.R. § 355, Subpart C, require the owner or operator of a facility at which hazardous chemicals are produced, used or stored, to immediately notify the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) and Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) when there has been a release of a CERCLA hazardous substance or extremely hazardous substance in an amount equal to or greater than the reportable quantity.
- 9. Respondent was the owner or operator of the facility during the relevant period, described below.
- 10. At all times relevant to this matter, the facility produced, used, or stored "hazardous chemicals" as defined under Section 311(e) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11021(e) and under 29 C.F.R. § 1910,1200(c).
- 11. Sulfur dioxide is an "extremely hazardous substance" as that term is defined by Section 329(3) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11049(3), with an RQ of 500 pounds, as specified in 40 C.F.R. Part 355, Apps. A & B.
- 12. On January 13, 2011, Respondent had a release of sulfur dioxide above the RQ at the facility.
- 13. EPA alleges that Respondent violated the notification requirements of Section 304(a) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11004(a), by failing to immediately notify the SERC and LEPC as soon as Respondent had knowledge of the release of sulfur dioxide in an amount equal to or greater than the RQ at Respondent's facility, and is therefore subject to the assessment of penalties under Section 325 of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. §11045.
- 14. Pursuant to Section 325(b) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11045(b), and 40 C.F.R. Part 19, EPA may assess a penalty of not more than \$37,500 for each violation of Sections 304(a) and (c) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11004(a)(c), that occurred after January 12, 2009. Civil penalties under Section 325(b) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11045(b), may be assessed by Administrative Order.

IV. Consent Agreement

15. For the purposes of this CAFO, Respondent admits the jurisdictional allegations set out above but neither admits nor denies the factual allegations set out above.

- 16. Respondent waives any right to contest the allegations and its right to appeal the proposed Final Order accompanying the Consent Agreement.
- 17. Respondent consents to the assessment of and agrees to pay the civil penalty as set forth in this CAFO.
- 18. Respondent certifies that as of the date of its execution of this CAFO, it is in compliance with all requirements of EPCRA.
- 19. Compliance with the CAFO shall resolve the allegations of violations contained herein. This CAFO shall not otherwise affect any liability of Respondent to the United States, other than as expressed herein. Neither EPA nor Complainant waives any right to bring an enforcement action against Respondent for violation of any federal or state statute, regulation or permit, to initiate an action for imminent and substantial endangerment, or to pursue criminal enforcement.
- 20. Complainant and Respondent agree to settle this matter by their execution of this CAFO. The parties agree that the settlement of this matter is in the public interest and that this CAFO is consistent with the applicable requirements of EPCRA.

V. Final Order

- 21. Respondent shall pay a civil penalty of TWENTY FOUR THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED SEVENTY FIVE DOLLARS (\$24,375) for the EPCRA violation which shall be paid within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this CAFO.
- 22. Respondent shall pay the penalty by forwarding a cashier's or certified check payable to "Treasurer, United States of America," to the following address:

BY MAIL

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Fines and Penalties Cincinnati Finance Center P.O. Box 979077 St. Louis, MO 63197-9000

BY OVERNIGHT

U.S. Bank Government Lockbox 979077 US EPA Fines & Penalties 1005 Convention Plaza SL-MO-C2-GL St. Louis, MO 63101 (314) 418-1028

The check shall reference on its face the name and the Docket Number of the CAFO.

23. At the time of payment, Respondent shall send a separate copy of each check, and a written statement that payment has been made in accordance with this CAFO, to the following persons at the following addresses:

Regional Hearing Clerk U.S. EPA, Region 4 61 Forsyth Street, S.W. Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Jyoti Bhushan U.S. EPA, Region 4 Air, Pesticides & Toxics Management Division 61 Forsyth Street, S.W. Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Saundi Wilson
U.S. EPA, Region 4
Office of Environmental Accountability
61 Forsyth Street, S.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

- 24. For the purposes of state and federal income taxes, Respondent shall not be entitled, and agrees not to attempt, to claim a deduction for any civil penalty payment made pursuant to this CAFO. Any attempt by Respondent to deduct any such payments shall constitute a violation of this CAFO.
- 25. Pursuant to 31 U.S.C. § 3717, EPA is entitled to assess interest and penaltics on debts owed to the United States and a charge to cover the cost of processing and handling a delinquent claim. Interest will therefore begin to accrue on the civil penalty from the effective date of this CAFO if the penalty is not paid by the date required. Interest will be assessed at the rate established by the Secretary of Treasury pursuant to 31 U.S.C. § 3717. A charge will be assessed to cover the costs of debt collection, including processing and handling costs and attorney fees. In addition, a penalty charge will be assessed on any portion of the debt that remains delinquent more than ninety (90) days after payment is due.
- 26. Complainant and Respondent shall bear their own costs and attorney fees in this matter.
 - 27. This CAFO shall be binding upon the Respondent, its successors, and assigns.
- 28. The following individual is authorized to receive service for EPA in this proceeding:

Caron B. Falconer U.S. EPA, Region 4 Air, Pesticides & Toxics Management Division 61 Forsyth Street, S.W. Atlanta, Georgia 30303 (404) 562-8451 29. Each undersigned representative of the parties to this CAFO certifies that he or she is fully authorized by the party represented to enter into this CAFO and legally bind that party to it.

VI. Effective Date

30. The effective date of this CAFO shall be the date on which the CAFO is filed with the Regional Hearing Clerk.

AGREED AND CONSENTED TO:

ExxonMobil Production Company	
By: (Signature)	Date: 1-3/-/2
Name: 1 Janes D. SIEGFRIED	(Typed or Printed)
Title: OPERATIONS MANAGER	(Typed or Printed)
By: Charles Ditto To Beverly H. Banister Director Air, Pesticides & Toxics Management Division	Date: 1-17-2012
	1

APPROVED AND SO ORDERED this 9th day of Jebruay, 2012.

Susan B. Schub

Regional Judicial Officer

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this day served a true and correct copy of the foregoing Consent Agreement and Final Order, In the Matter of ExxonMobil Production Company, Theodore, Alabama, Docket Number EPCRA 04-2012-2014(b), on the parties listed below in the manner indicated:

Caron B. Falconer (Via EPA's internal mail) U.S. EPA, Region 4 Air. Pesticides & Toxics Management Division 61 Forsyth Street Atlanta, GA 30303

Robert Caplan U.S. EPA, Region 4 Office of Environmental Accountability 61 Forsyth Street Atlanta, GA 30303

(Certified Mail - Return Receipt Requested) Regulatory Compliance Supervisor ExxonMobil Production Co.

(Via EPA's internal mail)

Date: 2-14-12

Mr. Todd Griffith

800 Bell Street P.O. Box 4358

Houston, Texas 77210-4358

Patricia Bullock, Regional Hearing Clerk United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4 Atlanta Federal Center 61 Forsyth Street, S.W. Atlanta, GA 30303

(404) 562-9511