



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 4  
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER  
61 FORSYTH STREET  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

FEB 12 2019

CERTIFIED MAIL  
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Larry Prange, Esq.  
Senior Legal Counsel  
Gordon Food Service, Inc.  
1300 Gezon Parkway SW  
Wyoming, Michigan 49509

Re: Gordon Food Service, Inc. – Kannapolis, North Carolina  
Ratified Consent Agreement and Final Order  
Docket No. EPCRA-04-2019-2000(b)

Dear Mr. Prange:

Enclosed, is a copy of the ratified Consent Agreement and Final Order (CAFO) in the above-referenced matter. The original CAFO has been filed with the Regional Hearing Clerk and served on the parties as directed in Section 22.6 of the Consolidated Rules of Practice, 40 C.F.R. Part 22. To ensure proper processing, the Respondent's Name and Docket Number for this case, identified above and in the CAFO, should be noted on any cashier's or certified check submitted in payment of the penalty.

Should you or your client have any questions concerning this matter or Gordon Food Service, Inc.'s compliance status in the future, please contact Lynda Crum, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 4's Associate Attorney at (404) 562-9524.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Anthony G. Toney".

Anthony G. Toney  
Chief

Chemical Safety and Enforcement Branch

Enclosure

**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 4**

**IN THE MATTER OF:** )  
 )  
Gordon Food Service, Inc. )  
 )  
 )  
Respondent. )  
\_\_\_\_\_ )

**Docket Number: EPCRA-04-2019-2000(b)**

HEARING CLERK  
2019 FEB 12 PM 1:46  
U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
OFFICE OF REGIONAL COUNSEL

**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 the 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. Respondent is Gordon Food Service, Inc. (GFS).

2. The authority to take action under Section 325 of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11045, is vested in the Administrator of the EPA. The Administrator of the EPA has delegated this authority under EPCRA to the Regional Administrators by the EPA Delegation 22-3-A, dated May 11, 1994. The Regional Administrator, Region 4, has redelegated this authority to the Director, Air, Pesticides and Toxics Management Division, by the EPA Region 4 Delegation 22-3-A, dated November 8, 1994. Pursuant to that delegation, the Director of the Air, Pesticides and Toxics Management Division has the authority to commence an enforcement action as the Complainant in this matter.

3. Complainant and Respondent have conferred for the purpose of settlement pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 22.18 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), this Consent Agreement and Final Order (CAFO) will simultaneously commence and conclude this matter.

**II. Preliminary Statements**

4. Respondent is GFS, a corporation doing business in the State of North Carolina.

5. Respondent is a "person" and owned and operated, at all times relevant to the allegations in Section III, a "facility" as those terms are defined by Section 329(7) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11049(7), and Section 329(4) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11049(4), respectively.

6. Respondent's facility is located at 6200 Gordon Food Service Drive, Kannapolis, North Carolina 28027.

### **III. EPA's Allegations of Violations**

#### **Violation of Section 312 of EPCRA**

7. Section 312 of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11022, and the regulations found at 40 C.F.R. Part 370, provide that the owner or operator of a facility that is required to prepare or have available a Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) or a Safety Data Sheet (SDS) for hazardous chemicals under the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (OSHA) and regulations promulgated under that Act, shall submit to the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC), and the fire department with jurisdiction over the facility, on or before March 1 annually, a completed emergency and hazardous chemical inventory form (Tier I or Tier II), as described in 40 C.F.R. Part 370, containing the information required by that Part for hazardous chemicals present at the facility at any one time in the calendar year in amounts equal to or greater than 10,000 pounds and containing the information required by that Part for extremely hazardous substances (EHS) present at the facility at any one time in amounts equal to or greater than the threshold planning quantity (TPQ) or 500 pounds, whichever is less. In 2012, the applicable OSHA regulation at 29 C.F.R. § 1910.1200(g) was revised to change the name of Material Data Safety Sheet (MSDS) to Safety Data Sheet (SDS). The pertinent EPCRA regulation found at 40 C.F.R. § 370.30(a)(1) requires that either an MSDS or SDS be submitted, or that a list of chemicals be submitted to the LEPC, SERC and fire department.

8. At some time during calendar year 2016, ammonia was present at Respondent's facility in an amount equal to or greater than 500 pounds.

9. Ammonia is a "hazardous chemical" as defined under Section 329(5) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11049(5) and 40 C.F.R. § 355.61, and is an "extremely hazardous substance" as defined under Section 329(3) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11049(3), and 40 C.F.R. § 355.61, for which Respondent is required to prepare or have available an MSDS or SDS under OSHA at its facility. Ammonia is also listed as an extremely hazardous substance in 40 C.F.R. Part 355, Appendices A and B.

10. Respondent failed to submit a completed Emergency and Hazardous Chemical Inventory Form for ammonia to the SERC, the LEPC, and fire department with jurisdiction over the facility for calendar year 2016, by March 1 of the following year.

11. The EPA alleges that Respondent violated the reporting requirements of Section 312 of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11022, at its facilities for calendar year 2016 and is therefore subject to the assessment of civil penalties under Section 325 of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11045.

12. Pursuant to Section 325(c) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11045(c), and 40 C.F.R. Part 19, the EPA may assess a civil penalty for each violation of Section 312. Each day a violation of Section 312 continues constitutes a separate violation. Civil penalties under Section 325(c) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11045(c), may be assessed by an administrative order.

### **IV. Consent Agreement**

13. 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.

14. Respondent waives any right to contest the allegations and its right to appeal the final order accompanying the Consent Agreement.

15. Respondent consents to the assessment of and agrees to pay the civil penalty as set forth in this CAFO.

16. Respondent certifies that as of the date of its execution of this CAFO, it is in compliance with all relevant requirements of EPCRA.

17. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 22.18(c), compliance with this CAFO only resolves Respondent's liability for federal civil penalties for the allegations in Section III of this CAFO and does not affect the right of the EPA or U.S. to pursue appropriate injunctive or other equitable relief or criminal sanctions for any violation of law. This CAFO does not waive, extinguish or otherwise affect Respondent's obligation to comply with all applicable provisions of EPCRA or other applicable laws and regulations.

#### **V. Final Order**

18. Respondent shall pay a civil penalty of **TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND, TWO HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-FIVE DOLLARS (\$25,275)** for the violations alleged in Section III above. Payment shall be paid within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this CAFO.

19. Respondent shall pay the penalty by forwarding a cashier's or certified check, payable to: "Treasurer, United States of America," or by electronic transfer to one of the following addresses:

**BY MAIL**

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

**BY OVERNIGHT**

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Government Lockbox 979077  
1005 Convention Plaza  
SL-MO-C2-GL  
St. Louis, Missouri 63101  
(513) 487-2091

**BY ELECTRONIC TRANSFER**

Federal Reserve Bank of New York  
ABA = 021030004  
Account = 68010727  
SWIFT address = FRNYUS33  
33 Liberty Street  
New York, New York 10045  
Beneficiary: "U.S. Environmental Protection Agency"

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

20. At the time of payment, Respondent shall send a separate copy of the 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

Erika White  
U.S. EPA Region 4  
Air, Pesticides and Toxics Management Division  
61 Forsyth Street, S.W.  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

21. 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.

#### **VI. Other Provisions**

22. Pursuant to 31 U.S.C. § 3717, the EPA is entitled to assess interest and penalties 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.

23. Complainant and Respondent shall bear their own costs and attorney fees in this matter.

24. This CAFO shall be binding upon the Respondent, its successors, and assigns.

25. 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.

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**VII. Effective Date**

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

AGREED AND CONSENTED TO:

Gordon Food Service, Inc.

By: Laurence W. Prange (Signed) Date: 12/4/2018

Name: Laurence W. Prange (Typed or Printed)

Title: Senior Legal Counsel (Typed or Printed)

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

By: Carol G. Kember for Date: 12/20/18  
Beverly H. Banister  
Director  
Air, Pesticides and Toxics Management Division

APPROVED AND SO ORDERED this 11<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2018.

Tanya Floyd  
Tanya Floyd  
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 Gordon Food Service, Inc., Docket Number: EPCRA- 04-2019-2000(b), on the parties listed below in the manner indicated:

Robert W. Bookman (Via EPA's internal mail)  
U.S. EPA Region 4  
Chemical Management and Emergency Planning Section  
61 Forsyth Street, S.W.  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Robert Caplan (Via EPA's internal mail)  
Senior Attorney  
U.S. EPA Region 4  
Office of Regional Counsel  
61 Forsyth Street, S.W.  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Mr. Larry Prange (Certified Mail—Return Receipt Requested)  
Senior Legal Counsel  
Gordon Food Service, Inc.  
1300 Gezon Parkway SW  
Wyoming, Michigan 4950

Date: 2-12-19

  
Patricia A. Bullock, Regional Hearing Clerk  
United States Environmental  
Protection Agency Region 4  
Atlanta Federal Center  
61 Forsyth Street, S.W.  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303  
(404) 562-9511