

**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 4**

EXPEDITED SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

DOCKET NO: CAA-04-2023-0011(b)

**This ESA is issued to: Georgia Department of Natural Resources
2 MLK Drive, S.E.
Atlanta, Georgia 30334**

**for violating monitoring, reporting, and/or recordkeeping (MRR) requirements in
40 C.F.R. Part 61, Subpart M (National Emission Standard for Asbestos) and Section 112
of the Clean Air Act.**

This Expedited Settlement Agreement (ESA) is being entered into by the United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4, Director of the Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division (Complainant), and by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources (Respondent), pursuant to Section 113(d) of the Clean Air Act (the "Act" or "CAA"), 42 U.S.C. § 7413(d), and pursuant to 40 C.F.R. §§ 22.13(b) and 22.18(b)(2).

ALLEGED VIOLATIONS

Based on information acquired from the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) regarding the demolition of seven cabins at Little Ocmulgee State Park located at or near 80 Live Oak Trail in Helena, Georgia 31037 (the facility) during January and February of 2023, the EPA alleges that Respondent violated Section 112 of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7412, and 40 C.F.R. Part 61, Subpart M. Specifically, the EPA alleges the Respondent failed to conduct a thorough inspection for asbestos-containing materials prior to beginning demolition activity, as required by 40 C.F.R. § 61.145(a), at the facility. Demolition activities commenced at the facility on or around January 20, 2023.

SETTLEMENT

In consideration of Respondent's size, its full compliance history, its good faith efforts to comply, and other factors as justice may require, and upon consideration of the entire record, the parties enter into the ESA in order to settle the violation cited above, for the total penalty amount of **\$4,877**.

This settlement is subject to the following terms and conditions: the Respondent by signing below admits the jurisdictional allegations contained herein, neither admits nor denies the specific factual allegations contained herein, and consents to the assessment of the penalty as stated above; Respondent waives its rights to a hearing afforded by Section 113(d)(2)(A) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 7413(d)(2)(A), and to appeal this ESA and Final Order or otherwise contest the allegations contained in this ESA; and each party to this action shall bear its own costs and fees, if any.

Respondent certifies, subject to civil and criminal penalties for making a false submission to the United States Government, that the Respondent is currently in compliance with the National Emission Standard for Asbestos regulations promulgated at 40 C.F.R. Part 61, Subpart M.

Within fifteen (15) days of receiving a copy of the fully executed ESA, Respondent shall pay a civil penalty in the amount of **\$4,877**. Payment shall be made by cashier's check, certified check, by electronic funds transfer (EFT), or by Automated Clearing House (ACH) (also known as REX or remittance express).

If paying by check, the check shall be payable to: Treasurer, United States of America, and **the Respondent's name and the Docket Number of this ESA must be included on the face of the check**. The Docket Number is located at the top left corner of the first page of this ESA.

If Respondent sends payment by the U.S. Postal Service, the payment shall be addressed to:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
P.O. Box 979078
St. Louis, MO 63197-9000

If Respondent sends payment by non-U.S. Postal express mail delivery, the payment shall be sent to:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Government Lockbox 979078
1005 Convention Plaza
SL-MO-C2-GL
St. Louis, MO 63101

If paying by EFT, Respondent shall transfer the payment to:

Federal Reserve Bank of New York
ABA: 021030004
Account Number: 68010727
SWIFT address: FRNYUS33
33 Liberty Street
New York, New York 10045
Beneficiary: Environmental Protection Agency

If paying by ACH, Respondent shall remit payment to:

US Treasury REX/Cashlink ACH Receiver
ABA: 051036706
Account Number: 310006, Environmental Protection Agency
CTX Format Transaction Code 22 – checking
Physical location of US Treasury Facility:
5700 Rivertech Court

Riverdale, MD 20737
Remittance Express (REX): 1-866-234-5681

At the time of payment, Respondent shall send a separate copy of the check, or proof of electronic payment, and a written statement that payment has been made in accordance with this ESA to:

Regional Hearing Clerk
R4_Regional_Hearing_Clerk@epa.gov

and

Pamela Storm
Case Development Officer
Storm.Pamela@epa.gov

The penalty specified in this ESA shall represent civil penalties assessed by the EPA and shall not be deductible for purposes of State or Federal taxes.

Respondent's full compliance with this ESA shall only resolve Respondent's liability for Federal civil penalties for the violation alleged in this ESA. The EPA does not waive any other enforcement action for any other violations of the Act or any other statute.

This ESA is binding on the parties signing below. This ESA is effective upon filing with the Regional Hearing Clerk.

In accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 22.5, the individuals named in the certificate of service are authorized to receive service related to this proceeding and the parties agree to receive service by electronic means.

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FOR RESPONDENT:



Date: 8/2/2023

Name (print): Brent Vendola

Title (print): Chief of Engineering & Construction

FOR COMPLAINANT:

_____ for
Acting Director
Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division

FINAL ORDER

I hereby ratify the ESA and incorporate it herein by reference. It is so ORDERED.

Tanya Floyd
Regional Judicial Officer

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that the foregoing Expedited Settlement Agreement and Final Order in the Matter of Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Docket No. CAA-04-2023-0011(b), were filed and copies of the same were emailed to the parties as indicated below.

Via email to all parties at the following email addresses:

To Respondent: Brent Vendola
 Georgia Department of Natural Resources
 brent.vendola@dnr.ga.gov
 404-323-6214
 2 MLK Drive, S.E.
 Atlanta, Georgia 30334

To EPA: Pamela Storm, Case Development Officer
 Storm.Pamela@epa.gov
 404-562-9197

 Marirose Pratt, Associate Regional Counsel
 Pratt.Marirose@epa.gov
 404-562-9023

Shannon L. Richardson, Regional
Hearing Clerk
U.S. EPA Region 4
61 Forsyth Street, S.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-8960