UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 2

:

In the Matter of Paragon Household Products, Inc. Respondent Proceeding under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act, as amended

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CONSENT AGREEMENT AND FINAL ORDER PROTECTION AGENCY-REG.1 2012 MAR - 7 P 12: 15 REGIONAL HEARING CLERK

Docket No. FIFRA-02-2011-5108

PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

This administrative proceeding for the assessment of a civil penalty was initiated pursuant to 7 U.S.C. § 136 <u>l</u>(a) of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act ("FIFRA"), as amended, 7 U.S.C. § 136 <u>et seq</u>. Complainant in this proceeding, the Director of the Division of Enforcement and Compliance Assistance, United States Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA"), Region 2, issued a Complaint and Notice of Opportunity for Hearing to Respondent, Paragon Household Products, Inc., located at 233 Clifton Boulevard, Clifton, New Jersey 07011.

The Complainant charged Respondent with two violations of 7 U.S.C. § $136\underline{e}(c)(1)$ and 40 C.F.R. § 167.85, the requirements under FIFRA governing the submission of annual Pesticide Reports for Pesticide-Producing Establishments ("Pesticide Reports"). Said violations are unlawful under FIFRA §12(a)(2)(L), 7 U.S.C. § 136j (a)(2)(L).

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FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Parties to this Consent Agreement agree that the title to this proceeding should properly read "In the Matter of Paragon Household Products, Inc.".

2. This Consent Agreement is being entered into by Respondent, Paragon Household Products, Inc., and this Consent Agreement is binding on Paragon Household Products, Inc.

3. Respondent's establishment is registered under Section 7 of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136e. Its assigned EPA Establishment Number is 070305-NJ-001.

4. Pursuant to Section 7(c) of FIFRA and 40 C.F.R. § 167.20(f), any producer operating an establishment registered under Section 7 shall submit annually to the EPA the types and amounts of pesticides and, if applicable, active ingredients used in producing pesticides, which the producer is currently producing, has produced during the past year, and has sold or distributed during the past year.

5. Title 40 C.F.R. § 167.85 provides that a producer operating an establishment must submit an annual pesticide production report (the "Report") on or before March 1 of each year, even if the producer has produced no pesticides for that reporting year.

6. Respondent failed to submit an annual pesticide production report for the calendar years 2009 and 2010.

7. Therefore, Respondent violated Section 7(c)(1) and Section 12(a)(2)(L) of FIFRA, and 40 C.F.R. § 167.85.

8. Respondent requested termination of its establishment registration. The facility has not performed any pesticide-related activities since 2009.

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CONSENT AGREEMENT

Based on the foregoing, and in accordance with federal laws and regulations, it is agreed that:

1. Respondent admits the jurisdictional allegations of the Complaint.

2. Respondent agrees to waive any jurisdictional objections, regarding proper service of the Complaint and/or any other questions concerning acquisition of the personal jurisdiction of Paragon Household Products Inc.

Respondent shall comply at all times with the requirements of Section 7 of FIFRA, 7
U.S.C. § 136e and the applicable regulations.

4. Respondent admits the specific factual allegations set forth in the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law in this Consent Agreement.

5. Complainant agrees to waive all penalties assessed in the Complaint due to Respondent's request for termination of its New Jersey establishment registration and submission of a zero pesticide production report for calendar years 2009 and 2010. Such waiver is consistent with the provisions of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act Enforcement Response Policy. Respondent's registration for its New Jersey establishment has been terminated.

6. Nothing in this Consent Agreement and Final Order shall relieve Respondent of the duty to comply with all applicable provisions of FIFRA and other environmental laws.

7. Nothing in this Consent Agreement and Final Order shall preclude Complainant from further enforcement action, including the assessment of civil penalties, arising from the violation of any environmental laws.

8. This Consent Agreement is being entered into by the parties in full settlement of civil liabilities associated with pesticide production establishment reporting requirements under 7
U.S.C. § 136 (e) of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act, as amended, 7

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U.S.C. § 136 et seq. Respondent has read the Consent Agreement and Final Order, finds it reasonable, and consents to its issuance and its terms.

9. Respondent explicitly waives its right to request a hearing on the Complaint, this Agreement, or the attached Final Order.

10. Respondent waives any right it may have pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 22.08 to be present during discussions with or to be served with and to reply to any memorandum or communication addressed to the Regional Administrator or the Deputy Regional Administrator where the purpose of such discussion, memorandum, or communication is to recommend that such official accept this Consent Agreement and issue the attached Final Order.

11. This Consent Agreement shall be binding on both parties to this action, their officers, directors, employees, successors, and assigns.

12. The undersigned representative of each party to this Consent Agreement certifies that he or she is duly authorized by the party whom he or she represents to enter into the terms and conditions of this Agreement and bind that party to it.

13. Each party shall bear its own costs and attorneys' fees in the action resolved by this Consent Agreement.

14. Respondent consents to service upon Respondent by a copy of this Consent Agreement and Final Order by an EPA employee other than the Regional Hearing Clerk.

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RESPONDENT: Paragon Household Products, Inc.

BY: <u>Authorizing Signature</u>

NAME: <u>Matthew Brooks</u> (PLEASE PRINT) TITLE: <u>Regulatory Consultant</u> DATE: <u>12-8-11</u>

COMPLAINANT:

Dore LaPosta, Director

Division of Enforcement and Compliance Assistance United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2 290 Broadway New York, NY 10007

DATE: FEBRUARY 21, 2012

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FINAL ORDER

The Regional Judicial Officer of the United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2, ratifies the foregoing Consent Agreement. The Consent Agreement, entered into by the parties to this matter, is hereby approved, incorporated herein, and issued as an Order. The effective date of this Order shall be the date of filing with the Regional Hearing Clerk, United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2, New York, New York.

Helen Levrara

Helen Ferrara Regional Judicial Officer United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2 290 Broadway New York, NY 10007

DATE: <u>Febriery 27, 2012</u>

In the Matter of Paragon Household Products, Inc. Docket Number: FIFRA-02-2011-5108

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that I have this day caused to be sent the foregoing Consent Agreement and Final Order for the above-referenced docket number, in the following manner to the respective addressees below:

Original and One Copy

by Interoffice Mail:

Office of Regional Hearing Clerk United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2 290 Broadway, 16th floor New York, NY 10007-1866

USPS First Class Mail

Matthew Brooks, Ph.D. Ag-Chem Consulting Paragon Household Products, Inc. 12208 Quinque Lane Clifton, VA 20124

March 6, 2012 Dated:

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