



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

CERTIFIED MAIL  
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

SEP 27 2019

Allison Purmort  
Assistant General Counsel  
Elior North America  
300 South Tryon Street, Suite# 400  
Charlotte, North Carolina 28202

Re: Traditions Meal Solutions  
Consent Agreement and Final Order  
Docket No. CERCLA-04-2019-2013(b)

Dear Ms. Purmort:

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 have any questions concerning this matter or Traditions Meal Solutions compliance status in the future, please contact Lynda Crum of the EPA staff at (404) 562-9524.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Cesar A. Zapata".

Cesar A. Zapata  
Acting Chief  
Air Enforcement Branch

Enclosures

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 4

IN THE MATTER OF:

Traditions Meal Solutions

Respondent.

)  
)  
) **Docket Number:** CERCLA-04-2019-2013(b)  
)  
)  
)  
)  
)

HEARINGS CLERK

2019 SEP 27 AM 6:51

USEPA REGION 4  
OFFICE OF REGIONAL  
COUNSEL

**CONSENT AGREEMENT AND FINAL ORDER**

**I. Nature of the Action**

1. This is a civil penalty proceeding pursuant to Section 109 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), as amended, 42 U.S.C. § 9609 and 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 Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division, Region 4, United States Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA"). Respondent is Traditions Meal Solutions.

2. Complainant has been delegated the authority on behalf of the Administrator of the EPA to enter into this CAFO pursuant to 40 C.F.R. Part 22 and Section 109 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9609, and Section 325 Section 325 of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11045.

3. 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**

4. Respondent, Traditions Meal Solutions., is a company doing business in the State of Mississippi.

5. Respondent is a “person” and is the “owner or operator” of a “facility” as those terms are defined in Section 329(7) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11049(7) and Section 101(21) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9601(21), Section 101 (20)(A) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9601(20)(A), and Section 101(9) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9601(9), and by Section 329(4) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11049(4), respectively.

6. Respondent’s facility is located at 100 Valley Drive, Pearl, Mississippi 39208.

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

#### **Violation of Section 103(a) of CERCLA**

7. Section 102(a) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9602(a), required the Administrator of the EPA to publish a list of substances designated as hazardous substances which, when released into the environment, may present substantial danger to public health or welfare or the environment, and to promulgate regulations establishing the quantity of any hazardous substance the release of which was required to be reported under Section 103(a) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9603(a). The EPA has published and amended such a list, including the corresponding reportable quantities (RQ) for those substances. This list which is codified at 40 C.F.R. Part 302, was initially published on April 4, 1985 (50 Fed. Reg. 13474) and is periodically amended.

8. Section 103(a) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9603(a), and the regulations found at 40 C.F.R. § 302.6, require a person in charge of a facility or vessel to immediately notify the National Response Center (NRC), as soon as he or she has knowledge of a release of a hazardous substance from such facility or vessel in an amount equal to, or greater than the RQ.

9. Respondent was in charge of the facility during the relevant period described below.

10. Anhydrous ammonia is a “hazardous substance” as that term is defined by Section 101(14) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9601(14), with an RQ of 100 pounds, as specified in 40 C.F.R. § 302.4.

11. On September 9, 2018, a release of anhydrous ammonia above the RQ occurred at the facility.

12. EPA alleges that Respondent violated the notification requirements of Section 103(a) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9603(a), and the applicable CERCLA regulations, 40 C.F.R. § 302.6, by failing to immediately notify the NRC as soon as Respondent had knowledge of the release of anhydrous ammonia in an amount equal to or greater than its RQ at Respondent’s facility and is therefore subject to the assessment of penalties under Section 109 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9609.

13. Pursuant to Section 109 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9609, and 40 C.F.R. Part 19, the EPA may assess a civil penalty for each violation of Section 103(a) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9603(a). Each day a violation of Section 103 continues constitutes a separate violation. Civil

penalties under Section 109 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9609, may be assessed by Administrative Order.

#### Violations of Section 304(a) EPCRA

14. Section 304(a) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11004(a) and the regulations found at 40 C.F.R. Part 355, Subpart C, require the owner or operator of a facility at which a hazardous chemical is produced, used or stored, to immediately provide notice to the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) and Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) as described in Section 304(b) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11004(b), when there has been a release of an EPCRA extremely hazardous substance, or a CERCLA hazardous substance in an amount equal to or greater than the RQ from a facility. Section 304(a) does not apply to any release which results in exposure to persons solely within the site or sites on which a facility is located.

15. Respondent was the owner or operator of the facility during the relevant period described herein.

16. Anhydrous ammonia 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 100 pounds as specified in 40 C.F.R. § 355 Appendices A & B.

17. On September 9, 2018, a release of anhydrous ammonia above the RQ occurred at the facility. The EPA alleges that the release resulted in the potential for exposure to persons beyond the site or sites on which the facility is located.

18. The EPA alleges that Respondent violated the notification requirements of Section 304(a) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11004(a), and the applicable EPCRA regulations at 40 C.F.R. Part 355, Subpart C, by failing to immediately notify the SERC and LEPC as soon as Respondent had knowledge of the release of ammonia anhydrous 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.

19. Pursuant to Section 325(b) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11045(b), and 40 C.F.R. Part 19, the EPA may assess a civil penalty for each violation of Section 304(a) of EPCRA, U.S.C. § 11004(a). Civil penalties under Section 325(b) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11045(b), may be assessed by Administrative Order.

#### IV. Consent Agreement

20. 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.

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

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

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

24. Compliance with this CAFO shall resolve the allegations of violations contained herein. 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, CERCLA or other applicable laws and regulations.

25. 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 CERCLA and EPCRA.

#### V. Final Order

26. Respondent shall pay a civil penalty of **EIGHTEEN THOUSAND, NINE HUNDRED FIFTY-SIX DOLLARS (\$18,956)** for the CERCLA violation in Section III, which shall be paid within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this CAFO.

27. Respondent shall pay the CERCLA civil penalty by forwarding a cashier's or certified check, payable to "EPA Hazardous Substance Superfund" to one of the following addresses:

BY MAIL

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
P.O. Box 979076  
St. Louis, Missouri 63197-9000

St. Louis, Missouri 63197-9000

BY OVERNIGHT

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Government Lockbox 979076  
1005 Convention Plaza  
SL-MO-C2-GL

St. Louis, Missouri 63101  
(314) 425-1819

28. Respondent shall pay a civil penalty of **EIGHTEEN THOUSAND, NINE HUNDRED FIFTY-SEVEN DOLLARS (\$18,957)** for the EPCRA violations in Section III, which shall be paid within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this CAFO.

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

BY MAIL

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
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  
(314) 425-1819

BY ELECTRONIC TRANSFER\*

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

\*Note: Foreign banks **must** use a United States Bank to send a wire transfer to the U. S. EPA.

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

30. 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

Rodolfo Juan  
U.S. EPA Region 4  
Air Enforcement Branch  
61 Forsyth Street, S.W.  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

31. 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**

32. 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.

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

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

35. 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.

**The Remainder of this Page is Intentionally Blank**

**VII. Effective Date**

36. 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:

Traditions Meal Solutions

By: B. Campbell (Signed) Date: 7/3/19

Name: Brian Campbell (Typed or Printed)

Title: Director of Manufacturing (Typed or Printed)

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

By: [Signature] Date: 9/12/19

Suzanne G. Rubini  
Acting Director  
Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division

APPROVED AND SO ORDERED this 26<sup>th</sup> day of September 2019

[Signature]  
Tanya Floyd  
Regional Judicial Officer



THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN LIBRARY

1951  
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

1951

1951

1951

1951

1951

**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 Traditions Meal Solutions, Docket  
Number: EPCRA-04-2019-2013(b), on the parties listed below in the manner indicated:

Todd A. Russo (Via EPA's internal mail)  
Chief  
U.S. EPA, Region 4  
Air Enforcement Section 2  
61 Forsyth Street, S.W.  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Lynda Crum (Via EPA's internal mail)  
Associate Regional Counsel  
U.S. EPA Region 4  
Office of Regional Counsel  
61 Forsyth Street, S.W.  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Allison Purmort (Via Certified Mail - Return Receipt Requested)  
Assistant General Counsel  
Elior North America  
300 Tryon Street, Suite# 400  
Charlotte, North Carolina 28202

Date: 9-27-19



Patricia A. 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