



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 2
2890 WOODBRIDGE AVENUE
EDISON, NEW JERSEY 08837-3679

20 Km
2013 MAY 19 A 10:05
REGIONAL HEARING
CLERK

MAY 15 2013

CERTIFIED MAIL

RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Article Number 7011 2970 0003 2008 8404

Mr. Kevin Aiello
Administrator, Environmental Quality
Middlesex County Utilities Authority
2571 Main Street Extension
Sayreville, New Jersey 08872

Re: In the Matter of Middlesex County Utilities Authority
Docket No. TSCA-02-2013-9103

Dear Mr. Aiello:

Enclosed is a fully executed copy of the Administrative Consent Agreement and Final Order in the above-referenced proceeding, signed by the Regional Judicial Officer of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2.

Please note that the forty-five (45) day period for payment of the civil penalty commenced as of the date this Consent Agreement was signed by the Regional Judicial Officer. Please arrange for payment of this penalty according to the instructions given within the enclosed document under "Terms of Consent Agreement". Further, please ensure that a copy of your payment check or documentation of electronic payment is provided to the EPA staff member listed in that section of the Agreement.

Please contact Vivian Chin of my staff at (732) 906-6179 or by electronic mail at chin.vivian@epa.gov, should you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

John Gorman, Chief
Pesticides and Toxic Substances Branch

Enclosure

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 2

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION AGENCY-REG. II
20 Km
2013 MAY 19 A 10:05
REGIONAL HEARING
CLERK

-----X
:
In the Matter of :
:
:
Middlesex County Utilities Authority :
:
:
Respondent. :
:
:
Proceeding under Section 16(a) of :
the Toxic Substances Control Act. :
-----X

CONSENT AGREEMENT
AND
FINAL ORDER

Docket No.
TSCA-02-2013-9103

PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

This administrative proceeding for the assessment of a civil penalty was instituted pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Toxic Substances Control Act ("TSCA"), 15 U.S.C. § 2615(a). The "Consolidated Rules of Practice Governing the Administrative Assessment of Civil Penalties and the Revocation, Termination or Suspension of Permits," 40 C.F.R. Part 22 (July 1, 2000) (hereinafter "Consolidated Rules"), provide in 40 C.F.R. § 22.13(b) that when the parties agree to settle one or more causes of action before the filing of an Administrative Complaint, a proceeding may be simultaneously commenced and concluded by the issuance of a Consent Agreement and Final Order ("CAFO") pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 22.18(b)(2) and (3). The Director of the Division of Enforcement and Compliance Assistance, United States Environmental

Protection Agency, Region 2 (hereinafter "EPA" or "Complainant"), alleges that Middlesex County Utilities Authority (hereinafter "Respondent") violated Section 6(e) of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2605(e), and the regulations promulgated pursuant to that Section, set forth at 40 C.F.R. Part 761, relating to polychlorinated biphenyls ("PCBs") and Section 15(1) of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2614(1).

EPA and Respondent agree that settling this matter by entering into this CAFO pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 22.13(b) and 40 C.F.R. § 22.18(b)(2) and (3), is an appropriate means of resolving this case without further litigation. This CAFO is being issued pursuant to said provisions of 40 C.F.R. Part 22. No formal or adjudicated findings of fact or conclusions of law have been made. The following constitute Complainant's findings of fact and conclusions of law.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent is Middlesex County Utilities Authority.
2. Respondent owns, operates, and/or controls the facility in and around 2571 Main Street Extension in Sayreville, New Jersey (hereinafter "Respondent's facility").
3. On or about May 10, 2012, duly designated representatives of the EPA conducted an inspection of and at Respondent's facility.
4. As a result of the inspection, EPA determined that Respondent had failed to maintain PCB Annual Document Logs in accordance with the specifications and requirements of 40 C.F.R. § 761.180(a).

5. As a result of the inspection, EPA determined that Respondent had failed to mark the access to a PCB Transformer with the PCB mark M_L, in accordance with the specifications and requirements of 40 C.F.R. §§ 761.40(j)(1).

6. As a result of the inspection, EPA determined that Respondent had stored combustible materials within a PCB Transformer enclosure, which is a failure to comply with the specifications of 40 C.F.R. § 761.30(a).

7. On or about February 21, 2013, Complainant sent to Respondent a "Notice of Opportunity Related to Enforcement Action Under The Toxic Substances Control Act ", which alleged that Respondent had violated the PCB regulations at 40 C.F.R. Part 761.

8. On March 21, 2013 the parties met for an informal settlement conference.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Respondent, as the owner and/or operator of the facility which is the subject of this CAFO, is subject to the regulations and requirements pertaining to PCBs and PCB Items promulgated pursuant to Section 6(e) of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2605(e), and set forth at 40 C.F.R. Part 761.

2. Respondent is a "person" within the meaning of 40 C.F.R. § 761.3.

3. Failure to maintain PCB Annual Document Logs is a violation of 40 C.F.R. § 761.180(a), which is a violation of Section 6(e) and Section 15(1)(C) of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. §§ 2605(e), 2614(1)(C).

4. Failure to mark the access to a PCB Transformer with the PCB mark M_L is a violation of 40 C.F.R. § 761.40(j)(1), which is a violation of Section 6(e) and Section 15(1)(C) of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. §§ 2605(e), 2614(1)(C).

5. Storage of combustible materials within a PCB Transformer enclosure is a violation of 40 C.F.R. § 761.30(a), which is a violation of Section 6(e) and Section 15(1)(C) of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. §§ 2605(e), 2614(1)(C).

TERMS OF CONSENT AGREEMENT

Based on the foregoing, and pursuant to Section 16(a) of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2615(a) and in accordance with the Consolidated Rules of Practice at 40 C.F.R. Part 22, it is hereby agreed by and between the parties hereto, and accepted by Respondent, that Respondent voluntarily and knowingly agrees to, and shall comply with, the following terms:

1. Respondent shall hereinafter comply with all applicable provisions of TSCA and the regulations promulgated pursuant to it.
2. For the purposes of this Consent Agreement, Respondent (a) admits that EPA has jurisdiction pursuant to Section 16(a) of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2615(a), to commence a civil administrative proceeding for the violations alleged in the "Conclusions of Law" section, above; (b) neither admits nor denies the specific factual allegations contained in the "Findings of Fact" section, above; and (c) neither admits nor denies the assertions set forth in the "Conclusions of Law" section, above.
3. Respondent shall pay, by cashier's or certified check, a civil penalty in the amount of **EIGHTEEN THOUSAND AND EIGHTY DOLLARS (\$18,080)** to the "Treasurer of the United States of America". The check shall be identified with a notation of the name and docket number of this case, set forth in the caption on the first page of this document. Such check shall be mailed to:

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

Alternatively, payment may be made by Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT) directed to the Federal Reserve Bank of New York. Respondent shall provide the following information to its remitter bank:

- 1) Amount of Payment
- 2) SWIFT address: FRNYUS33, 33 Liberty Street, New York, NY 10045
- 3) Account: 68010727
- 4) ABA number: 021030004
- 5) Field Tag 4200 of the Fedwire message should read "D 68010727
 Environmental Protection Agency"
- 6) Name of Respondent
- 7) Docket Number

Payment must be received at the above address (or account of EPA) on or before **45 calendar days** after the date of the signature of the Final Order at the end of this document (the date by which payment must be received shall hereinafter be referred to as the "due date"). Promptly after payment has been made, Respondent shall send copies of this payment or furnish reasonable proof that such payment has been made to both:

Regional Hearing Clerk
 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2
 290 Broadway, 16th Floor
 New York, NY 10007

and

Vivian Chin, Environmental Engineer
 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2
 Pesticides and Toxic Substances Branch
 2890 Woodbridge Avenue, MS-105
 Edison, NJ 08837

a. Failure to pay the penalty in full according to the above provisions will result in the referral of this matter to the U.S. Department of Justice or the U.S. Department of the Treasury for collection.

b. Further, if payment is not received on or before the due date, interest will be assessed, at the annual rate established by the Secretary of the Treasury pursuant to the Debt Collection Act, 31 U.S.C. § 3717, on the overdue amount from the due date through the date of payment. In addition, a late payment handling charge of \$15 will be assessed for each 30-day period (or any portion thereof) following the due date in which the balance remains unpaid. A 6% per annum penalty also will be applied on any principal amount not paid within 90 days of the due date.

4. This Consent Agreement is being voluntarily and knowingly entered into by the parties in full and final settlement of the civil liabilities under the Toxic Substances Control Act, 15 U.S.C. § 2601 *et seq.*, and the regulations promulgated thereunder in 40 C.F.R. Part 761, that attach or might have attached as a result of the “Findings of Fact” section, above, and the allegations contained in the “Conclusions of Law” section, above. Respondent has read the Consent Agreement, understands its terms, finds it to be reasonable, and consents to its issuance and its terms. Respondent consents to the issuance of the accompanying Final Order. Respondent agrees that all terms of settlement are set forth herein.

5. Respondent explicitly and knowingly consents to the assessment of the civil penalty as set forth in this Consent Agreement, and agrees to pay the penalty in accordance with the terms of this Consent Agreement.

6. Respondent hereby waives its right to seek or to obtain any hearing (pursuant to Subpart D of 40 C.F.R. Part 22) or other judicial proceeding on the assertions contained in the

“Findings of Fact” section, above, and the allegations contained in the “Conclusions of Law” section, above, or on any allegations arising thereunder. Respondent further waives its right otherwise to contest all such assertions and/or allegations.

7. Respondent waives any right it may have pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 22.8 to be present during discussions with or to be served with and to reply to any memorandum or communication addressed to the Regional Administrator, the Deputy Regional Administrator, or the Regional Judicial Officer where the purpose of such discussion, memorandum, or communication is to discuss a proposed settlement of this matter or to recommend that such official accept this Consent Agreement and issue the attached Final Order.

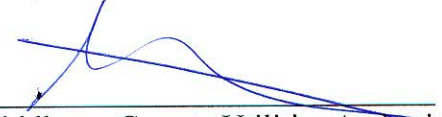
8. This Consent Agreement does not waive, extinguish, or otherwise affect Respondent's obligation to comply with all applicable federal, state, or local laws, rules, or regulations.

9. Each undersigned signatory to this Consent Agreement certifies that he or she is duly and fully authorized to enter into and ratify this Consent Agreement and all terms and conditions set forth in this Consent Agreement.

10. Each party shall bear its own costs and fees in this matter.

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

RESPONDENT:


BY: 
Middlesex County Utilities Authority

NAME: RICHARD L. FITZMAN
(PLEASE PRINT)

TITLE: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DATE: APRIL 25, 2013

COMPLAINANT:


Dore LaPosta, Director
Division of Enforcement and
Compliance Assistance
U.S. Environmental Protection
Agency, Region 2
290 Broadway
New York, New York 10007

DATE: MAY 8, 2013

In the Matter of Middlesex County Utilities Authority
Docket Number TSCA-02-2013-9103

FINAL ORDER

The Regional Judicial Officer of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2, concurs in the foregoing Consent Agreement in the case of In the Matter of Middlesex County Utilities Authority bearing Docket Number TSCA-02-2013-9103. Said Consent Agreement, having been duly accepted and entered into by the parties, shall be, and hereby is, ratified, incorporated into and issued, as this Final Order, which shall become effective when filed with the Regional Hearing Clerk of EPA, Region 2 (40 C.F.R. § 22.31(b)). This Final Order is being entered pursuant to the authority of 40 C.F.R. § 22.18(b)(3) and shall constitute an order issued under Section 6 of the Toxic Substances Control Act, 15 U.S.C. § 2605 for purposes of Section 15(1)(C) of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2614(1)(C).

DATE: May 9, 2013

Helen Ferrara

Helen Ferrara
Regional Judicial Officer
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2
290 Broadway
New York, New York 10007

In the Matter of Middlesex County Utilities Authority
Docket Number TSCA-02-2013-9103

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

This is to certify that on the 15th day of May 2013, I served a true and correct copy of the foregoing fully executed Consent Agreement and Final Order bearing Docket Number TSCA-02-2013-9103, by certified mail, return receipt requested, to:

Mr. Kevin Aiello
Administrator, Environmental Quality
Middlesex County Utilities Authority
2571 Main Street Extension
Sayreville, New Jersey 08872

On the same date, I mailed via EPA internal mail to the Region 2 Regional Hearing Clerk at 290 Broadway, New York, New York 10007 the original and one copy of the foregoing Consent Agreement and Final Order.

