In the Matter of:

Aylin, Inc., Rt. 58 Food Mart, Inc., Franklin Eagle Mart Corp., Adnan Kiriscioglu d/b/a New Jersey Petroleum Organization a/k/a NJPO

Joint Status Report and Motion to Stay Proceedings



RESPONDENTS

Pure Gas Station 5703 Holland Road Suffolk, VA 23437

Rt. 58 Food Mart 8917 S. Quay Road Suffolk, VA 23437

Franklin Eagle Mart 1397 Carrsville Highway Franklin, VA 23851

FACILITIES

U.S. EPA Docket No. RCRA-03-2013-0039

Proceeding under Section 9006 of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, as amended, 42 U.S.C. Section 6991e

Joint Status Report and Motion to Stay Proceedings

In accordance with Section 22.16 of the Consolidated Rules of Practice Governing the Administrative Assessment of Civil Penalties and the Revocation/Termination or Suspension of Permits, 40 C.F.R. § 22.16, Complainant and Respondents, the parties to the above-captioned matter, jointly file this status report and motion to stay proceedings for the reasons set forth below.

The Administrative Complaint, Compliance Order and Notice of Opportunity for Hearing which initiated this matter was filed on March 27, 2013. The Answer was filed by Counsel for Respondents on April 30, 2013. Since April 15, 2015, the parties have been engaged in settlement negotiations, including the alternative dispute resolution (ADR) procedures under the auspices of the Office of Administrative Law Judges. Although the parties made progress, no agreement in principle was reached within the time period allowed under ADR, hence ADR was terminated on September 23, 2013. The Honorable Christine Coughlin was assigned to this matter on September 30, 2013. To date, no order establishing prehearing procedures has been received by either party.

From October 1, 2013, to October 17, 2013, most of EPA, including counsel for Complainant, was furloughed due to a lapse in appropriations. Currently, an outside contractor

is analyzing the financial information provided by Respondents in order to determine their ability to pay. (The contractor was issued a stop work order during the furlough period.) The parties are hopeful that the results of this analysis will enable the parties to reach a mutually agreeable penalty amount enabling them to settle this matter. The parties may also engage in mediation as facilitated by EPA's Conflict Prevention and Resolution Center.

On or about October 23, 2013, the key witness for Complainant, an EPA employee, suffered the devastating personal loss of a stillborn child. This witness is expected to testify as to the inspections of the facilities at which the underground storage tanks were located, the violations at issue in this matter as well as the amount of the penalty to be proposed for such violations. Given this witness' integral role in this matter and this witness' current state of mind, Complainant is seeking a stay of the proceedings for 180 days in order to allow sufficient time for this witness' recovery. Counsel for Respondents joins in this Motion. The parties will continue to work to resolve this matter in order to obviate the need for a hearing.

For the foregoing reasons, the parties respectfully request that this Court grant this Joint Motion to Stay Proceedings.

Respectfully submitted,

10 May Clas

Jeffrey L. Leiter Attorney for Respondents

October 29, 2013
Date

Janet E. Sharke

Attorney for Complainant

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10/30/2013 Date