



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 7
11201 RENNER BOULEVARD
LENEXA, KANSAS 66219

UNITED STATES
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
AGENCY REGION 7
2015 MAY 18 AM 8:34

EXPEDITED SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT (ESA)

DOCKET NO.: CAA-07-2015-0023

This ESA is issued to: Farmers Ranchers Cooperative
At: West U.S. Highway 20, Ainsworth, Nebraska 69210
for violating Section 112(r)(7) of the Clean Air Act.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 7 (EPA) and Farmers Ranchers Cooperative (Respondent), have agreed to a settlement of this action before filing of a complaint, and thus this action is simultaneously commenced and concluded pursuant to Rules 22.13(b) and 22.18(B)(2) of the Consolidated Rules of Practice Governing the Administrative Assessment of Civil Penalties, Issuance of Compliance or Corrective Action Orders, and the Revocation, Termination or Suspension of Permits (Consolidated Rules), 40 C.F.R. §§ 22.13(b), 22.18(b)(2).

The Complainant, by delegation of the Administrator of the EPA, is the Director of the Air and Waste Management Division. The Respondent is Farmers Ranchers Cooperative, West U.S. Highway 20, Ainsworth, Nebraska 69210.

This is an administrative action for the assessment of civil penalties instituted pursuant to Section 113(d) of the Clean Air Act (CAA). Pursuant to Section 113(d) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7413(d), the Administrator and the Attorney General jointly determined that cases which meet the criteria set forth in EPA's policy entitled "Use of Expedited Settlements in Addressing Violations of the Clean Air Act Chemical Accident Prevention Provision, 40 C.F.R. Part 68," dated January 5, 2004, are appropriate for administrative penalty action.

ALLEGED VIOLATIONS

On November 4, 2014, an authorized representative of the EPA conducted a compliance inspection of the Respondent's facility located at West U.S. Highway 20, Ainsworth, Nebraska, to determine compliance with the Risk Management Plan (RMP) regulations promulgated at 40 C.F.R. Part 68 under Section 112(r) of the CAA. The EPA found that the Respondent had violated regulations implementing Section 112(r) of the CAA by failing to comply with the regulations as noted on the enclosed Risk Management Program Inspection Findings (RMP Findings), which is hereby incorporated by reference.

SETTLEMENT

In consideration of Respondent's size of business, its full compliance history, its good faith effort 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 violations, described in the enclosed RMP Findings, for the total penalty amount of **\$3,120**.

This settlement is subject to the following terms and conditions:

The Respondent by signing below waives any objections that it may have regarding jurisdiction, neither admits nor denies the specific factual allegations contained herein and in the RMP Findings, 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 CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7413(d)(2)(A), and to appeal this ESA. Each party to this action shall bear its own costs and fees, if any. Respondent also certifies, subject to civil and criminal penalties for making a false submission to the United States Government, that the Respondent has corrected the violations listed in the enclosed RMP Findings, with the exception of the data plate on the storage tank and the rebuilding of the pipes, which will be completed no later than September 30, 2015, and has sent a cashier's check or certified check (payable to the "United States Treasury") in the amount of **\$3,120** in payment of the full penalty amount to the following address:

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

The Docket Number of this ESA is CAA-07-2015-0023, and must be included on the check.

This original ESA, a copy of the completed RMP Findings, and a copy of the check must be sent by certified mail to:

Christine Hoard
Chemical Risk Information Branch
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 7
11201 Renner Boulevard
Lenexa, Kansas 66219.

A copy of the check must also be sent to:

Kathy M. Robinson
Regional Hearing Clerk
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 7
11201 Renner Boulevard
Lenexa, Kansas 66219.

Upon Respondent's submission of the signed original ESA, the EPA will take no further civil action against Respondent for the alleged violations of the CAA referenced in the RMP Findings. The EPA does not waive any other enforcement action for any other violations of the CAA or any other statute.

If the signed original ESA with an attached copy of the check is not returned to the EPA Region 7 office at the above address in correct form by the Respondent within 45 days of the date of Respondent's receipt of it (90 days if an extension is granted), the proposed ESA is withdrawn, without prejudice to EPA's ability to file an enforcement action for the violations identified herein and in the RMP Findings.

This ESA is binding on the parties signing below.

This ESA is effective upon filing with the Regional Hearing Clerk.

FOR RESPONDENT:

Matt Sheehan

Date: 4-30-2015

Name (print): Matthew Sheehan


Title (print): Safety Director
Farmers Ranchers Cooperative

FOR COMPLAINANT:



for Becky Weber
Director
Air and Waste Management Division
EPA Region 7

Date: 5/15/15



Kent Johnson
Assistant Regional Counsel
Office of Regional Counsel
EPA Region 7

Date: 5/15/15

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



Mark Hague
Acting Regional Administrator

Date: 5-15-15

2/12/12



Risk Management Program Inspection Findings
CAA § 112(r) Violations

Farmers Ranchers Cooperative
Ainsworth-Anhydrous
West U.S. Highway 20
Ainsworth, Nebraska 69210
Docket No. CAA-07-2015-0023

COMPLETE THIS FORM AND RETURN IT WITH THE ESA.

VIOLATIONS

PENALTY AMOUNT

Emergency Response Program [68.180]

No penalty assessed

The owner or operator failed to submit an RMP that correctly included the information required regarding the emergency response program. (Section 9)

Facility addressed this post inspection.

Safety Information [68.48(b)]

\$1,500

The owner or operator failed to ensure the process is designed in compliance with recognized and generally accepted and good engineering practices. (Vessel lacked legible data plates)

To be completed by: September 30, 2015

Prevention Program

Hazard Review [68.50(b)]

\$600

The owner or operator shall determine by inspecting all equipment that the process is designed, fabricated, and operated in accordance with applicable standards or rules, if designed to meet industry standards or Federal or state design rules, and document the results of the review.

Facility addressed this post inspection.

Prevention Program

Maintenance [68.56(d)]

\$600

The owner or operator failed to perform or cause to be performed inspections and tests on process equipment that follow recognized and generally accepted engineering practices. (Rebuilding the pipes)

To be completed by: September 30, 2015

Prevention Program

Compliance Audits [68.58 (a)]

\$1,200

The owner or operator failed to certify it has evaluated compliance with the provisions of this subpart at least every three years to verify that the procedures and practices developed under the rule are adequate and are being followed.

Facility addressed this post inspection.

Total Unadjusted Penalty

\$3,900

Calculation of Adjusted Penalty

1st Reference the Multipliers for calculating proposed penalties for violations found during RMP inspection matrix. Finding the column for 0-9 employees and the row for >10 times the threshold quantity of 10,000 pounds of anhydrous ammonia as listed in 40 C.F.R. Part 68.130 for the amount in a process gives a multiplier factor of 0.8. Therefore, the multiplier for Farmers Ranchers Cooperative Ainsworth-Anhydrous = 0.8.

2nd Adjusted Penalty = \$3,900 (Unadjusted Penalty) X 0.8 (Size-Threshold Multiplier)
Adjusted Penalty = \$3120

3rd An Adjusted Penalty of \$3,120 would be assessed to Farmers Ranchers Cooperative Violations found during the RMP Compliance Inspection. This amount will be found in the Expedited Settlement Agreement (ESA)

Total Adjusted Penalty

\$3,120

This section must be also be completed and signed by Farmers Ranchers Cooperative Ainsworth-Anhydrous:

The approximate cost to correct the above items: \$ 14,000.00

Compliance staff name: Matthew Sheehan

Signed: Matt Sheh Date: 4-30-2015

IN THE MATTER OF Farmers Ranchers Cooperative, Respondent
Docket No. CAA-07-2015-0023

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Order was sent this day in the following manner to the addressees:

Copy by email to Attorney for Complainant:

hoard.christine@epa.gov

Copy by First Class Mail to:

Matthew Sheehan, Safety Director
Farmers Ranchers Cooperative
West U.S. Highway 20
Ainsworth, Nebraska 69210

Dated: 5/18/15



Kathy Robinson
Hearing Clerk, Region 7

