

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 2

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: In the Matter of :
: :
: CONSENT AGREEMENT :
: AND :
: FINAL ORDER :
: Respondent, :
: :
: Proceeding under the Toxic Substances : Docket No.
: Control Act, 15 USC §§ 2601-2697 et seq. : TSCA-02-2020-9145
: as amended ("TSCA") :
: :
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PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

This administrative proceeding for the assessment of a civil penalty was instituted pursuant to Section 16(a) of 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 (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 pursuant to 40 C.F.R. §§ 22.18(b)(2) and (3).

The Director of the Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division, United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2 (hereinafter "EPA" or "Complainant"), alleges that Reagent Chemical & Research, Inc. (hereinafter "Respondent"), violated Section 8(a) of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2607(a), and the regulations promulgated pursuant to that Section, set forth at 40 C.F.R. Part 711, relating to requirements for Chemical Data Reporting ("CDR") and Section 15(1) of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2614(1).

EPA and Respondent agree that settling this matter by entering into this Consent Agreement and Final Order 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 Consent Agreement and Final Order 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 Reagent Chemical & Research, Inc.
2. Respondent owns, operates, and/or controls a facility located at 115 U.S. Highway 202, Ringoes, NJ 08551 ("Respondents facility").
3. On September 30, 2016, Respondent filed a timely CDR report through EPA's Central Data Exchange.
4. On September 20, 2018, EPA conducted an inspection of and at Respondent's facility ("the inspection").
5. As a result of the inspection, EPA determined that Respondent inaccurately reported production volume information for the three chemical substances reported on their 2016 CDR.
6. On March 26, 2019, Respondent amended their 2016 CDR with the accurate production volumes for the chemicals described in paragraph 6, above.
7. On May 8, 2019, Complainant and Respondent 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 Consent Agreement and Final Order, is subject to the regulations and requirements pertaining to the reporting requirements promulgated pursuant to Section 8(a) of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2607(a), and set forth at 40 C.F.R. Part 711.
2. Respondent is a "person" as that term is defined in 40 C.F.R. § 710.3.
3. Respondent is a "manufacturer" as that term is defined at 40 C.F.R. § 711.3.
4. Respondent's facility is a "site" as that term is defined at 40 C.F.R. § 711.3.
5. The submission period for the 2016 CDR was June 1 through October 31, 2016.
6. The three chemical substances reported by the Respondent on their 2016 CDR are each a "reportable chemical substance" as that term is defined at 40 C.F.R. § 711.3.

7. Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 711.5, the three chemical substances reported by the Respondent on their 2016 CDR were chemical substances for which information must be reported.
8. Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 711.15(b)(3)(iii), for each reportable chemical substance reported for the principle reporting year, the total annual volume in pounds must be reported to two significant figures of accuracy.
9. Failure to meet the reporting requirements of 40 C.F.R. § 711.15 is a violation of Sections 8(a) and 15(3) of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. §§ 2607(a) and 2614(3), respectively.

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 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 **FORTY NINE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED FORTY NINE (\$49,549)** 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 Funds 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; and
- 7) Docket Number.

Payment must be received at the above address (or account of EPA) on or before **30 calendar days** from 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").

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.

3. Full payment of the penalty described in paragraph 2, above, shall fully and finally resolve Respondent's liability for federal civil penalties for only the violation(s) and fact(s) described in the "Findings of Fact" and "Conclusions of Law" sections, above. Full payment of this penalty shall not in any case affect the right of EPA or the United States to pursue appropriate injunctive or other equitable relief or criminal sanctions for any violations of law. 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.

4. 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.

5. 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.

6. Respondent agrees not to contest the validity or any term of this Consent Agreement and Final Order in any action brought: a) by the United States, including EPA, to enforce this Consent Agreement or Final Order; or b) to enforce a judgment relating to this Consent Agreement and Final Order. Any failure by Respondent to perform fully any requirement herein will be considered a violation of this Consent Agreement and Final Order, and may subject Respondent to a civil judicial action by the United States to enforce the provisions of this Consent Agreement and Final Order. Respondent further waives any right it may have to appeal this Consent Agreement and the accompanying Final Order.

7. 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, nor shall it be construed to be a ruling on, or a determination of, any issue related to any federal, state, or local permit. This Consent Agreement and Final Order does not waive, extinguish, or otherwise affect Respondent’s obligation to comply with all applicable provisions of TSCA and the regulations promulgated thereunder.

8. 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.

9. Respondent certifies that as of the date of its execution of this CAFO, it is in compliance with all relevant requirements of TSCA at Respondent’s facility.

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

11. Any responses, documentation, and other communications submitted to EPA in connection with this Consent Agreement shall be sent to:

Jesse A. Miller, Physical Scientist
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2
Pesticides and Toxic Substances Compliance Branch
2890 Woodbridge Avenue, MS-105
Edison, NJ 08837

Unless the above-named EPA contact is later advised otherwise in writing, EPA shall address any future written communications related to this matter (including any correspondence related to payment of the penalty) to Respondent at the following address:

Mr. Brian Skeuse, Senior Vice President
Reagent Chemical & Research, Inc.

115 U.S. Highway 202
Ringoos, NJ 08551

12. 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:

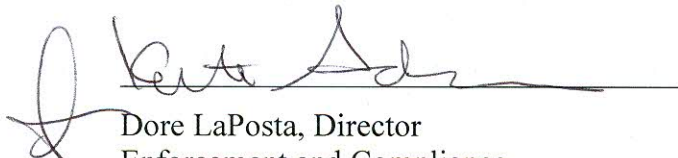
BY: 
Reagent Chemical & Research, Inc.

NAME: Brian Skeuse
(PLEASE PRINT)

TITLE: Sr. Vice-President

DATE: 10/15/2019

COMPLAINANT:


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

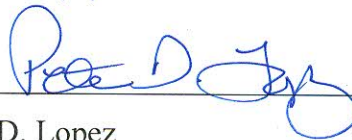
OCT 21 2019

DATE: _____

FINAL ORDER

The Regional Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2, concurs in the foregoing Consent Agreement in the case of In the Matter of Reagent Chemical & Research, Inc., bearing Docket Number TSCA-02-2020-9145. 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)).

DATE: 11/1/19



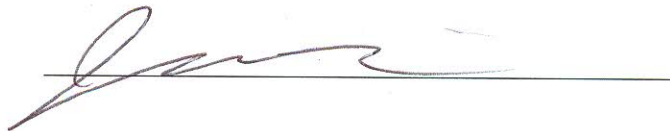
Peter D. Lopez
Regional Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2
290 Broadway
New York, New York 1000

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

This is to certify that on the *5th* day of *November*, 2019, I served a true and correct copy of the foregoing fully executed Consent Agreement and Final Order bearing Docket Number TSCA-02-2020-9145, by certified mail, return receipt requested, to:

Mr. Brian Skeuse
Reagent Chemical & Research, Inc.
115 U.S. Highway 202
Ringoes, NJ 08551

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.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "Brian Skeuse", is written over a horizontal line.

