

UNITED STATES
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 8

2013 MAY 30 PM 2: 05

FILED
EPA REGION VIII
HEARING CLERK

IN THE MATTER OF:)	COMBINED COMPLAINT AND
)	CONSENT AGREEMENT
Basin Western, Inc.)	
3639 E. Highway 40)	Docket No. CWA-08-2013-0016
P.O. Box 877)	
Ballard, UT 84066)	Simultaneous Commencement and
)	Conclusion of a Proceeding Pursuant to
Respondent)	Section 311(b)(6) of the Clean Water Act
<hr/>)	and 40 C.F.R. § 22.13(b)

Complainant, United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 8 (EPA), and Respondent, Basin Western, Inc., by their undersigned representatives, hereby consent and agree as follows:

I. STATUTORY AUTHORITY

1. This Combined Complaint and Consent Agreement (Agreement) is issued pursuant to section 311(b)(6) of the Clean Water Act (Act), 33 U.S.C. § 1321(b)(6), and 40 C.F.R. § 22.13(b). Section 311(b)(6) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1321(b)(6), authorizes the Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to assess civil penalties for violations of section 311(b)(3) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1321(b)(3), which authority has been properly delegated to the Assistant Regional Administrator, Office of Enforcement, Compliance and Environmental Justice, Region 8. 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. Part 22, governs such proceedings. 40 C.F.R. § 22.13(b) provides that a proceeding subject to the Consolidated Rules 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).

II. PARTIES BOUND

2. This Agreement shall apply to and be binding upon Complainant and shall be binding upon the Respondent, its members, managers, officers, directors, agents, successors, and assigns. Any change in the ownership or legal status of Basin Western, Inc., or the business organization, structure or status of Basin Western, Inc., including, but not limited to, any transfer of assets or real or personal property, shall not alter its responsibilities under this Agreement.

III. STATEMENT OF PARTIES

3. Respondent stipulates to EPA's jurisdiction and venue over the matters contained in this Agreement; however, Respondent neither admits nor denies the specific factual allegations contained herein.

4. Respondent waives any and all claims for relief, and otherwise available rights to judicial or administrative review or other remedies with Respondent may have, with respect to any issue of fact or law or any terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement or any final order, including any right of judicial review under the Administrative Procedures Act, 5 U.S.C. §§ 701-708.

5. The signatories to this Agreement certify that they are authorized to execute and legally bind the parties they represent to this Agreement.

6. This Agreement contains all terms of the settlement agreed to by the parties.

7. Complainant and Respondent agree that settlement of this matter is in the public interest, and that execution of this Agreement and issuance of a final order without further litigation and without adjudication of any issue of fact or law is the most appropriate means of resolving this matter.

IV. STATUTORY AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

8. The objective of the Act is to restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and

biological integrity of the nation's waters. 33 U.S.C. § 1251(a).

9. Section 311(b)(3) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1321(b)(3), in pertinent part, prohibits the discharge of any oil or hazardous substances into or upon the navigable waters of the United States or their adjoining shorelines in such quantities as may be harmful as determined by the President.

10. The term "discharge" is defined in section 311(a)(2) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1321(a)(2), to include, in pertinent part, "any spilling, leaking, pumping, pouring, emitting, emptying or dumping"

11. The term "oil" is defined in section 311(a)(1) of the Act, in pertinent part, as "oil of any kind or in any form, including, but not limited to, petroleum, fuel oil, sludge" 33 U.S.C. § 1321(a)(1).

12. The term "navigable waters" is defined in section 502(7) of the Act as "waters of the United States, including the territorial seas." 33 U.S.C. § 1362(7).

13. The term "navigable waters," as further defined in 40 C.F.R. § 110.1, "means the waters of the United States, including the territorial seas," and includes, *inter alia*: "(a) All waters that are currently used, were used in the past, or may be susceptible to use in interstate or foreign commerce, including all waters that are subject to the ebb and flow of the tide; (b) Interstate waters, including interstate wetlands; . . . ; (e) Tributaries of waters identified in paragraphs (a) through (d) of this section, including adjacent wetlands; and (f) Wetlands adjacent to waters identified in paragraphs (a) through (e) of this section"

14. In accordance with section 311(b)(4) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1321(b)(4), the President, through a delegation to EPA, has determined, by regulation, those quantities of oil the discharge of which may be harmful to the public health or welfare or the environment of the United States. Exec. Order No. 11735, 38 Fed. Reg. 21243 (Aug. 3, 1973), and Executive Order

12777, 56 Fed. Reg. 54757 (October 22, 1991). 40 C.F.R. § 110.3 defines discharges of oil in such quantities as may be harmful to include discharges of oil that: “(a) Violate applicable water quality standards; or (b) Cause a film or sheen upon or discoloration of the surface of the water or adjoining shorelines or cause a sludge or emulsion to be deposited beneath the surface of the water or upon adjoining shorelines.”

15. The term “sheen” is defined in 40 C.F.R. § 110.1 as an “iridescent appearance on the surface of the water.”

16. The term “sludge” is defined in 40 C.F.R. § 110.1 as “an aggregate of oil or oil and other matter of any kind in any form other than dredged spoil having a combined specific gravity equivalent to or greater than water.”

17. Pursuant to section 311(b)(6)(A) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1321(b)(6)(A), any owner, operator, or person in charge of any vessel, onshore facility or offshore facility from which oil is discharged in violation of section 311(b)(3) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1321(b)(3), may be assessed a class I or class II civil penalty.

18. The term “owner or operator” is defined in section 311(a)(6) of the Act in pertinent part as “in the case of an onshore facility, . . . any person owning or operating such onshore facility . . .” 33 U.S.C. § 1321(a)(6).

19. According to section 311(a)(7) of the Act, “person” includes an individual, firm, corporation, association, and a partnership.” 33 U.S.C. § 1321(a)(7).

20. The term “onshore facility” is defined in section 311(a)(10) of the Act as “any facility (including, but not limited to, motor vehicles and rolling stock) of any kind located in, on, or under, any land within the United States other than submerged land.” 33 U.S.C. § 1321(a)(10).

V. GENERAL ALLEGATIONS

21. Respondent is and was at all relevant times a corporation organized under the laws of Utah. Respondent's office is located at 3639 E. Highway 40, Ballard, UT 84066. Respondent's mailing address is P.O. Box 877, Ballard, UT 84066.

22. J. Lloyd Dean is the President of Respondent and Respondent's registered agent. The address of Respondent's registered agent, on file with the Utah Secretary of State, is 3639 E. Highway 40, P.O. Box 877, Ballard, UT 84066.

23. Respondent is and was at all times relevant to the Agreement a "person" within the meaning of section 311(a)(7) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1321(a)(7).

24. At all relevant times, Respondent owned and operated a 2000 Heil Semi tanker trailer and truck with vehicle identification number 19ODL4520Y3H13684.

25. The tanker trailer and truck referenced in Paragraph 24 were at all relevant times "onshore facilities" within the meaning of section 311(a)(10) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1321(a)(10).

26. West Creek is a tributary to the Dolores River which is a traditional navigable water. The Dolores River is a tributary of the Colorado River, approximately 250 mi (402 km) long, in the U.S. states of Colorado and Utah.

27. West Creek and the Dolores River are and were at all relevant times "navigable waters" within the meaning of 40 C.F.R. § 110.1, and section 502(7) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1362(7).

VI. SPECIFIC ALLEGATIONS

28. On October 24, 2011, the tanker trailer and truck referenced in Paragraph 24 rolled off Highway 141 near mile marker 128. The tanker trailer contained approximately 184 barrels of petroleum crude oil.

29. When the tanker trailer and truck referenced in Paragraph 24 rolled off the highway, it ruptured, releasing approximately 115 barrels of its contents onto the embankment of the highway. Approximately 58 barrels of its contents flowed down the embankment of the highway and into West Creek, its adjoining shorelines, and the surrounding wetlands, impacting both West Creek, its adjoining shorelines and the surrounding wetlands, causing a film or sheen upon or discoloration of the surface of West Creek, its adjoining shorelines and the surrounding wetlands.

30. The film or sheen upon or discoloration of the surface of West Creek, its adjoining shorelines, and the surrounding wetlands continued until at least October 28, 2011.

VII. VIOLATION

Violation of Section 311(b)(3)

31. Paragraphs 1 through 30 of this Agreement are re-alleged and incorporated herein by reference.

32. The release of petroleum crude oil referenced above were at all relevant times “discharges” within the meaning of section 311(a)(2) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1321(a)(2).

33. The petroleum crude oil referenced above was at all relevant times “oil” within the meaning of section 311(a)(1) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1321(a)(1).

34. The oil that was discharged into West Creek and upon its adjoining shorelines and surrounding wetlands in the form of petroleum crude oil referenced above was discharged in “quantities as may be harmful” within the meaning of section 311(b)(3) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1321(b)(3), and 40 C.F.R. § 110.3.

35. Section 311(b)(6)(B)(ii) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1321(b)(6)(B)(ii), and 40 C.F.R. Part 19 authorize the assessment of a Class II civil penalty of up to \$16,000 per day for each day during which the violation continues, up to a maximum of \$177,500, for violations of

section 311(b)(3) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1321(b)(3), occurring after January 12, 2009.

VIII. PAYMENT OF CIVIL PENALTY

36. Respondent consents and agrees to pay a civil penalty in the amount of FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$50,000) in the manner described below in this paragraph.

a. Payment of EIGHT THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED THIRTY THREE DOLLARS and THIRTY FIVE CENTS (\$8,333.35) is due within thirty (30) calendar days from the date written on the Final Order issued by the Regional Judicial Officer (RJO) that incorporates this Agreement.

b. Payment of EIGHT THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED THIRTY THREE DOLLARS and THIRTY THREE CENTS (\$8,333.33) is due within sixty (60) calendar days from the date written on the Final Order issued by the RJO that incorporates this Agreement.

c. Payment of EIGHT THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED THIRTY THREE DOLLARS and THIRTY THREE CENTS (\$8,333.33) is due within ninety (90) calendar days from the date written on the Final Order issued by the RJO that incorporates this Agreement.

d. Payment of EIGHT THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED THIRTY THREE DOLLARS and THIRTY THREE CENTS (\$8,333.33) is due within one hundred twenty (120) calendar days from the date written on the Final Order issued by the RJO that incorporates this Agreement.

e. Payment of EIGHT THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED THIRTY THREE DOLLARS and THIRTY THREE CENTS (\$8,333.33) is due within one hundred fifty (150) calendar days from the date written on the Final Order issued by the RJO that incorporates this Agreement.

f. Payment of EIGHT THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED THIRTY THREE DOLLARS and THIRTY THREE CENTS (\$8,333.33) is due within one hundred eighty (180) calendar days from the date written on the Final Order issued by the RJO that incorporates this Agreement.

g. If the due date of any of the six payments falls on a weekend or legal federal holiday, the due date is the next business day. Payments must be received by 11:00 a.m. Eastern Standard Time to be considered as received that day.

h. Payments shall be made by any of the methods set forth in Appendix 1 to this Agreement.

i. At the same time that each payment is made, notice that the payment has been made shall be provided to:

Christopher Ajayi
Enforcement Specialist
Technical Enforcement Program (8ENF-UFO)
U.S. EPA Region 8
1595 Wynkoop
Denver, CO 80202-1129

Tina Artemis
Regional Hearing Clerk (8RC)
U.S. EPA Region 8
1595 Wynkoop
Denver, CO 80202-1129

If a payment is made by cashiers or certified check, the notice shall include a copy of the check. If a payment is made in any other manner, the notice shall include documentation demonstrating that the payment was made.

j. In the event a payment is not received by the specified due date, interest on the late payment shall accrue from the date of the Final Order, not the due date, at a rate established by the Secretary of the Treasury pursuant to 31 U.S.C. § 3717, and will

continue to accrue until payment in full is received (e.g., on the 1st late day for the first payment, 30 days of interest accrues).

k. In addition, a handling charge of fifteen dollars (\$15) shall be assessed on the 31st day from the date of the Final Order, and each subsequent 30-day period that the initial payment, or any portion thereof, remains unpaid, and a handling charge of fifteen dollars (\$15) shall be assessed on the 1st day after the due date of each subsequent payment, and each subsequent 30-day period that any such payment, or any portion thereof, remains unpaid. In addition, a six percent (6%) per annum penalty shall be assessed on any unpaid principal amount if payment is not received within 90 days of the due date (e.g., the 121st day from the date the Final Order is signed). Payments are first applied to handling charges, 6% penalty interest, late interest, and any balance is then applied to the outstanding principal amount. Further, Respondent shall be subject to the fees, costs, and nonpayment penalty set forth in section 311(b)(6)(H) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1321(b)(6)(H).

l. If any of the six civil penalty payments required by Subparagraphs a, b, c, d, e, and f of this Paragraph 36 are not paid within the time specified, EPA, in its sole, unreviewable discretion, may elect to accelerate any remaining payments, such that the remaining payment(s) will be due within thirty (30) days of Respondent's receipt of notice of such acceleration from EPA. The provisions of Subparagraphs h, i, j, k, and l of this Paragraph 36 shall apply to such accelerated payment.

m. Respondent agrees that the penalty shall never be claimed as a federal or other tax deduction or credit.

37. The civil penalty set forth in paragraph 36 of this Agreement was determined by Complainant after taking into account all factors identified in section 311(b)(8) of the Act,

42. This Agreement, upon incorporation into a final order by the RJO and full satisfaction by the parties, shall be a complete, full and final settlement of the civil penalty owed for violations alleged in this Agreement.

43. This Agreement resolves Respondent's liability for Federal civil penalties under section 311(b)(6) of the Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1321(b)(6) for the alleged violations contained in this Agreement. This Agreement shall not in any case affect Complainant's right to pursue appropriate injunctive or other equitable relief or criminal sanctions for any violations of law whether or not alleged in this Agreement.

44. Each party shall bear its own costs and attorneys fees in connection with all issues associated with this Agreement.

**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION AGENCY, REGION 8**
Complainant

5/30/2013
Date

Eddie A. Sierra
for Andrew M. Gaydosh
Assistant Regional Administrator
Office of Enforcement, Compliance, and
Environmental Justice

BASIN WESTERN, INC.
Respondent

5-7-2013
Date

J. Lloyd Dean
J. Lloyd Dean
President

Combined Complaint and Consent Agreement - Appendix 1

The following are acceptable payment methods for the civil penalty required to be paid pursuant to the Agreement.

1. If payment is being made by cashier's or certified check, submit the check, bearing the notation "OSTLF-311" and the name and docket number of this case, payable to "Environmental Protection Agency," to:

Regular Mail:

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

Federal Express, Airborne, or other commercial carrier:

US Bank
1005 Convention Plaza
Mail Station SL-MO-C2GL
St. Louis, MO 63101

Contact: Natalie Pearson
314-418-4087

2. Wire Transfers:

Wire transfers must indicate the name and docket number of this case and be sent directly to the Federal Reserve Bank in New York City with the following information:

Federal Reserve Bank of New York
ABA = 021030004
Account = 68010727
SWIFT address = FRNYUS33
33 Liberty Street
New York NY 10045
Field Tag 4200 of the Fedwire message should read " D 68010727 Environmental Protection Agency "

3. ACH (also known as REX or remittance express):

ACH payments must indicate the name and docket number of this case and be paid in accordance with the following information:

Automated Clearinghouse (ACH) for receiving US currency
PNC Bank
808 17th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20074
Contact - Jesse White 301-887-6548
ABA = 051036706
Transaction Code 22 - checking
Environmental Protection Agency
Account 310006
CTX Format

4. On-line Payment:

There is now an On Line Payment Option, available through the Dept. of Treasury. This payment option can be accessed from the information below:

www.pay.gov

Enter "sfo 1.1" (without the quotation marks) in the "Search Public Forms" field.

Click on the first link to open the form, complete required fields, and then click on "Submit Data" button at bottom of form.

**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 8
1595 Wynkoop Street; Denver, CO 80202-1129**

**PUBLIC NOTICE OF PROPOSED ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTY ASSESSMENT AND
OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT ON CLEAN WATER ACT (CWA) COMPLAINT**

Action: EPA is providing notice of a Combined Complaint and Consent Agreement with penalty assessment and the opportunity for public comment on the proposed administrative penalty assessment against Basin Western, Inc. for discharges of oil into waters of the U.S on or about October 24, 2011.

Summary: EPA is authorized in Class II proceedings under Section 311(b)(6) of the Clean Water Act ("CWA"), 33 U.S.C. § 1321(b)(6), to issue orders assessing civil penalties for violations of the CWA and implementing regulations, after providing the person subject to the penalty notice and opportunity for a hearing, and after providing the public with notice of the proposed penalty, opportunity to submit written comments and to participate in a Class II penalty proceeding (hearing), if any. The deadline for submitting public comment is thirty (30) calendar days after issuance of this notice.

On May 30, 2013, EPA filed a Combined Complaint and Consent Agreement pursuant to Section 311(b)(6)(B)(ii) of the Act. Pursuant to Section 311(b)(6)(C) of the CWA, EPA hereby notifies the public of this proposed penalty assessment:

In the matter of: Basin Western, Inc.
3639 E. Highway 40
PO Box 877
Ballard, UT 84066

EPA Docket Number: CWA-08-2013-0016

Proposed penalty in the Combined Complaint and Consent Agreement: \$50,000.00

Alleged violations: Discharge of about 115 barrels of crude oil into the West Creek which flows into the Bear Creek, which flows into the Deloris River near Grand Junction, Colorado, in violation of section 311(b)(3) of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 1321(b)(3).

Discharge Location: 30 miles south of Grand Junction and 10 miles east of Gateway, at mile marker 128, on Highway 141, Mesa County, Colorado.

Written comments on the Combined Complaint and Consent Agreement are encouraged and will be accepted at the address listed below for a period of thirty (30) calendar days after the publication of this notice. Written comments submitted by the public as well as information submitted by Basin Western, Inc. be available for public review, subject to the provisions of law restricting the disclosure of confidential information. Any person submitting written comments has a right to participate in a hearing, if one is held. The Combined Complaint and Consent Agreement is available for review between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. at the address listed below and on the internet at: <http://yosemite.epa.gov/oa/rhc/epaadmin.nsf>.

Submit written comments to: Tina Artemis
Regional Hearing Clerk (8RC);
EPA Region 8
1595 Wynkoop Street
Denver, CO 80202-1129
Telephone: (303) 312-6765

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: Persons wishing to receive a copy of the Combined Complaint and Consent Agreement, or other documents in this proceeding (such as the regulations in 40

C.F.R. part 22, which establish procedures for hearings), or to comment upon the proposed penalty assessment, or any other aspect of the matter, should contact the Regional Hearing Clerk identified above. No action will be taken by EPA to finalize a settlement in this matter until thirty (30) calendar days after this public notice.