



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 5
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

FEB - 1 2016

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

SC-5J

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Patrick Calder
House of Flavors
110 North William Street
Ludington, Michigan 49431

RE: Complaint and Expedited Settlement Agreement
ESA Docket No. RMP-16-ESA-001
Docket No. **CAA-05-2016-0015**

Dear Mr. Calder;

Enclosed please find a copy of the fully executed Expedited Settlement Agreement (ESA). The ESA is binding on EPA and Respondent. EPA will take no further action against Respondent for the violations cited in the ESA. The ESA requires no further action on your part.

Please feel free to contact Monika Chrzaszcz at (312) 886-0181, or chrzaszcz.monika@epa.gov, if you have any questions regarding the enclosed document or if you have any other question about the program. Thank you for your assistance in resolving this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael E. Hans", with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Michael E. Hans, Chief
Chemical Emergency
Preparedness & Prevention Section

Enclosure



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 5

77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60604-3590



DOCKET NO: RMP-16-ESA-001

CAA-05-2016-0015

This ESA is issued to: House of Flavors
at: 110 North Williams Street, Ludington, Michigan 49431
for violations of Section 112(r)(7) of the Clean Air Act.

EXPEDITED SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

The United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5, and House of Flavors (“Respondent”), have agreed to the settlement of this action before the filing of a Complaint. EPA and Respondent (jointly “the Parties”) have agreed that settling this action without the filing of a complaint or the adjudication of any issue of fact or law is in their interest and in the public interest. This action is thus simultaneously commenced and concluded by this Expedited Settlement Agreement (“ESA”) and Final Order. See 40 C.F.R. §§ 22.13(b) and 22.18(b)(2)-(3).

This is an administrative action for the assessment of civil penalties instituted pursuant to EPA’s authority under Sections 113(a)(3) and (d) of the Clean Air Act (“Act”), 42 U.S.C. § 7413(a)(3) and (d). The Director of the Superfund Division, Region 5, EPA (“Complainant”) has been delegated the authority to issue an administrative complaint seeking the assessment of civil penalties for violations of Section 112(r) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 7412(r). The Regional Administrator for Region 5 of EPA is authorized by Sections 113(a)(3) and (d)(1) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 7413(a)(3), and (d)(1), to issue a Final Order ratifying this ESA.

ALLEGED VIOLATIONS

On July 23, 2014, an authorized EPA representative conducted a compliance inspection of House of Flavors, located at 110 North Williams Street, Ludington, Michigan 49431 (“Facility”) to determine its compliance with the Risk Management Plan (“RMP”) regulations promulgated pursuant to Section 112(r) of the Act, and set forth at 40 C.F.R. Part 68. Based on the July 23, 2014 inspection and documents submitted by Respondent, EPA has determined that Respondent violated the following regulations:

1. 40 C.F.R. § 68.67(e) Respondent failed to establish a system to promptly address the 2012 Process Hazard Analysis findings and recommendations and document resolutions, failed to complete actions as soon as possible, and failed to develop a written schedule of when these actions are to be completed.
2. 40 C.F.R. § 68.73(e) Respondent failed to correct deficiencies in equipment that is outside acceptable limits before further use or in a safe and timely manner when necessary means are taken to assure safe operations.

3. 40 C.F.R. § 68.79(d) Respondent failed to promptly determine and document an appropriate response to each of the findings of the 2013 compliance audit and document that deficiencies have been corrected.

SETTLEMENT

In consideration of Respondent's full compliance history, its good faith efforts to comply, other factors as justice may require, and upon consideration of the entire record, the parties enter into this ESA in order to resolve any civil penalties for these alleged violations for the total penalty amount of **\$2,700**.

This settlement is subject to the following terms and conditions:

By signing below, Respondent consents to, and is bound by, the terms and conditions of this ESA, including the assessment of the civil penalty set forth above. Respondent admits the jurisdictional allegations in the ESA, and waives any objections that it may have regarding jurisdiction. Respondent waives its right to contest the specific factual allegations contained herein, and neither admits nor denies these specific factual allegations. Respondent acknowledges that pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 22.15(c), and Section 113(d)(2)(A) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 7413(d)(2)(A), it has the right to request a hearing on any material fact, or on the appropriateness of the penalty, but Respondent waives its rights to such a hearing. Respondent also waives its right to appeal this ESA and the accompanying Final Order.

Respondent certifies, subject to civil and criminal penalties for making a false submission to the United States Government, that Respondent has corrected the violations set forth in this ESA, and has sent a cashier's check or certified check (payable to the "Treasurer, United States of America") in the amount of **\$2,700** in payment of the full penalty amount to the following address:

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

The **Docket Number of this ESA must be included on the check.** (The Docket Number is RMP-16-ESA-001.)

This signed original ESA and a **copy of the check must be sent by certified mail to:**

Monika Chrzaszcz
Chemical Emergency
Preparedness and Prevention Section (SC-5J)
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, Illinois 60604-3590

Upon Respondent's submission of the signed original ESA and the issuance of the Final Order, Respondent's liability is resolved only for any federal civil penalties due as a result of the facts and violations alleged in this ESA. This ESA, the Final Order, and Respondent's full payment of the civil penalty set forth herein, do not affect the right of EPA to pursue appropriate injunctive, other equitable relief, or criminal sanctions for any violations of law. EPA also does not waive any enforcement authority for any other violation of the Act or any other statute. The issuance of the Final Order does not waive, extinguish, or otherwise affect Respondent's duty to comply with the Act, the regulations promulgated there under, or any other applicable law or requirement.


If the signed original ESA **with an attached copy of the check** is not returned to the **EPA Region 5 office** at the above address in correct form by Respondent within 45 days of the date of Respondent's receipt of this ESA (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 in this ESA.

This ESA is binding on the Parties signing below.

Each Party to this action shall bear its own costs and fees, if any.


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

FOR RESPONDENT:

Signature: 
Name (print): PATRICK J. CALDER
Title (print): VP. of OPERATIONS
Respondent

Date: 11/28/15

FOR COMPLAINANT:

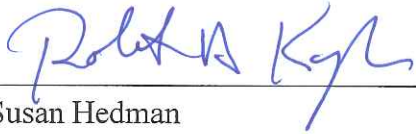

Richard C. Karl, Director
Superfund Division

Date: 1-25-16

FINAL ORDER

The foregoing Expedited Settlement Agreement is hereby ratified and incorporated by reference into this Final Order. Respondent is hereby ORDERED to comply with all of the terms of the foregoing Expedited Settlement Agreement, which upon its filing with the Regional Hearing Clerk shall become immediately effective. This Final Order concludes this proceeding pursuant to 40 C.F.R. §§ 22.18 and 22.31.

IT IS SO ORDERED.



Susan Hedman
Regional Administrator

Date: 1/28/12

In the matter of: House of Flavors
Docket Number: CAA-05-2016-0015

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that I served a true and correct copy of the foregoing **Expedited Settlement Agreement**, which was filed on February 1, 2016, this day in the following manner to the addressees:

Copy by certified mail
return-receipt requested:

Pat Calder
House of Flavors
110 North William Street
Ludington, Michigan 49431

Copy by e-mail to
Complainant:

Steven Kaiser
kaiser.steven@epa.gov

Copy by e-mail to
Regional Judicial Officer:

Ann Coyle
coyle.ann@epa.gov

Dated: February 1, 2016 L Whitehead
LaDawn Whitehead
Regional Hearing Clerk
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5

CERTIFIED MAIL RECEIPT NUMBER(S): 7011 1150 0000 2640 6530