

4. Respondent waives any right to contest the allegations and its right to appeal the proposed final order contained in this CAFO and waives all defenses which have been raised or could have been raised to the claims in the CAFO.
5. The CAFO resolves only those violations which are alleged herein.
6. Respondent consents to the issuance of this CAFO as the most appropriate means of settling EPA's allegations without any adjudication of issues of law or fact, consents to the assessment and payment of the civil penalty in the amount and by the method set out in this CAFO, and consents to the compliance order in this CAFO.

II.
JURISDICTION

7. This CAFO is issued by EPA pursuant to Section 3008(a) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6928(a), as amended by the Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments of 1984 and is simultaneously commenced and concluded through the issuance of this CAFO under 40 Code of Federal Regulations ("C.F.R.") §§ 22.13(b) and 22.18(b)(2)-(3).
8. Respondent agrees to undertake and complete all actions required by the terms and conditions of this CAFO. In any action by EPA or the United States to enforce the terms of this CAFO, Respondent agrees not to contest the authority or jurisdiction of EPA to issue or enforce this CAFO and agrees not to contest the validity of this CAFO or its terms or conditions.

III.
FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

9. Respondent is authorized to do business in the State of Texas.

10. Respondent is a "person" within the meaning of Section 1004(15) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6903(15), and 30 TEX.ADMIN.CODE § 3.2(25)¹, [40 C.F.R. § 260.10].
11. Respondent owns or operates the Gulf Copper Facility.
12. The Gulf Copper Facility is a shipyard facility that services marine vessels and equipment associated with the oil and gas industry.
13. During the period from June 2018 through August 2018, EPA conducted a RCRA record review of the Gulf Copper Facility's activities as a generator of hazardous waste including a review of information voluntarily provided to EPA by Respondent (the "Investigation").
14. During the Investigation, EPA discovered that during 2017 Respondent generated and offered for transport and treatment the following hazardous wastes:
 - a. D001 (D001 (Ignitability));
 - b. D002 (D002 (Corrosivity));
 - c. D018 (D018 (Benzene)); and
 - d. F001 (Waste Solvent).
15. The Gulf Copper Facility is a "facility" within the meaning of 30 TEX.ADMIN.CODE § 335.1(60), [40 C.F.R. § 260.10].
16. The waste streams identified in Paragraph 14 are "hazardous waste" as defined in 30 TEX.ADMIN.CODE § 335.1 (70), [40 C.F.R. §§ 261.21, 261.22, 261.24, and 261.33].

¹ On December 26, 1984, the State of Texas received final authorization for its base Hazardous Waste Management Program (49 FR 48300). Subsequent revisions have been made to the Texas Hazardous Waste Program and authorized by the EPA. Except as otherwise provided, all citations found within this CAFO are to the "EPA-Approved Texas Statutory and Regulatory Requirements Applicable to the Hazardous Waste Management Program" dated November 2014, incorporated by reference under 40 C.F.R. § 272.2201(c)(1)(i) effective on February 26, 2016. 80 Fed. Reg. 80672 (December 28, 2015); 40 C.F.R. § 272.2201: Texas State-Administered Program: Final Authorization. References and citations to the "EPA-Approved Texas Statutory and Regulatory Requirements Applicable to the Hazardous Waste Management Program" may vary slightly from the State of Texas' published version. The corresponding C.F.R. citations are also provided.

17. From the Investigation, EPA determined that, during one or more months in 2017, Respondent generated the hazardous wastes identified in Paragraph 14 in quantities that exceeded the threshold amount of 1000 kilograms per calendar month under 30 TEX.ADMIN.CODE, Chapter 335, Subchapter C, [40 C.F.R. Part 262], for the periods that such wastes remained onsite.
18. Respondent is a "generator" of "hazardous waste" as those terms are defined in 30 TEX ADMIN.CODE §§ 335.1(66) & (70), [40 C.F.R. § 260.10].
19. As a generator of hazardous waste, Respondent is subject to Sections 3002 and 3010 of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 6922 and 6930, and the regulations set forth in 30 TEX.ADMIN. CODE Chapter 335, Subchapter C, [40 C.F.R Part 262].

Claim 1: Notification Requirements

20. The allegations in Paragraphs 1-19 are re-alleged and incorporated herein by reference.
21. Pursuant to Section 3010(a) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6930(a), any person generating a characteristic or listed hazardous waste shall file with EPA or the authorized state a notification stating the location and general description of such activity and the identified characteristic or listed hazardous waste handled by such person. No identified characteristic or listed hazardous waste subject to this subchapter may be transported, treated, stored, or disposed of unless notification has been given as required by Section 3010(a) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6930(a).
22. Respondent did not file with EPA or the authorized state, Texas, an adequate and timely notification of its hazardous waste activities at the Gulf Copper facility during 2017 in violation of Section 3010(a) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6930(a).

Claim 2: Failure to File Biennial Reports

22. The allegations in Paragraphs 1-19 are realleged and incorporated by reference.
23. Pursuant to 30 TEX.ADMIN.CODE § 335.71, [40 C.F.R. § 262.41], a generator who ships any hazardous waste off-site for treatment, storage and/or disposal must prepare and submit a Biennial Report to EPA and to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality ("TCEQ") by March 1 of each even-numbered year in addition to the annual reporting, which is required under 30 TEX.ADMIN.CODE § 335.9.
24. For the year 2017, neither the EPA nor the TCEQ received a Biennial Report that Respondent was required to file in violation of 30 TEX.ADMIN.CODE §§ 335.9 and 335.71, [40 C.F.R. § 262.41].

Claim 3: Failure to Operate Within Declared Generator Status

25. The allegations in Paragraphs 1-19 are realleged and incorporated herein by reference.
26. During the Investigation, EPA determined that the Gulf Copper Facility declared its generator status as a conditionally exempt small quantity generator ("CESQG").
27. Pursuant to 30 TEX.ADMIN.CODE § 335.78(b), [40 C.F.R. § 261.5(b)], as long as a CESQG complies with the applicable requirement under 30 TEX.ADMIN.CODE § 335.78(e), (f), (g) and (j) and 40 C.F.R. §§ 261.5 (e), (f), (g) and (j), the generator's hazardous waste is not subject to regulation under 30 TEX.ADMIN.CODE, Chapter 335, Subchapters C-H and O; 40 C.F.R. Parts 262 through 268; 40 C.F.R. Parts 270 and 124; and the requirements of Section 3010 of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6930.
28. During portions of 2017, the Gulf Copper and Manufacturing Corporation Facility exceeded their declared CESQG status and operated in some instances as a Large Quantity Generator

of hazardous waste in violation of one or more of the requirements for Large Quantity Generators under 30 TEX.ADMIN.CODE, Chapter 335, Subchapter C, [40 C.F.R. § 262.34].

Claim 4: Failure to comply with the Land Disposal Restrictions

29. The allegations in Paragraphs 1-19 are realleged and incorporated herein by reference.
30. Pursuant to 30 TEX.ADMIN.CODE § 335.431 [C.F.R § 268], certain land disposal restrictions apply to persons that generate hazardous waste.
31. In 2017, the facility generated hazardous waste, but failed to comply with the land disposal restriction waste treatment notifications found in 40 C.F.R § 268.7(a)(2), as incorporated by reference into 30 TAC 335.431.

**IV.
COMPLIANCE ORDER**

32. Pursuant to Section 3008(a) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6928(a), Respondent is hereby ordered to take the following actions, and within 30 calendar days of the effective date of this CAFO, Respondent shall provide in writing the following:
 - a. Respondent shall certify that it has assessed all of its solid waste streams at the Gulf Copper Facility to determine the accurate waste codes and has developed and implemented standard operating procedures ("SOPs") to ensure that Respondent is operating the Gulf Copper Facility in compliance with applicable RCRA provisions and the state and federal regulations promulgated thereunder, including, but not limited to, procedures for: (a) making hazardous waste determinations; (b) managing hazardous wastes; (c) reporting, transporting, and disposing of hazardous waste; (d) preparing its manifests; and (e) meeting the requirements of the land disposal restrictions.

- b. Respondent shall certify that it has accurately and adequately complied with the RCRA Section 3010 notification requirements for the Gulf Copper Facility.
- c. Respondent shall provide, with its certification, a copy of Respondent's SOPs as described in subparagraph "a" above.

33. In all instances in which this CAFO requires written submission to EPA, the submittal made by Respondent shall be signed by an owner or officer of the Respondent and shall include the following certification:

"I certify under the penalty of law that this document and all its attachments were prepared by me or under my direct supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gathered and evaluated the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations."

Copies of all documents required by this CAFO shall be sent to the following:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division
Waste Enforcement Branch
Compliance Enforcement Section (ECDSR)
1201 Elm Street, Suite 500
Dallas, TX 75270-2102
Attn: Tripti Thapa

Where required, notice shall be sent electronically by email or facsimile to Tripti Thapa, at thapa.tripti@epa.gov or at 214-665-7563.

V.
TERMS OF SETTLEMENT

A. Penalty Provisions

34. Pursuant to the authority granted in Section 3008 of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6928, and upon consideration of the entire record herein, including the above referenced Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, which are hereby adopted and made a part hereof, upon the seriousness

of the alleged violations, and Respondent's good faith efforts to comply with the applicable regulations, it is ordered that Respondent be assessed a civil penalty of thirty seven thousand six hundred dollars (\$37,600).

35. The penalty shall be paid within thirty (30) calendar days of the effective date of this CAFO and made payable to Treasurer, United States of America.

36. The following are Respondent's options for transmitting the penalties:

Checks sent via U.S. Postal Mail (including certified mail) or U.S. Postal Service Express Mail should be remitted to:

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

Checks sent via Overnight Mail (non-U.S. Postal Service) should be remitted to:

U.S. Bank
Government Lockbox 979077
US EPA Fines and Penalties
1005 Convention Plaza
SL-MO-C2-GL
St. Louis, MO 63101
314-418-1028

Wire Transfers should be remitted to:

Federal Reserve Bank of New York
ABA: 021030004
Account No. 68010727
SWIFT address = FRNYUS33
33 Liberty Street
New York, NY 10045

The case name and docket number (In the Matter of Gulf Copper and Manufacturing Corporation, Docket No. RCRA-06-2019-0949) shall be clearly documented on or within the chosen method of payment to ensure proper credit.

37. The Respondent shall send a simultaneous notice of such payment to the following:

Lorena S. Vaughn
Regional Hearing Clerk (ORC)
U.S. EPA, Region 6
1201 Elm Street, Suite 500
Dallas, Texas 75270-2102

Mark Potts, Chief
Waste Enforcement Branch (ECDS)
Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division
U.S. EPA, Region 6
1201 Elm Street, Suite 500
Dallas, Texas 75270-2102
Attention: Enforcement Officer Tripti Thapa

Respondent's adherence to this request will ensure proper credit is given when penalties are received by EPA.

38. Pursuant to 31 U.S.C. § 3717 and 40 C.F.R. § 13.11, unless otherwise prohibited by law, EPA will assess interest and late payment penalties on outstanding debts owed to the United States and a charge to cover the cost of processing and handling a delinquent claim. Interest on the civil penalty assessed in this CAFO will begin to accrue on the effective date of the CAFO and will be recovered by EPA on any amount of the civil penalty that is not paid within thirty (30) calendar days of the civil penalty's due date and will be assessed at the rate of the United States Treasury tax and loan rate in accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 13.11(a). Moreover, the costs of the Agency's administrative handling overdue debts will be charged and assessed monthly throughout the period the debt is overdue. 40 C.F.R. § 13.11(b). EPA will also assess a \$15.00 administrative handling charge for administrative costs on unpaid penalties for the thirty (30) day period after the payment is due and an additional \$15.00 for each subsequent thirty (30) day period the penalty remains unpaid. In addition, a penalty charge of up to six percent (6%) per year will be assessed monthly on any portion of the debt

which remains delinquent more than ninety (90) days. 40 C.F.R. § 13.11(b). Should a penalty charge on the debt be required, it shall accrue from the first day payment is delinquent. 31 C.F.R. § 901.9(d). Other penalties for failure to make a payment may also apply.

B. Costs

39. Each party shall bear its own costs and attorney's fees. Furthermore, Respondent specifically waives its right to seek reimbursement of its costs and attorney's fees under the Equal Access to Justice Act (5 U.S.C. § 504), as amended by the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act (P.L. 04-121), and any regulations promulgated pursuant to those Acts.

C. Termination and Satisfaction

40. When Respondent believes that it has complied with all the requirements of this CAFO, including compliance with the Compliance Order and payment of the civil penalty, Respondent shall also certify this in writing and in accordance with the certification language set forth in Section IV (Compliance Order), Paragraph 33. Unless the EPA, Region 6 objects in writing within sixty (60) days of EPA's receipt of Respondent's certification, then this CAFO is terminated on the basis of Respondent's certification.

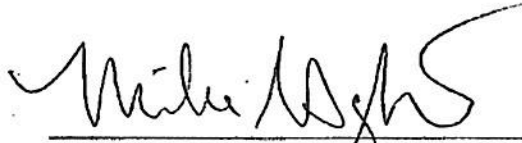
D. Effective Date of Settlement

41. This CAFO shall become effective upon filing with the Regional Hearing Clerk.

**THE UNDERSIGNED PARTIES CONSENT TO THE ENTRY OF THIS CONSENT
AGREEMENT AND FINAL ORDER:**

FOR THE RESPONDENT:

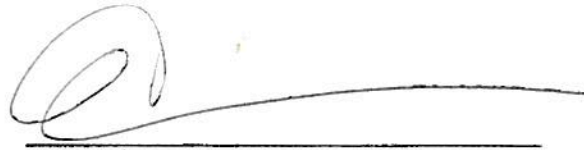
Date: 9/17/2019



Gulf Copper and Manufacturing Corporation

FOR THE COMPLAINANT:

Date: 9-19-2019



Cheryl Seager, Director
Enforcement and compliance
Assurance Division.

FINAL ORDER

Pursuant to the Consolidated Rules of Practice Governing the Administrative Assessment of Civil Penalties, 40 C.F.R. Part 22, the foregoing CAFO is hereby ratified. This Final Order 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. This Final Order shall resolve only those causes of action alleged herein. Nothing in this Final Order shall be construed to waive, extinguish or otherwise affect Respondent's (or its officers, agents, servants, employees, successors, or assigns) obligation to comply with all applicable federal, state, and local statutes and regulations, including the regulations that were the subject of this action. Respondent is ordered to comply with the terms of settlement and the civil penalty payment instructions as set forth in the CAFO. Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 22.31(b) this Final Order shall become effective upon filing with the Regional Hearing Clerk.

Date: 9/23/19



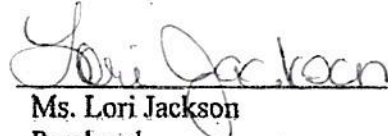
Thomas Rucki
Regional Judicial Officer

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the 23 day of September, 2019, the original of the foregoing Consent Agreement and Final Order was hand delivered to the Regional Hearing Clerk, U.S. EPA, Region 6, 1201 Elm Street, Suite 500, Dallas, Texas 75270-2102, and that a true and correct copy of the CAFO was sent to the following by the method below:

CERTIFIED MAIL -- RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED 70092820006182843839

Gulf Copper and Manufacturing Corporation
2020 S Gulfway Drive.
Port Arthur, Texas 77640



Ms. Lori Jackson
Paralegal