

June 27, 2024

1:40PM

U.S. EPA REGION 7
HEARING CLERK

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 7

In the Matter of:)
St. Lukes Methodist Hospital) Docket No. RCRA-07-2024-0091
1026 A Avenue)
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52402) EXPEDITED SETTLEMENT
EPA ID IAD065223166) AGREEMENT AND FINAL ORDER
)
Respondent.	

EXPEDITED SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

- 1) The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") is authorized to enter into this Expedited Settlement Agreement ("Agreement" or "ESA") pursuant to Section 3008(a) of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act ("RCRA"), 42 U.S.C. § 6928(a), and 40 C.F.R. § 22.13(b).
- The EPA has provided the State of Iowa with notice of the referenced violations of Subtitle C of RCRA as required by Section 3008(a)(2).
- 3) St. Lukes Methodist Hospital ("Respondent") is the owner or operator of the facility located at 1026 A Avenue, Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52402 ("Facility"). The EPA inspected the Facility, on October 23, 2023. As a result of the findings during the inspection and additional investigation, the EPA alleges that Respondent violated the following requirements of the RCRA hazardous waste management program:
 - a. 40 C.F.R §262.15(a)(4) A container holding hazardous waste must be closed at all times during accumulation, except: (i) When adding, removing, or consolidating waste; or (ii) When temporary venting of a container is necessary for the proper operation of equipment, or to prevent dangerous situations, such as build-up of extreme pressure. The EPA determined that the Respondent did close one 55-gallon hazardous waste satellite accumulation container of waste thinner in the Maintenance Shop.
 - b. 40 C.F.R § 262.15(a)(5)(i) A generator must mark or label its container with the words "Hazardous Waste." The EPA determined that the Respondent did not mark or label one 55-gallon hazardous waste satellite accumulation drum of waste thinner in the Maintenance Shop.
 - c. 40 C.F.R § 262.15(a)(5)(ii) A generator must mark or label its container with an indication of the hazards of the contents (examples include, but are not limited to, the applicable hazardous waste characteristic(s) (i.e., ignitable, corrosive, reactive, toxic); hazard communication consistent with the Department of Transportation

requirements at 49 CFR part 172 subpart E (labeling) or subpart F (placarding); a hazard statement or pictogram consistent with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration Hazard Communication Standard at 29 CFR 1910.1200; or a chemical hazard label consistent with the National Fire Protection Association code 704. The EPA determined that the Respondent did not mark or label two hazardous waste satellite accumulation containers (one container of lab waste and one container of waste thinner).

- d. 40 C.F.R § 262.16(b)(9)(ii) The small quantity generator must post the following information next to telephones or in areas directly involved in the generation and accumulation of hazardous waste: (A) The name and emergency telephone number of the emergency coordinator; (B) Location of fire extinguishers and spill control material, and, if present, fire alarm; and (C) The telephone number of the fire department, unless the facility has a direct alarm. The EPA determined that the Respondent did post emergency preparedness information.
- e. 40 C.F.R §273.13(d)(1) A small quantity handler of universal waste must contain any lamp in containers or packages that are structurally sound, adequate to prevent breakage, and compatible with the contents of the lamps. Such containers and packages must remain closed and must lack evidence of leakage, spillage or damage that could cause leakage under reasonably foreseeable conditions. The EPA determined that the Respondent did close one cardboard box storing 100 universal waste-lamps located in Maintenance Shop.
- f. 40 C.F.R §273.14(e) A small quantity handler of universal waste-lamps must label or mark each lamp or a container or package in which such lamps are contained clearly with one of the following phrases: "Universal Waste-Lamp(s)," or "Waste Lamp(s)," or "Used Lamp(s)." The EPA determined that the Respondent did label or mark one cardboard box storing 100 universal waste-lamps located in Maintenance Shop.
- 4) In determining the amount of the penalty to be assessed, EPA has taken into account the factors specified in Section 3008 of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6928. After considering these factors, EPA has determined and Respondent agrees that settlement of this matter for a civil penalty of seven thousand five hundred dollars (\$7,500.00) is in the public interest.
- Some of the Final Order. Such payment shall identify Respondent by name and docket number and shall be by certified or cashier's check made payable to the "United States Treasury" and sent to:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Fines and Penalties Cincinnati Finance Center PO Box 979078 St. Louis, Missouri 63197-9000 or by alternate payment method described at http://www.epa.gov/financial/makepayment.

6) A copy of the check or other information confirming payment shall simultaneously be emailed to the following:

Regional Hearing Clerk
R7 Hearing Clerk Filings@epa.gov; and

Milady Peters, Paralegal peters.milady@epa.gov.

- In signing this Agreement, Respondent: (a) admits that Respondent is subject to RCRA and its implementing regulations; (b) admits that EPA has jurisdiction over Respondent and Respondent's conduct as alleged herein, (c) neither admits nor denies the factual allegations contained herein; (d) consents to the assessment of this penalty; (e) waives the opportunity for a hearing to contest any issue of fact or law set forth herein; (f) waives its right to appeal the Final Order accompanying this Agreement pursuant to Section 3008(b) of RCRA; and (g) consents to electronic service of the filed ESA to the following email address: CLIFTON.WHITE@UNITYPOINT.ORG. Respondent understands that the ESA will become publicly available upon filing.
- By its signature below Respondent certifies, subject to civil and criminal penalties for making a false submission to the United States Government, that: (a) the alleged violations have been corrected, and (b) it is presently in compliance with all requirements of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6901 *et. seq.*, its implementing regulations, and any permit issued pursuant to RCRA.
- 9) The undersigned representative of Respondent certifies that he or she is fully authorized to enter the terms and conditions of this Expedited Settlement Agreement and to execute and legally bind Respondent to it.
- 10) Full payment of the civil penalty shall only resolve Respondent's liability for federal civil penalties for the violations alleged herein. The EPA reserves the right to take any enforcement action with respect to any other past, present, or future violations of RCRA or any other applicable law.
- 11) The penalty specified herein shall represent civil penalties assessed by EPA and shall not be deductible for purposes of Federal, State and local taxes.
- 12) Each party shall bear its own costs and fees, if any.
- 13) This Agreement is binding on the parties signing below.

IT IS SO AGREED,

Clifton White	
Name (print)	
Regional Manager Team Member	Health & Safety
Title (print)	9
Clifton White	6/3/2024
Signature	Date

APPROVED BY EPA:		
Jodi Bruno Acting Director Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division	Date	
Christopher Muchlberger, Attorney Office of Regional Counsel	Date	

FINAL ORDER

Pursuant to the authority of Section 3008(a) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6928(a), and 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, the foregoing Expedited Settlement Agreement resolving this matter is hereby ratified and incorporated by reference into this Final Order.

Respondent is ORDERED to comply with all of the terms of the Expedited Settlement Agreement. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 22.31(b), the effective date of the foregoing Expedited Settlement Agreement and this Final Order is the date on which this Final Order is filed with the Regional Hearing Clerk.

IT IS SO ORDERED.	
Karina Borromeo	Date
Regional Judicial Officer	<i>Suit</i>

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE To be completed by EPA

I certify that that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Expedited Settlement Agreement and Final Order, in the matter of St. Lukes Methodist Hospital, EPA Docket No. RCRA-07-2024-0091, was sent this day in the following manner to the following addressees:

Copy via e-mail to Complainant:

Christopher Muchlberger, Office of Regional Counsel *muchlberger.christopher@epa.gov*

Mike Martin, Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division martin.mike@epa.gov

Milady Peters, Office of Regional Counsel peters.milady@epa.gov

Copy via e-mail to Respondent:

Clifton White
Safety Regulatory Compliance
St. Lukes Methodist Hospital
1026 A Avenue
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52402
CLIFTON. WHITE@UNITYPOINT.ORG

Copy via e-mail to the State of Iowa:

Ed Tormey, Administrator (ed.tormey@dnr.iowa.gov) Environmental Services Division Iowa Department of Natural Resources

Mike Sullivan, Section Supervisor (michael.sullivan@dnr.iowa.gov) Solid Waste and Contaminated Sites Section Iowa Department of Natural Resources

Dated this	day of	•	
		Signed	

v			