

# UNITED STATED ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY-REGION 7 REGION 7 11201 RENNER BOULEVARD LENEXA, KANSAS 66219

#### **EXPEDITED SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT (ESA)**

# **DOCKET NO.**: CAA-07-2015-0013 **This ESA is issued to**: Big River United Energy, LLC At: 3294 Vine Road, Dyersville, Iowa 52040 for violating Section 112(r)(7) of the Clean Air Act.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 7 (EPA) and Big River United Energy, LLC (Respondent), have agreed to a settlement of this action before filing of a complaint, and thus this action is simultaneously commenced and concluded pursuant to Rules 22.13(b) and 22.18(B)(2) of 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. §§ 22.13(b), 22.18(b)(2).

The Complainant, by delegation of the Administrator of the EPA, is the Director of the Air and Waste Management Division. The Respondent is Big River United Energy, LLC, 3294 Vine Road, Dyersville, Iowa 52040.

This is an administrative action for the assessment of civil penalties instituted pursuant to Section 113(d) of the Clean Air Act (CAA). Pursuant to Section 113(d) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7413(d), the Administrator and the Attorney General jointly determined that cases which meet the criteria set forth in EPA's policy entitled "Use of Expedited Settlements in Addressing Violations of the Clean Air Act Chemical Accident Prevention Provision, 40 C.F.R. Part 68," dated January 5, 2004, are appropriate for administrative penalty action.

#### ALLEGED VIOLATIONS

On July 9 and 10, 2014, an authorized representative of the EPA conducted a compliance inspection of the Respondent's facility located at 3294 Vine Road, Dyersville, Iowa, to determine compliance with the Risk Management Plan (RMP) regulations promulgated at 40 C.F.R. Part 68 under Section 112(r) of the CAA. The EPA found that the Respondent had violated regulations implementing Section 112(r) of the CAA by failing to comply with the regulations as noted on the enclosed Risk Management Program Inspection Findings (RMP Findings), which is hereby incorporated by reference.

#### **SETTLEMENT**

In consideration of Respondent's size of business, its full compliance history, its good faith effort to comply, and other factors as justice may require, and upon consideration of the

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entire record, the parties enter into the ESA in order to settle the violations, described in the enclosed RMP Findings, for the total penalty amount of **\$6,600**.

This settlement is subject to the following terms and conditions:

The Respondent by signing below waives any objections that it may have regarding jurisdiction, neither admits nor denies the specific factual allegations contained herein and in the RMP Findings, and consents to the assessment of the penalty as stated above. Respondent waives its rights to a hearing afforded by Section 113(d)(2)(A) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7413(d)(2)(A), and to appeal this ESA. Each party to this action shall bear its own costs and fees, if any. Respondent also certifies, subject to civil and criminal penalties for making a false submission to the United States Government, that the Respondent has corrected the violations listed in the enclosed RMP Findings and has sent a cashier's check or certified check (payable to the "United States Treasury") in the amount of **\$6,600** in payment of the full penalty amount to the following address:

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

The Docket Number of this ESA is CAA-07-2015-0013, and must be included on the check.

This original ESA, a copy of the completed RMP Findings, and <u>a copy of the check must</u> be sent by certified mail to:

Christine Hoard Chemical Risk Information Branch U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 7 11201 Renner Boulevard Lenexa, Kansas 66219.

A copy of the check must also be sent to:

Kathy M. Robinson Regional Hearing Clerk U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 7 11201 Renner Boulevard Lenexa, Kansas 66219.

Upon Respondent's submission of the signed original ESA, the EPA will take no further civil action against Respondent for the alleged violations of the CAA referenced in the RMP

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Findings. The EPA does not waive any other enforcement action for any other violations of the CAA or any other statute.

If the signed original ESA <u>with an attached copy of the check</u> is not returned to the <u>EPA</u> <u>Region 7 office</u> at the above address in correct form by the Respondent within 45 days of the date of Respondent's receipt of it (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 herein and in the RMP Findings.

This ESA is binding on the parties signing below.

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

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FOR RESPONDENT:

m Name (print): JAMES Fie Title (print):

Date: 3

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Big River United Energy, LLC

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FOR COMPLAINANT:

Becky Weber Director Air and Waste Management Division EPA Region 7

Kent Johnson Assistant Regional Counsel Office of Regional Counsel EPA Region 7

19/13 Date:

3/19/15 Date: \_

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I hereby ratify the ESA and incorporate it herein by reference. It is so ORDERED.

Date: 3-30-2015

Karina Borromeo Regional Judicial Officer

# **Risk Management Program Inspection Findings** CAA § 112(r) Violations

# **Big River United Energy, LLC** 3294 Vine Road Dyersville, Iowa 52040 Docket No. CAA-07-2015-0013

### COMPLETE THIS FORM AND RETURN IT WITH THE ESA.

#### VIOLATIONS

#### PENALTY AMOUNT

Emergency Response Program [68.180] No penalty assessed The owner or operator failed to submit an RMP that correctly included the information required regarding the emergency response program. (Section 9) Facility addressed this post inspection.

**Prevention Program** Safety Information [68.65(d)(1)(vii)] \$600 The owner or operator failed to compile written information regarding the material and energy balances for the equipment in the process. Facility addressed this post inspection.

Safety Information [68.65(d)(2)] \$1.500 The owner or operator failed to document that equipment complies with recognized and generally accepted good engineering practices. Work to be performed repainting of the anhydrous ammonia storage vessel.

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**Prevention Program** 

Date Completed:

Process Hazard Analysis [68.67(e)]

The owner or operator failed to establish a system to promptly address the team's findings and recommendations and failed to communicate the actions to operating, maintenance, and other employees whose work assignments were in the process and who may be affected by the recommendations.

Facility addressed this post inspection.

Process Hazard Analysis [68.67(g)]

The owner or operator failed to retain (2008) PHAs and updates or revalidations for each process covered, as well as the resolution of recommendations of the life of the process. Facility addressed this post inspection.

\$1.500

\$600

Prevention Program Operating Procedures [68.69(a)(3)(ii)] \$1,200 The owner or operator failed to include precautions necessary to prevent exposure, including engineering controls, administrative controls, and personal protective equipment. *Facility addressed this post inspection*.

Prevention Program Compliance Audits [68.79(a)(d)]

Compliance Audits [68.79(a)(d)] \$1,200 The owner or operator failed to *certify* that the stationary source has evaluated compliance with the provisions of the prevention program at least every three years to verify that the developed procedures and practices are adequate and being followed; and failed to document an appropriate response to each of the findings of the audit and documented that deficiencies had been corrected.

Facility addressed this post inspection.

TOTAL

\$6,600

# Calculation of Adjusted Penalty

1<sup>st</sup> Reference the Multipliers for calculating proposed penalties for violations found during RMP inspection matrix. Finding the column for 10-100 employees and the row for >10 times the threshold quantity of 10,000 pounds of flammable mixture as listed in 40 C. F. R. Part 68.130 for the amount in a process gives a multiplier factor of 1.0. Therefore, the multiplier for Big River United Energy, LLC = 1.0

\*\*No adjusted penalty since multiplier is 1

# **Total Penalty**

\$6,600

This section must be also completed and signed by Big River United Energy, LLC:

The approximate cost to correct the above items:  $\frac{1639.00}{100}$ 

Compliance staff name: BRIAN SCIJASE	t	
Signed: Bright School	Date: 3/13/15	

IN THE MATTER OF Big River United Energy, LLC, Respondent Docket No. CAA-07-2015-0013

#### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Order was sent this day in the following manner to the addressees:

Copy by email to Attorney for Complainant:

hoard.christine@epa.gov

Copy by First Class Mail to:

James A. Leiting Chief Operating Officer Big River United Energy, LLC 3294 Vine Road Dyersville, Iowa 52040

Dated:

Kathy Robinson Hearing Clerk, Region 7

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