



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 4
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

SEP 14 2010

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Ferrell Vest
General Manager
Hartselle Utilities
1010 Sparkman Street
Hartselle, Alabama 35640

SUBJ: Executed Consent Agreement and Final Order
Docket No.: TSCA-04-2010-2904(b)

Dear Mr. Vest:

Enclosed please find the executed Consent Agreement and Final Order (CAFO) for the Hartselle Utilities Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) case. The effective date for the CAFO is stated in Section VI of the CAFO.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this document, please contact Kris Lippert, of my staff at (404) 562-8605 or by email at lippert.kristin@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alan Farmer".

G. Alan Farmer, Director
RCRA Division

Enclosure

UNITED STATES
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
ATLANTA, GEORGIA

RECEIVED
EPA REGION 4
2010 SEP 14 AM 8:26
HEALTH AND CHEMISTRY

In the Matter of:)
)
Hartselle Utilities)
1010 Sparkman Street, N.W.)
Hartselle, Alabama 35640)
)
Respondent)
_____)

Docket No. TSCA-04-2010-2904(b)

CONSENT AGREEMENT AND FINAL ORDER

I. Nature of the Action

1. This is a civil penalty proceeding pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), 15 U.S.C. § 2615(a), and pursuant to the Consolidated Rules of Practice Governing Administrative Assessment of Civil Penalties and the Revocation/Termination or Suspension of Permits (Consolidated Rules), 40 C.F.R. Part 22. Complainant is the Director of the RCRA Division, United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4 (EPA). Respondent is Hartselle Utilities.
2. Complainant and Respondent have conferred for the purpose of settlement pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 22.18 and desire to resolve this matter and settle the allegations described herein without a formal hearing. Therefore, without the taking of any evidence or testimony, the making of any argument, or the adjudication of any issue in this matter, and in accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 22.13(b), this Consent Agreement and Final Order (CAFO) will simultaneously commence and conclude this matter.

II. Preliminary Statements

3. Pursuant to Section 6(e) of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2605, the Administrator of EPA promulgated regulations at 40 C.F.R. Part 761, pertaining to Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs). Failure to comply with any such regulation constitutes a violation of Section 15 of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2614. Any person who violates a provision of Section 15 of TSCA may be assessed a penalty of up to \$32,500 for each such violation occurring between March 15, 2004, and January 12, 2009, in accordance with Section 16(a) of TSCA and 40 C.F.R. Part 19, as amended. For each such violation occurring after January 12, 2009, a penalty of up to \$37,500 may be assessed. Each day a violation continues may constitute a separate violation.
4. The authority to take action under Section 16(a) of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2615(a), is vested in the Administrator of EPA. The Administrator of EPA has delegated this authority under TSCA to EPA Region 4 by EPA Delegation 12-2-A, dated May 11, 1994.
5. Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 22.5(c)(4) the following individual represents EPA in this matter and is authorized to receive service for EPA in this proceeding:

Nancy McKee, Acting Chief
North RCRA and OPA Enforcement and Compliance Section
RCRA and OPA Enforcement and Compliance Branch
RCRA Division
U.S. EPA Region 4
61 Forsyth Street, S.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-8960
(404) 562-8674

III. Specific Allegations

6. Respondent is a user of PCB Items operating in the State of Alabama and is a "person" as defined in 40 C.F.R. § 761.3.

7. On or about January 5, 2010, the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) conducted an inspection at Respondent's facility located at 1010 Sparkman Street N.W., Hartselle, Alabama, 35640 to determine compliance with the PCB regulations.
8. At the time of the inspection, ADEM discovered that the following transformers had been stored for disposal on-site during for the previous three (3) years:
 - a. 15 KVA, serial #70H10318, 140 ppm PCBs, taken out of service 9/18/09, transported for disposal on 11/16/09;
 - b. 15 KVA, serial #70H10322, 135 ppm PCBs, taken out of service 9/18/08, transported for disposal on 11/16/09;
 - c. 15 KVA, serial #4080253, 7260 ppm PCBs, taken out of service 02/23/09, transported for disposal on 04/06/09;
 - d. 15 KVA, serial # 70H7366, 157 ppm PCBs, taken out of service 2/8/08, transported for disposal on 6/17/08;
 - e. 15 KVA, serial # 4080258, 4290 ppm PCBs, taken out of service 5/29/08, transported for disposal on 6/17/08;
 - f. Serial #A68741, 1,049 ppm PCBs, out of service 3/13/07, transported for disposal on 4/13/07;
 - g. Serial #65M8166, 1,075 ppm PCBs, out of service 3/12/06, transported for disposal on 4/13/07;
 - h. Serial #4963365, 52 ppm PCBs, out of service 10/11/06, transported for disposal on 11/20/06; and
 - i. Serial #D329912, 110 ppm PCBs, out of service 10/20/06 transported for disposal on 11/20/06.
9. The total amount of PCB fluids from all the transformers listed in paragraph 8 equaled less than 220 gallons.

10. PCB items in storage for disposal shall be checked for leaks at least once every 30 days. Any leaking PCB items and their contents shall be transferred immediately to properly marked non-leaking containers. Any spilled or leaked materials shall be immediately cleaned up and the materials and residues containing PCBs shall be disposed of in accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 761.61. Records of inspections, maintenance, cleanup and disposal must be maintained in accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 761.180(a) and (b). Respondent failed to maintain storage records for the previous three (3) years.
11. Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 761.65(c)(5), PCB items in storage for disposal shall be checked for leaks at least once every 30 days. Records of inspections, maintenance, cleanup and disposal must be maintained in accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 761.180(a). Respondent failed to maintain storage records for the four (4) PCB transformers.
12. Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 761.180(a), beginning February 5, 1990, each owner or operator of a facility, other than a commercial storer or a disposer of PCB waste, using or storing at any one time at least 45 kilograms (99.4 pounds) of PCBs contained in PCB containers, or one or more PCB transformers, or 50 or more PCB Large High or Low Voltage Capacitors shall develop and maintain at the facility, or a central facility provided they are maintained at that facility, all annual records and the written annual document log of the disposition of PCB and PCB items. Respondent failed to provide annual document logs during the inspection.

IV. Consent Agreement

13. For the purposes of this CAFO, Respondent admits the jurisdictional allegations set forth above and neither admits nor denies the factual allegations set forth above.

14. Respondent waives its right to a hearing on the allegations contained herein and its right to appeal the proposed final order accompanying the consent agreement.
15. Respondent consents to the assessment of the penalty proposed by EPA and agrees to pay the civil penalty as set forth in this CAFO.
16. Respondent certifies that as of the date of its execution of this CAFO, it is in compliance with all relevant requirements of TSCA.
17. This CAFO constitutes a settlement by EPA of all claims for civil penalties pursuant to Section 16(a) of TSCA, for the specific violations alleged herein. Except as specifically provided in this CAFO, EPA reserves all other civil and criminal enforcement authorities, including the authority to address imminent hazards. Compliance with this CAFO shall not be a defense to any other actions subsequently commenced pursuant to Federal laws and regulations administered by EPA, and it is Respondent's responsibility to comply with said laws and regulations.
18. Complainant and Respondent agree to settle this matter by their execution of this CAFO. The parties agree that the settlement of this matter is in the public interest and that this CAFO is consistent with the applicable requirements of TSCA.

V. Final Order

19. Respondent is assessed a civil penalty of TWENTY-SEVEN HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$2,700), which shall be paid within 30 days from the effective date of this CAFO.
20. Respondent shall remit the civil penalty by either a cashier's or certified check made payable to the "Treasurer, United States of America," and shall send the check to the following address by U.S. Postal Service:

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

**The check shall reference on its face the name of the
Respondent and Docket Number of this CAFO.**

For payment submittal by any overnight mail service (Fed Ex, UPS, DHL, etc.), please
use the following address:

U. S. Bank
1005 Convention Plaza
Mail Station SL-MO-C2GL
St. Louis, Missouri 63101
Contact: Natalie Pearson (314) 418-4087

21. At the time of payment, Respondent shall send a separate copy of the check and a written
statement that the payment has been made in accordance with this CAFO, to each of the
following persons at the following addresses:

Regional Hearing Clerk
U.S. EPA Region 4
61 Forsyth Street, S.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-8960

and

Nancy McKee, Acting Chief
North RCRA and OPA Enforcement and Compliance Section
RCRA and OPA Enforcement and Compliance Branch
RCRA Division
U.S. EPA Region 4
61 Forsyth Street, S.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-8960

22. For the purposes of state and federal income taxation, Respondent shall not be entitled,
and agrees not to attempt, to claim a deduction for any civil penalty payment made

pursuant to this CAFO. Any attempt by Respondent to deduct any such payments shall constitute a violation of this CAFO.

23. Pursuant to 31 U.S.C. § 3717, EPA is entitled to assess interest and penalties on debts owed to the United States and a charge to cover the cost of processing and handling a delinquent claim. Interest will therefore begin to accrue on the civil penalty from the date of entry of this CAFO, if the penalty is not paid by the date required. A charge will also be assessed to cover the administrative costs, both direct and indirect, of overdue debts. In addition, a late payment penalty charge shall be applied on any principal amount not paid within 90 days of the due date.
24. Complainant and Respondent shall bear their own costs and attorney fees in this matter.
25. This CAFO shall be binding upon the Respondent, its successors and assigns.
26. The undersigned representative of the party to this CAFO certifies that he or she is fully authorized by the party represented to enter into this CAFO and legally binds that party to this CAFO.

VI. Effective Date

27. The effective date of this CAFO shall be the date on which the CAFO is filed with the Regional Hearing Clerk.

AGREED AND CONSENTED TO:

Respondent: Hartselle Utilities
Docket No.: TSCA-04-2010-2904(b)

By: *Ferrell West* (Signature) Date: September 1, 2010

Name: Ferrell vest (Typed or Printed)

Title: General Manager (Typed or Printed)

Complainant: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

By: *Alan Farmer* Date: September 9, 2010
G. Alan Farmer, Director
RCRA Division
61 Forsyth Street, S.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-8960

APPROVED AND SO ORDERED this 13th day of Sept, 2010.

By: *Susan B. Schub*
Susan B. Schub
Regional Judicial Officer

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the date set out below, I filed the original and one copy of the foregoing Consent Agreement and Final Order and served a true and correct copy of the foregoing Consent Agreement and Final Order, In the Matter of Hartselle Utilities, Docket Number: TSCA-04-2010-2904(b), to the addresses listed below.

Mr. Ferrell Vest
Hartselle Utilities
1010 Sparkman Street, N.W.
Hartselle, Alabama 35640

(via Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested)

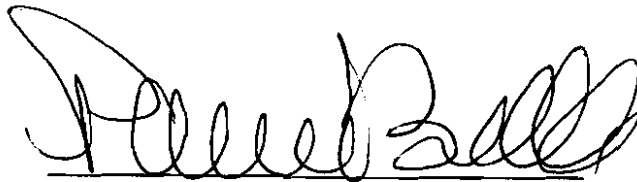
Robert Caplan
Senior Attorney
U.S. EPA, Region 4
61 Forsyth Street, S.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-8960

(via EPA's internal mail)

Quantindra Smith
RCRA and OPA Enforcement
and Compliance Branch
U.S. EPA, Region 4
61 Forsyth Street, S.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-8960

(via EPA's internal mail)

Date: 9-14-10



Patricia A. Bullock, Regional Hearing Clerk
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4
Atlanta Federal Center
61 Forsyth Street, S.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303
(404) 562-9511