UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGEN **Region 2**

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In the Matter of	:
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Supreme Asset Management and	:
Recovery, Inc., a/k/a Supreme Asset	:
Management, Inc.,	:
	:
Respondent.	:
	:
Proceeding under Section 3008 of the	:
Solid Waste Disposal Act as amended	

Hon. William B. Moran, Presiding Officer

Docket Number RCRA-02-2009-7106

MOTION TO EXTEND TIME FOR FILING PREHEARING EXCHANGE

Complainant in this proceeding, the Director of the Division of Enforcement and Compliance Assistance, EPA, Region 2 (EPA), through her attorney, requests this Court grant a two-month extension of time for the parties to file their prehearing exchanges, an extension concurred in by Respondent. For the reasons set forth below, EPA submits that good cause exists for granting this motion.

This is a case administratively prosecuted under Section 3008(a) of the Solid Waste Disposal Act, as amended, 42 U.S.C. § 6928(a), in which EPA seeks a civil penalty of \$199,900 for alleged violations that arose in connection with the operation of their facility in Lakewood, New Jersey. More specifically, the complaint alleges Respondent's illegal export of used and non-working cathode ray tube monitors, referred to as "CRTs" (either exported for recycling or reuse), Respondent's failure to prepare hazardous waste manifests for offering CRTs for transport and for a failure timely to reply to an EPA information request letter. Respondent has

denied the material allegations and has requested a hearing. The complaint was served on July 1, 2009, and Respondent timely submitted its answer on or about September 25, 2009. The prehearing order of this Court, dated October 26, 2009, directs that "[t]he Parties must simultaneously make their initial prehearing exchanges by **Friday**, **December 18, 2009**" (emphasis in original). Further, pursuant to the October 26th order, the parties are permitted to "file supplements to their prehearing exchanges (including any reply or rebuttal material), without motion, until 30 days before the date scheduled for the hearing." No date has been set for a hearing, either in the October 26th order or subsequently.

The parties met for an informal settlement conference in late October, and continued to discuss settlement options thereafter. At the time of the settlement conference and in subsequent discussions, it became clear that the parties were committed to seeking a settlement, and that intention informed all discussions of settlement. The parties did reach a settlement earlier this month, agreeing to an amount for settlement and the terms for payment; this settlement does not involve a Supplemental Environmental Project. A consent agreement memorializing the settlement orally reached has been drafted, and it is presently being circulated within the Region, and a copy has also been sent to Respondent's counsel for his (and his client's review).

In light of the above, specifically that the parties have reached agreement and are now reviewing the necessary documentation to effect that agreement, Complainant requests that this Court extend the schedule for the parties to engage in prehearing exchange by two months. Respondents' counsel noted his joining with this request. The extension would be sought so that the parties need have an adequate opportunity to review and analyze the settlement document without having to concern themselves with, or divert their efforts and energy to quickly

2

approaching litigation deadlines (especially considering that the end-of-year holidays will shortly be upon us). This is a straightforward settlement, *i.e.* for a cash payment to be made at a definite time, and it is expected that it should be completed and finalized within a relatively short period.

Complainant submits that the circumstances demonstrate that the good cause requirement of 40 C.F.R. § 22.7(b) exists for the granting of this motion. This case has relatively recently commenced, there have not been any litigation developments (such as the filing of any motions) and this is the first request for an extension of time. The evidentiary record has not been formally developed, and remains inchoate; no hearing date has been set or is imminent. Certainly the requested extension would not prejudice either party, as both concur in their desire that it be obtained. The parties are simply seeking additional two months before having to file their prehearing exchanges so that they have the requisite time to complete their agreement without having to concern themselves with litigation deadlines that in virtual certitude will not be required.

The undersigned has already left a message with the law secretary of this Court informing her of the parties' desire for an extension and the arrival of this motion.

Therefore, EPA respectfully moves this Court, pursuant to 40 C.F.R. §§ 22.4(c)(2), 22.7(b), 22.16(a) and 22.19(a), for an order: **a**) vacating so much of the October 26th prehearing order as directed the parties to serve their initial prehearing exchanges by the date therein set forth, and **b**) extending the deadline for each submission set forth in said order by a period of two months, *i.e.* parties would be required to file their initial prehearing exchanges by February 19, 2010.

3

Dated: <u>December 14, 2009</u> New York, New York

Respectfully submitted Lee A. Spielmann

Assistant Regional Counsel Office of Regional Counsel U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2 290 Broadway, 16th floor New York, New York 10007-1866 212-637-3222 FAX: 212-637-3199

2

 TO: Honorable William B. Moran Administrative Law Judge
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Mail Code 1900L
Washington, DC 20460

> Office of Regional Hearing Clerk U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2 290 Broadway, 16th floor New York, New York 10007-1866

Christopher B. Healy, Esq. Bathgate, Wegener & Wolf Counsel for Respondent One Airport Road P.O. Box 2043 Lakewood, New Jersey 08701

In re Supreme Management and Recovery, Inc., Docket No. RCRA-02-2009-7106

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that I have this day caused to be sent the foregoing "MOTION TO EXTEND TIME FOR FILING PREHEARING EXCHANGE," dated December 14, 2009, in the following manner to the respective addressees listed below:

Original and One Copy By Inter-Office Mail:

Office of Regional Hearing Clerk U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Region 2 290 Broadway, 16th floor New York, New York 10007-1866

Copy by Fax Transmission, 202-565-0044, and Pouch Mail:

Honorable William B. Moran Administrative Law Judge U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Mail Code 1900 L Washington, DC 20460

Copy by Fax Transmission, 732-363-9864 and First Class Mail:

> Christopher B. Healy, Esq. Bathgate, Wegener & Wolf One Airport Road P.O. Box 2043 Lakewood, New Jersey 08701

Dated: <u>December 14, 2009</u> New York, New York