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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY 21 AUG -9 AM 8: 58 **REGION 6** DALLAS, TEXAS

REGIONAL HEARING CLERK EPA REGION VI

Consent Agreement and Final Order USEPA Docket No. RCRA-06-2021-0942

CONSENT AGREEMENT AND FINAL ORDER I. PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

- 1. This Consent Agreement and Final Order ("CAFO") is entered into by the United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6 ("EPA" or "Complainant") and Respondent, Luminant Generation Company LLC ("Respondent" or "Luminant") and concerns the Sandow Steam Electric Station, located at 3708A Charles Martin Hall Road, Rockdale, TX 76577 ("Facility"), which was officially retired from operation on January 11, 2018.
- 2. Notice of this action has been given to the State of Texas, under Section 3008(a)(2) of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act ("RCRA"), 42 U.S.C. § 6928(a)(2)¹.

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 order are to the "EPA-Approved Texas Statutory and Regulatory Requirements Applicable to the Hazardous Waste Management Program" dated December 2015, incorporated by reference under 40 C.F.R. § 272.2201(c)(1)(i) effective on April 10, 2020. 85 Fed. Reg. 20190 (April 10, 2020); 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.

- 3. For the purpose of this CAFO, Respondent admits the jurisdictional allegations herein; however, Respondent neither admits nor denies the specific factual allegations and conclusions of law contained in this CAFO. This CAFO states a claim upon which relief may be granted.
- 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.

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) and (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.

II. FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 9. Respondent is a corporation authorized to do business in the State of Texas.
- Respondent is a "person" within the meaning of Section 1004(15) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. §
 6903(15), and 30 Texas Admin. Code § 335.2(25), [40 C.F.R. § 260.10].

- 11. Respondent owns and operates the Facility.
- 12. The Facility is a former fossil fuel electric power generation plant. The Facility was officially retired from operation on January 11, 2018.
- 13. The Facility is a "facility" within the meaning of 30 Texas Admin. Code § 335.1(60) [40 C.F.R. § 260.10].
- 14. From March through April, 2021, EPA conducted a RCRA record review of the Facility's activities as a generator of hazardous waste.
- 15. EPA discovered that Respondent generated, and offered for transport and treatment, hazardous wastes as defined in 30 Texas Admin. Code § 335.1 (70), [40 C.F.R. §§ 261.21, 261.22, 261.24, and 261.33].
- 16. Based on its review, EPA determined that Respondent generated the hazardous waste streams in quantities that exceeded the threshold amount of 100 kilograms of non-acute hazardous waste in a month, corresponding to Small Quantity Generator (SQG) status under 30 Texas Admin. Code, Chapter 335, Subchapter C, [40 C.F.R. Part 262], for the periods that such wastes remained onsite. Respondent has not generated any hazardous wastes since August 2018.
- 17. Respondent is a "generator" of "hazardous waste" as those terms are defined in 30 Texas Admin. Code §§ 335.1(66) & (70) [40 C.F.R. § 260.10].
- 18. 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 Texas Admin. Code Chapter 335, Subchapter C, [40 C.F.R Part 262].
- 19. On April 20, 2021, the EPA conferred with Respondent regarding the violations alleged herein and provided an opportunity for Respondent to submit additional information or materials.

III. VIOLATIONS

Claims 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 the 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 the EPA or the State of Texas, an authorized state, an adequate and timely notification of its hazardous waste activities at the Facility during 2018 in violation of Section 3010(a) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6930(a) and 30 Texas Admin. Code § 335.6(c).

III.TERMS OF SETTLEMENT

A. Penalty Provisions

- 23. 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 seven thousand and sixty dollars (\$ 7,060).
- 24. The penalty shall be paid within thirty (30) calendar days of the effective date of this CAFO and made payable to the Treasurer United States.

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25. The EPA web address, https://www.epa.gov/financial/additional-instructions-making-paymentsepa, provides a list of options available for transmitting payment of penalties.

Options for payment include:

- A. Electronic payments via Pay.gov. https://www.pay.gov/public/form/start/11751879
- B. Remittance by Regular Mail, U.S. Postal Mail (including certified mail) or U.S. Postal Service Express Mail. The check should be remitted to:

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

C. Overnight Mail (non-U.S. Postal Service), the check should be remitted to:

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

D. Wire Transfer:

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 Luminant Generation Company LLC, Docket No. RCRA-06-2021-0942) shall be clearly documented on or within the chosen method of payment to ensure proper credit.

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

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

U.S. EPA, Region 6 1201 Elm Street, Suite 500 Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division (ECDSR) ATTN: Tripti Thapa Dallas, Texas 75270-2102

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

- 27. 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).
- 28. 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.

29. For purposes of the identification requirement in Section 162(f)(2)(A)(ii) of the Internal Revenue Code, 26 U.S.C. § 162(f)(2)(A)(ii), and 26 C.F.R. § 162-21(b)(2), performance of the Compliance Order and payment of the civil penalty are restitution, remediation, or required to come into compliance with the law.

Costs

30. 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.

Effective Date of Settlement

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

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

FOR THE RESPONDENT:			
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Date:	Renee Collins	Digitally signed by Renee Collins Date: 2021.08.03 08:37:37 -05'00'	
	Lu	minant Generation Co	ompany LLC
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FOR THE COMPLAINANT:		*	

Cheryl T. 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.

THOMAS RUCKI Digitally signed by THOMAS RUCKI DN: ceUS, 0=US. Government, curEnvironmental Protection Agency, cn=THOMAS RUCKI, 0.92347:1920030:100.1.1=68001003655804 Date: 2021.08.09.08.35.37-05'00'

Thomas Rucki Regional Judicial Officer

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Consent Agreement and Final Order was electronically 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 was sent this day in the following manner to the email addresses:

Copy via Email to Complainant:

mcdonald.ashley@epa.gov

Copy via Email to Respondent:

David.Mitchell@vistracorp.com

Lori Jackson 08/10/2021

Ms. Lori Jackson Paralegal