



UNITED STATES
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

BEFORE THE ADMINISTRATOR

IN THE MATTER OF)
)
)
FRM CHEM, INC.,) DOCKET NO. FIFRA-07-2008-0035
ADVANCED PRODUCTS TECHNOLOGY, INC.,) DOCKET NO. FIFRA-07-2008-0036
SYNISYS, INC.,) DOCKET NO. FIFRA-07-2009-0041
CUSTOM COMPOUNDERS, INC.,) DOCKET NO. FIFRA-07-2009-0042
)
)
RESPONDENTS)

ORDER SCHEDULING HEARING

This proceeding arises under the authority of Section 14 of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act ("FIFRA"), 7 U.S.C. § 1361. The parties are reminded that this proceeding is governed by the Consolidated Rules of Practice Governing the Administrative Assessment of Civil Penalties and the Revocation/Termination or Suspension of Permits and the Supplemental Rules Governing the Administrative Assessment of Civil Penalties Under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (the "Rules of Practice"), 40 C.F.R. §§ 22.1-32, 22.35.

The parties have filed their initial prehearing exchanges in this matter pursuant to the undersigned's amended Prehearing Order entered on December 2, 2009. On March 17, 2010, Complainant submitted a rebuttal to Respondent's prehearing exchange. The parties retain the right to make a motion to supplement their prehearing exchanges no later than fifteen (15) days before the hearing date. Sections 22.19(a) and 22.22(a) of the Rules of Practice, 40 C.F.R. §§ 22.19(a), 22.22(a), provide that documents or exhibits that have not been exchanged and witnesses whose names have not been exchanged at least fifteen (15) days before the hearing date shall not be admitted into evidence or allowed to testify unless good cause is shown for failing to exchange the required information.

Further, the parties are advised that every motion filed in this proceeding must be served in sufficient time to permit the filing of a response by the other party and to permit the issuance of an order on the motion before the deadlines set by this order or any subsequent order. Section 22.16(b) of the Rules of Practice, 40 C.F.R. § 22.16(b), allows a fifteen-day (15) period for responses to motions and Section 22.7(c), 40 C.F.R. § 22.7(c), provides for an additional five (5) days to be added thereto when the motion is served by mail. The parties are hereby notified that the undersigned will not entertain last minute motions to amend or supplement the prehearing exchange absent extraordinary circumstances.

The file before me reflects that the parties have engaged in settlement negotiations, but no settlement has yet been reached. United States Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") policy, found in the Rules of Practice at Section 22.18(b), 40 C.F.R. § 22.18(b), encourages settlement of a proceeding without the necessity of a formal hearing. The benefits of a negotiated settlement may far outweigh the uncertainty, time, and expense associated with a litigated proceeding. However, the pursuit of settlement negotiations or an averment that a settlement in principle has been reached will not constitute good cause for failure to comply with the requirements or schedule set forth in this Order.

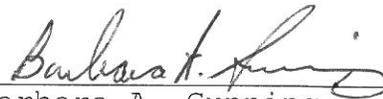
As the parties have not reached a settlement in this matter, they shall strictly comply with the requirements of this Order and prepare for a hearing. In connection therewith, on or before **July 23, 2010**, the parties shall file a joint set of stipulated facts, exhibits, and testimony. See Section 22.19(b)(2) of the Rules of Practice, 40 C.F.R. § 22.19(b)(2). The time allotted for the hearing is limited. Therefore, the parties must make a good faith effort to stipulate, as much as possible, to matters that cannot reasonably be contested so that the hearing can be concise and focused solely on those matters that can only be resolved after a hearing.

The Hearing in this matter will be held beginning at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, **August 10, 2010**, in St. Louis,^{1/} Missouri, continuing if necessary through August 13, 2010. The Regional Hearing Clerk will make appropriate arrangements for a courtroom and retain a stenographic reporter. The parties will be notified of the exact location and of other procedures pertinent to the hearing when those arrangements are complete. Individuals

^{1/} Provided an appropriate facility is available.

requiring special accommodation at this hearing, including wheelchair access, should contact the Regional Hearing Clerk at least five business days prior to the hearing so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

IF ANY PARTY DOES NOT INTEND TO ATTEND THE HEARING OR HAS GOOD CAUSE FOR NOT BEING ABLE TO ATTEND THE HEARING AS SCHEDULED, IT SHALL NOTIFY THE UNDERSIGNED AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE MOMENT.



Barbara A. Gunning
Administrative Law Judge

Dated: April 26, 2010
Washington, DC

**In the Consolidated Matters of *FRM Chem, Inc.; Advanced Products Technology, Inc.; Synisys, Inc.; and Custom Compounders, Inc.*, Respondents.
Docket Nos. FIFRA-07-2008-0035; FIFRA-07-2008-0036; FIFRA-07-2009-0041 & FIFRA-07-2009-0042**

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that the foregoing **Order Scheduling Hearing**, dated April 26, 2010, was sent this day in the following manner to the addressees listed below.



Mary Angeles
Legal Staff Assistant

Original and One Copy by Hand Delivery to:

Sybil Anderson
Headquarters Hearing Clerk
U.S. EPA, Mail Code 1900L
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Washington, D.C. 20460-2001

Copy by Pouch Mail to:

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Copy by Regular Mail to:

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St. Louis, MO 63105

**Dated: April 26, 2010
Washington, D.C.**