

UNITED STATES
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY



BEFORE THE ADMINISTRATOR

IN THE MATTER OF)

RODNEY O. CORR,)

Respondent)

Docket No. CWA-04-2008-55504

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PREHEARING ORDER

As you previously have been notified, I have been designated by the January 22, 2009 Order of the Chief Administrative Law Judge to preside in the above captioned matter. This proceeding arises under the authority of Section 309(g) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, commonly referred to as the Clean Water Act ("CWA"), as amended, 33 U.S.C. § 1319(g), and is governed by the Consolidated Rules of Practice Governing the Administrative Assessment of Civil Penalties and the Revocation/Termination or Suspension of Permits (the "Rules of Practice"), 40 C.F.R. §§ 22.1-32. The parties are advised to familiarize themselves with both the applicable statute(s) and the Rules of Practice.

In an Order dated January 26, 2009 the parties were directed to hold a settlement conference on this matter and to file a report concerning the conference and the status of settlement. Additionally, Respondent, who had not requested a hearing in his *pro se* letter Answer, was directed to file a statement clarifying his position as to whether a hearing before an Administrative Law Judge is requested. Complainant now reports that a settlement has not been reached. Although Respondent has not stated directly whether he desires a hearing, he asserts that the Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") does not have jurisdiction over this matter, and he denies the allegations set forth by the EPA. As such, the parties shall strictly comply with the requirements of this order and prepare for a hearing. See *In re Green Thumb*

Nursery, Inc., FIFRA Appeal No. 95-4a, 6 E.A.D. 782, 786-94 (EAB, Mar. 6, 1997).

The parties are advised that extensions of time will not be granted absent a showing of good cause. See Section 22.7(b) of the Rules of Practice, 40 C.F.R. § 22.7(b). 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 prehearing requirements or to meet the schedule set forth in this Prehearing Order. Of course, the parties are encouraged to initiate or continue to engage in settlement discussions during and after preparation of their prehearing exchange.

The following requirements of this Order concerning prehearing exchange information are authorized by Section 22.19(a) of the Rules of Practice, 40 C.F.R. § 22.19(a). As such, it is directed that the following prehearing exchange takes place:

1. Each party shall submit:
 - (a) the names of any expert or other witnesses it intends to call at the hearing, together with a brief narrative summary of each witness' expected testimony, or a statement that no witnesses will be called; and
 - (b) copies of all documents and exhibits which each party intends to introduce into evidence at the hearing. The exhibits should include a curriculum vitae or resume for each proposed expert witness. If photographs are submitted, the photographs must be actual unretouched photographs. The documents and exhibits shall be identified as "Complainant's" or "Respondent's" exhibit as appropriate, and numbered with Arabic numerals (e.g., "Complainant's Exhibit 1"); and
 - (c) a statement expressing its view as to the place for the hearing and the estimated amount of time needed to present its direct case.

See Sections 22.19(a), (b), (d) of the Rules of Practice, 40 C.F.R. §§ 22.19(a), (b), (d); see also Section 22.21(d) of the Rules of Practice, 40 C.F.R. § 22.21(d).

2. This proceeding is for the assessment of a penalty and Complainant has not specified a proposed penalty.^{1/} Accordingly, the parties shall include in their prehearing information exchange all factual information they consider relevant to the assessment of a penalty.
3. Within fifteen (15) days after Respondent files his prehearing information exchange, Complainant shall file a document specifying a proposed penalty and explaining in detail how the proposed penalty was determined, including a description of how the specific provisions of any Agency penalty or enforcement policies and/or guidelines were applied in calculating the penalty.
4. If Respondent intends to take the position that he is unable to pay the proposed penalty or that payment will have an adverse effect on his ability to continue to do business, Respondent shall furnish supporting documentation such as certified copies of financial statements or tax returns.
5. Complainant shall submit a statement regarding whether the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980 ("PRA"), 44 U.S.C. §§ 3501 et seq., applies to this proceeding, whether there is a current Office of Management and Budget control number involved herein and whether the provisions of Section 3512 of the PRA are applicable in this case.

See Section 22.19(a)(4) of the Rules of Practice, 40 C.F.R. § 22.19(a)(4).

The prehearing exchanges delineated above shall be filed *in seriatim* manner, according to the following schedule:

April 21, 2009	-	Complainant's Initial Prehearing Exchange
May 21, 2009	-	Respondent's Prehearing Exchange, Including any direct and/or rebuttal evidence

^{1/} The Complaint states that Complainant proposes the assessment of a civil penalty of up to \$157,500 against Respondent for the violations alleged in the Complaint. Complaint at ¶ 20.

June 4, 2009 - Complainant's Rebuttal
Prehearing Exchange (if
necessary)

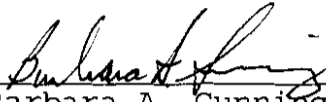
If the parties cannot settle with a Consent Agreement and Final Order, a hearing will be held in accordance with Section 556 of the Administrative Procedure Act ("APA"), 5 U.S.C. § 556. Section 556(d) of the APA provides that a party is entitled to present its case or defense by oral or documentary evidence, to submit rebuttal evidence, and to conduct such cross-examination as may be required for a full and true disclosure of the facts. Thus, Respondent has the right to defend himself against Complainant's charges by way of direct evidence, rebuttal evidence, or through cross-examination of Complainant's witnesses. Respondent is entitled to elect any or all three means to pursue his defense. If Respondent elects only to conduct cross-examination of Complainant's witnesses and to forgo the presentation of direct and/or rebuttal evidence, Respondent shall serve a statement to that effect on or before the date for filing his prehearing exchange. Each party is hereby reminded that failure to comply with the prehearing exchange requirements set forth herein, including Respondent's statement of election only to conduct cross-examination of Complainant's witnesses, can result in the entry of a default judgment against the defaulting party. See Section 22.17 of the Rules of Practice, 40 C.F.R. § 22.17.

The original and one copy of all pleadings, statements and documents (with any attachments) required or permitted to be filed in this Order (including a ratified Consent Agreement and Final Order) shall be filed with the Regional Hearing Clerk, and copies (with any attachments) shall be sent to the undersigned and all other parties. The parties are advised that E-mail correspondence with the Administrative Law Judge is not authorized. See Section 22.5(a) of the Rules of Practice, 40 C.F.R. § 22.5(a). The prehearing exchange information required by this Order to be sent to the Presiding Judge, as well as any other further pleadings, if sent by mail, shall be addressed as follows:

The Honorable Barbara A. Gunning
Administrative Law Judge
Office of Administrative Law Judges
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Mail Code 1900L
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20460

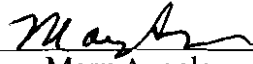
Hand-delivered packages transported by Federal Express or another delivery service which x-rays their packages as part of their routine security procedures, may be delivered directly to the Offices of the Administrative Law Judges at 1099 14th Street, NW, Suite 350, Washington, DC 20005.

Telephone contact may be made with my legal staff assistant, Mary Angeles at (202) 564-6281. The facsimile number is (202) 565-0044.



Barbara A. Gunning
Administrative Law Judge

Dated: March 4, 2009
Washington, DC



Mary Angeles
Legal Staff Assistant

Original and One Copy by Pouch Mail to:

Patricia Bullock
Regional Hearing Clerk
U.S. EPA / Region IV
61 Forsyth Street, SW
Atlanta, GA 30303-8960

Copy by Pouch Mail to:

Wilda W. Cobb, Esq.
Assistant Regional Counsel
U.S. EPA / Region IV
61 Forsyth Street, SW
Atlanta, GA 30303-8960

Copy by Regular Mail to:

Mr. Rodney O. Corr
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Granbury, TX 76048-1468

Mr. Rodney O. Corr
2320 Vienna Drive
Granbury, TX 76048-1468

Dated: March 4, 2009
Washington, D.C.