

UNITED STATES  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
  
BEFORE THE ADMINISTRATOR

09 MAR 13 AM 11:31  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
AGENCY-REGION VII  
REGIONAL HEARING CLERK

In the Matter of	)	
	)	
Department of Veterans Affairs Eastern	)	Docket No. RCRA-07-2008-0013
Kansas Health Care System,	)	
	)	
Respondent	)	

**ORDER INITIATING ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE  
RESOLUTION PROCESS AND APPOINTING NEUTRAL**

Pursuant to the request of the parties, Judge Spencer T. Nissen, is hereby designated as a neutral to initiate and conduct such processes as may facilitate a settlement of this proceeding.

The following procedures shall apply:

1. The Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) process will be conducted in a confidential manner. The Judge who serves as the neutral will not disclose to anyone the contents of any of the parties' ADR communications.
2. For the ADR process to be effective, the persons communicating with the neutral must either have authority to commit his or her side to a settlement, or have ready access to someone with such authority.
3. Unless terminated earlier at the request of either party, the ADR process shall automatically terminate on **May 11, 2009**. An extension of up to 60 days may be granted by the undersigned upon request of the ADR neutral, but in no event shall ADR continue for longer than 4 months. At that time, if no settlement has been reached, the case will be remanded to the litigation Judge to proceed with the litigation process in an expedited manner.
4. A party requesting termination of this process shall so advise the assigned neutral Judge either orally or in writing. The neutral Judge shall forward the request to the Chief Administrative Law Judge. The dispute resolution process initiated by this Order shall terminate upon order of the Chief Administrative Law Judge.

5. At the termination of the ADR process, the parties will be sent a questionnaire to elicit their views and the experience with the process. The contents of individual questionnaires will be kept confidential and will be made available to the neutrals and others only in a composite format.



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Susan L. Biro

Chief Administrative Law Judge

Dated: March 11, 2009  
Washington, DC

In the Matter of Department of Veterans Affairs Eastern Kansas Health Care System, Respondent  
Docket No. RCRA-07-2008-0013

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that the foregoing **Order Initiating Alternative Dispute Resolution Process And Appointing Neutral**, dated March 11, 2009, was sent this day in the following manner to the addressees listed below.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Maria Whiting-Beale  
Staff Assistant

Dated: March 11, 2009

Original And One Copy By Pouch to:

Kathy Robinson  
Regional Hearing Clerk  
U.S. EPA  
901 North 5<sup>th</sup> Street  
Kansas City, KS 66101

Copy by Pouch Mail to:

Belinda Holmes, Esquire  
Assistant Regional Counsel  
U.S. EPA  
901 North 5<sup>th</sup> Street  
Kansas City, KS 66101

Copy By Regular Mail To:

Michael E. Anfang, Staff Attorney  
Department of Veterans Affairs  
Office of Regional Counsel  
1201 Walnut Street, Suite 800  
Kansas City, MO 64106