



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 4
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

JUN 09 2011

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Greg Barnett
Director of Safety
Airgas South, Inc.
125 Townpark Drive NW
Suite 400
Kennesaw, Georgia 30144

Dear Mr. Barnett:

Enclosed please find an executed copy of the Expedited Settlement Agreement (ESA) that resolves the Clean Air Act (CAA) matter (Docket No. CAA-04-2014-8014(b)) involving Airgas South, Inc. The ESA was filed with the Regional Hearing Clerk, as required by 40 CFR Part 22 and became effective on today's date.

As required by the ESA, within fifteen days of receipt of this letter, payment to the Treasurer, United States of America in the amount of \$1800 should be submitted as follows:

For payment sent via electronic transfer
Federal Reserve Bank of New York
ABA = 021030004
Account = 68010727
SWIFT address = FRNYUS33
33 Liberty Street
New York, New York 10045
Field Tag 4200 of the Fedwire message should read:
"D 68010727 Environmental Protection Agency"

Also, a written statement that payment has been made in accordance with this ESA should be sent to the following individuals:

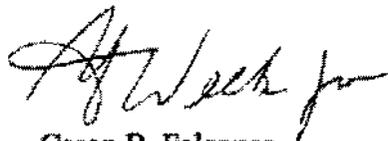
Saundi Wilson
U.S. EPA Region 4
Office of Environmental Accountability
61 Forsyth Street
Atlanta, Georgia 30303, and

Deanne D. Grant
U.S. EPA Region 4
EPCRA Enforcement Section
61 Forsyth Street
Atlanta, Georgia 30303.

Also enclosed, please find a copy of the "Notice of Securities and Exchange Commission Registrants' Duty to Disclose Environmental Legal Proceedings." This document puts you on notice of your potential duty to disclose to the Security and Exchange Commission (SEC) any environmental enforcement actions taken by the EPA. If you have any questions with regards to the SEC's environmental disclosure requirements, you may refer to the contact phone number at the bottom of the SEC Notice.

If you have any questions, please call Deanne Grant at (404) 562-9291.

Sincerely,



Caron B. Falconer
Chief, EPCRA Enforcement Section

Enclosures

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 4

EXPEDITED SETTLEMENT
AGREEMENT

2011 JUN 9 PM 2:34
RECEIVED
EPA REGION 4

DOCKET NO: CAA-04-2011-8014(b)

This ESA is issued to: Airgas South
2610 18th Avenue North
Bessemer, Alabama 35020

for violating 40 CFR § 68.65, 40 CFR § 68.69, 40 CFR § 68.87 and Section 112(r)(7) of the Clean Air Act.

This Expedited Settlement Agreement (ESA) is being entered into by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region 4, the Director of the Air, Pesticides and Toxics Management Division (Complainant), and by Airgas South (Respondent), pursuant to Section 113(d) of the Clean Air Act (the "Act"), 42 U.S.C. § 7413(d), and pursuant to 40 CFR § 22.13(b).

ALLEGED VIOLATIONS

Based on a compliance monitoring inspection conducted at the Respondent's facility located at 2610 18th Avenue North, Bessemer, Alabama, on August 11, 2010, EPA alleges that the Respondent violated the Act's Chemical Accident Prevention Program when at the time of inspection, Respondent did not provide evidence that:

It had compiled information concerning the technology of the process including safe upper and lower limits for such items as temperatures, pressures, flows or compositions as required by 40 CFR § 68.65(c)(1)(iv);

It had compiled information pertaining to the equipment in the process including relief system design and design basis as required by 40 CFR § 68.65(d)(1)(iv);

It had developed and implemented written operating procedures that provide clear instructions for safely conducting activities involved in the covered process consistent with the process safety information, addressing the normal operations associated with trans-loading as required by 40 CFR § 68.69(a)(1)(ii); and

It had periodically evaluated the performance of the contract owner or operator in fulfilling their obligations under 40 CFR § 68.87(c) as required by 40 CFR § 68.87(b)(5).

SETTLEMENT

In consideration of Respondent's size, its full compliance history, its good faith effort to comply, and other factors as justice may require, and upon consideration of the entire record the parties enter into the ESA in order to settle the violation cited above, for the total penalty amount of **\$1,800**.

This settlement is subject to the following terms and conditions: the Respondent by signing below admits the jurisdictional allegations contained herein, neither admits nor denies the specific factual allegations contained herein, and consents to the assessment of the penalty as stated above; Respondent waives its rights to a hearing afforded by Section 113(d)(2)(A) of the Act, 42 U.S.C § 7413(d)(2)(A), and to contest the allegations contained in this ESA; and each party to this action shall bear its own costs and fees, if any.

Respondent certifies, subject to civil and criminal penalties for making a false submission to the United States Government, that the Respondent has corrected the alleged violation listed in this ESA. Respondent shall pay a civil penalty of **\$1,800**. **Please note that payment should not be made until after Respondent receives a copy of the fully executed ESA.** Within fifteen (15) days of receiving a copy of the fully executed ESA, the Respondent shall send a cashier's check or certified check (payable to the "Treasurer, United States of America") in the amount of **\$1,800**, in payment of the full penalty amount to one of the following addresses:

For payment sent via U.S. Postal Service

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Fines and Penalties
Cincinnati Finance Center
PO Box 979077
St. Louis, MO 63197-9000; or

For payment sent via overnight mail service (FedEx, UPS)

U.S. Bank
1005 Convention Plaza
Mail Station SL-MO-C2GL
St. Louis, MO 63101

The Respondent's name and the Docket Number of this ESA must be included on the check. The Docket Number is located at the top left corner of the first page of this ESA.

At the time of payment, Respondent shall send a separate copy of the check, and a written statement that payment has been made in accordance with this ESA to:

Saundi Wilson
U. S. EPA Region 4
Office of Environmental Accountability
61 Forsyth Street
Atlanta, Georgia 30303, and

Deanne D. Grant
U. S. EPA Region 4
EPCRA Enforcement Section
61 Forsyth Street
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Upon Respondent's correction of alleged violations and payment of the penalty, EPA will take no further civil action against Respondent for the alleged violation of the Act referenced in this ESA. EPA does not waive any other enforcement action for any other violations of the Act or any other statute.

The following individual represents EPA in this matter and is authorized to receive service for EPA in this proceeding:

Caron B. Falconer
U. S. EPA - Region 4
61 Forsyth St., S. W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303
(404) 562-8451

This ESA is binding on the parties signing below.

This ESA is effective upon filing with the Regional Hearing Clerk.

FOR RESPONDENT:



Date: 5/16/11

Name (print): Greg Barnett

Title (print): Director of Safety
Airgas South

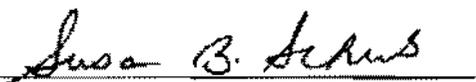
FOR COMPLAINANT:



Date: 5/2/11

Beverly H. Hanister
Director
Air, Pesticides & Toxics
Management Division
Region 4

I hereby ratify the ESA and incorporate it herein by reference. It is so ORDERED.



Date: 6/9/11

Susan B. Schub
Regional Judicial Officer

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this day served a true and correct copy of the foregoing Expedited Settlement Agreement, in the matter of Airgas South, Inc., CAA-04-2011-8014(b), on the parties listed below in the manner indicated:

Caron B. Falconer
U. S. EPA - Region 4
Air, Pesticides and Toxics
Management Division
61 Forsyth Street
Atlanta, GA 30303

(Via EPA's internal mail)

Ellen Rouch
U. S. EPA - Region 4
Office of Environmental Accountability
61 Forsyth Street
Atlanta, GA 30303

(Via EPA's internal mail)

Mr. Greg Barnett
Director of Safety
Airgas South, Inc.
2610 18th Avenue
Bessemer, Alabama 35020

(Via Certified Mail -
Return Receipt Requested)

Date: 6-9-11



Patricia A. Bullock, Regional Hearing Clerk
United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region 4
Sam Nunn Atlanta Federal Center
61 Forsyth Street
Atlanta, Georgia 30303
404-562-9511

EPA ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE CONTROL NUMBER FORM

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE ORIGINATING OFFICE:

(Attach a copy of the final order and transmittal letter to Defendant/Respondent)

This form was originated by: Saundi Wilson on 6/8/11
(Name) (Date)

in the Region 4, ORC, OEA at (404) 562-9504
(Office) (Telephone Number)

Non-SF Judicial Order/Consent Decree
USAO COLLECTS

Administrative Order/Consent Agreement
FMO COLLECTS PAYMENT

SF Judicial Order/Consent Decree
DOJ COLLECTS

Oversight Billing - Cost Package required:
Sent with bill

Not sent with bill

Other Receivable

Oversight Billing - Cost Package not required

This is an original debt

This is a modification

PAYEE: Airco South
(Name of person and/or Company/Municipality making the payment)

The Total Dollar Amount of the Receivable: \$ 1800
(If installments, attach schedule of amounts and respective due dates. See Other side of this form.)

The Case Docket Number: CMA of 2011 8014(b)

The Site Specific Superfund Account Number: _____

The Designated Regional/Headquarters Program Officer: _____

The IFMS Accounts Receivable Control Number is: _____ Date: _____

If you have any questions, please call: _____ of the Financial Management Section at: _____

DISTRIBUTION:

A. **JUDICIAL ORDERS:** Copies of this form with an attached copy of the front page of the **FINAL JUDICIAL ORDER** should be mailed to:

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Debt Tracking Officer
Environmental Enforcement Section
Department of Justice RM 1647
P.O. Box 7611, Benjamin Franklin Station
Washington, D.C. 20544 | 2. Originating Office (EAD)
3. Designated Program Office |
|--|---|

B. **ADMINISTRATIVE ORDERS:** Copies of this form with an attached copy of the front page of the Administrative Order should be to:

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Originating Office
2. Regional Hearing Clerk | 3. Designated Program Office
4. Regional Counsel (EAD) |
|--|---|