

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION VII 901 NORTH 5TH STREET KANSAS CITY, KANSAS 66101

APR 1 0 2007

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED Article No.: 7001 0320 0004 5577 8898

Charles R (Bob) McConachie Simpson Woolley McConachie, LLP 700 The Quadrangle 2828 Routh Street Dallas, TX 75201

Re: Qualis Inc., Docket No. FIFRA-07-2007-0004

Dear Bob:

Please find enclosed a Consent Agreement and Final Order ("CAFO") memorializing the terms and conditions of the settlement agreed to by the parties in the referenced matter. Please sign the last page of the CAFO and return the entire document within 30 days of receipt to:

Demetra O. Salisbury U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 901 North 5th Street Kansas City, Kansas 66101

After the CAFO has been returned it will then be executed by the Regional Judicial Officer, disposing of this proceeding. The Regional Hearing Clerk will then send you a copy of the executed final order.

As stated in the Final Order, the payment is due thirty calendar days from the effective date of the executed order. Payment should be made by certified or cashier's check made payable to the "United States Treasury" and sent to:

Mellon Bank EPA - Region 7 Regional Hearing Clerk P.O. Box 371099M Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15251

Copies of the payment check shall be forwarded to me and to the Regional Hearing Clerk at 901



North 5th Street, Kansas City, Kansas 66101.

If there are any questions pertaining to this case, please telephone me at (913) 551-7369. Thank you for your cooperation in resolving this matter.

Sincerely, Demetra O. Salisbury

Attorney V Office of Regional Counsel

Enclosure: Consent Agreement Final Order

CC: Ms. Kathy Robinson Regional Hearing Clerk

> Ms. Elizabeth Murtagh-Yaw WWPD/PEST

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION VII 901 N. 5TH STREET KANSAS CITY, KANSAS 66101

IN THE MATTER OF)		
) Docket No. FIFRA-07-2007-0004		
Qualis, Inc.)		
4600 Park Avenue) CONSENT AGREEMENT		
Des Moines, Iowa 50321) AND		
) FINAL ORDER		
Respondent			

CONSENT AGREEMENT AND FINAL ORDER

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region VII and Qualis, Inc. (Respondent) have agreed to a settlement of this action before filing of a complaint, and thus this action is simultaneously commenced and concluded pursuant to Rules 22.13(b), 22.18(b)(2) and 22.18(b)(3) of the Consolidated Rules of Practice Governing the Administrative Assessment of Civil Penalties, Issuance of Compliance or Corrective Action Orders, and the Revocation, Termination or Suspension of Permits (Consolidated Rules), 40 C.F.R. §§ 22.13(b), 22.18(b)(2) and 22.18(b)(3).

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

Jurisdiction and Statutory Requirements

1. This is an administrative action for the assessment of civil penalties instituted pursuant to Section 14 of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), 7 U.S.C. § 1361.

2. This Consent Agreement and Final Order serves as notice that EPA has reason to believe that Respondent has violated Section 12 of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136j.

<u>Parties</u>

3. The Complainant, by delegation from the Administrator of the EPA and the Regional Administrator, EPA, Region VII, is the Director of the Water, Wetlands, and Pesticides Division, EPA, Region VII.

4. The Respondent is Qualis, Inc., a pesticide producer, located at 4600 Park Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa 50321. The Respondent is and was at all times referred to in this Complaint, as a "person" as defined by Section 2(s) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136(s), and a corporation qualified In the Matter of Qualis, Inc. Docket No. FIFRA-07-2007-0004 Page 2 of 8

to do business in the state of Iowa.

Alleged Violations

5. The Complainant hereby states and alleges that Respondent has violated FIFRA and federal regulations promulgated thereunder, as follows:

6. Respondent Qualis, Inc., at all times relevant to this Complaint, operated a registered pesticide-producing establishment in Des Moines, Iowa, under EPA Establishment No. 34797-IA-003, and produced FIVE POINT PREMIUM #101 FLEA & TICK SPRAY, EPA Registration No. 34797-56-72749.

7. On April 14 and 15, 2004, a representative of the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship conducted an inspection at Respondent's manufacturing plant (4600 Park Avenue) and at Respondent's warehouse (3811 Dixon Street), both in Des Moines, Iowa, and collected documents related to the distribution and sale of FIVE POINT PREMIUM #101 FLEA & TICK SPRAY.

8. On March 23, 2004, Respondent shipped twelve (12) 16 ounce containers of FIVE POINT PREMIUM #101 FLEA & TICK SPRAY to Roswell Livestock & Farm Supply at 1105 E. 2nd Street, Roswell, New Mexico, documented by invoice number 124302.

9. Section 3(c)(1)(C) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136a(c)(1)(C) states that each applicant for registration of a pesticide shall file with the Administrator a statement which includes a complete copy of the labeling of the pesticide, a statement of all claims to be made for it, and any directions for its use.

10. The last EPA approved label for FIVE POINT PREMIUM #101 FLEA & TICK SPRAY, EPA Registration No. 34797-56-72749 was dated May 20, 1985. This approved label stated that the product was only a flea and tick spray.

11. The product referred to in paragraphs 7 and 8 bore the claim, "For use on cats and dogs and on premises to control fleas, ticks, and *lice*".

12. Section 2(gg) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136(gg), defines the term "to distribute or sell" to mean to distribute, sell, offer for sale, hold for distribution, hold for sale, hold for shipment, ship, deliver for shipment, release for shipment, or receive and (having so received) deliver or offer to deliver.

13. Section 12(a)(1)(B) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136j(a)(1)(B) states that it shall be unlawful for any person in any State to distribute or sell to any person any registered pesticide if

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any claims made for it as a part of its distribution or sale substantially differ from any claims made for it as a part of the statement required in connection with its registration under section 3.

14. Respondent violated Section 12(a)(1)(B) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136j(a)(1)(B), by distributing or selling a registered pesticide whose claims differed in substance from the claims made as part of its registration under Section 3 of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. 136a.

CONSENT AGREEMENT

It is hereby agreed and accepted by the parties, that:

1. This Consent Agreement and Final Order is being entered into by the parties in full settlement of and release from all FIFRA civil penalties that might have attached as a result of allegations made above. Respondent has read the Consent Agreement, finds it reasonable, consents to its issuance and will comply with the terms of the Final Order.

2. Respondent admits the jurisdictional allegations of this Consent Agreement and Final Order and agrees not to contest EPA's jurisdiction in this proceeding or any subsequent proceeding to enforce the terms of the Final Order set forth below.

3. Respondent neither admits nor denies the factual allegations and legal conclusions set forth in this Consent Agreement and Final Order, but does not object to the entry of the Final Order.

4. Respondent waives its right to a judicial or administrative hearing on any issue of fact or law set forth above and its right to appeal the Final Order accompanying this Consent Agreement.

5. Respondent certifies by signing this Consent Agreement and Final Order that, to the best of its knowledge, it is presently in compliance with FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136 et. seq. and all regulations promulgated thereunder.

6. Nothing in this Consent Agreement shall be construed as a release from any other action under any law and/or regulation administered by the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency. Nothing contained in the Final Order portion of this Consent Agreement and Final Order shall alter or otherwise affect Respondent's obligation to comply with all applicable federal, state and local environmental statutes and regulations and applicable permits.

7. Failure to pay the assessed penalty may result in the referral of this matter to the United States Department of Justice for collection. If payment is not received on or before the

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due date, interest will be assessed at the annual rate established by the Secretary of the Treasury pursuant to 31 U.S.C. § 3717. The interest will be assessed on the overdue amount from the due date through the date of payment.

8. Each party shall bear its own costs and attorneys' fees in the action resolved by this Consent Agreement and Final Order.

9. Each signatory of this Agreement certifies that he or she is fully authorized to enter into the terms of this Consent Agreement and Final Order.

10. Respondent consents to the issuance of the Final Order hereinafter recited and consents to the payment of a mitigated civil penalty as specified in paragraph 1 of the Final Order.

11. The effect of the settlement described in Paragraph 10 above is conditioned upon the accuracy of the Respondent's representations to EPA, as memorialized in Paragraph 5 above.

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FINAL ORDER

Pursuant to Section 14 of FIFRA, as amended, 7 U.S.C. § 136<u>1</u>, and according to the terms of the Consent Agreement set forth above, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. Respondent, in settlement of the allegations set forth in the Complaint, shall pay by cashier's or certified checks, a civil penalty, for the violations cited herein, in the amount of Three Thousand Six Hundred and Forty Dollars (\$3,640.00), on or before thirty (30) days of the effective date this Final Order.

2. Payment of the penalty shall be by cashier or certified check made payable to "Treasurer, United States of America" and remitted to:

> Regional Hearing Clerk United States Environmental Protection Agency Region VII, c/o Mellon Bank P.O. Box 371099M, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15251.

3. The payment shall reference Docket Number, FIFRA 07-2007-0004 and <u>In the</u> <u>Matter of Qualis, Inc.</u> Copies of the check shall be forwarded to:

> Demetra O. Salisbury Office of Regional Counsel United States Environmental Protection Agency Region VII 901 North 5th Street Kansas City, Kansas 66101

and

Kathy Robinson Regional Hearing Clerk Office of Regional Counsel United States Environmental Protection Agency Region VII 901 North 5th Street Kansas City, Kansas 66101

4. No portion of the civil penalty or interest paid by Respondent pursuant to the

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requirements of this Consent Agreement and Final Order shall be claimed by Respondent as a deduction for federal, state, or local income tax purposes.

5. The effective date of this Order shall be the date on which it is signed by the Regional Judicial Officer.

6. This executed Consent Agreement and Final Order shall be filed with the Regional Hearing Clerk, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region VII, 901 North 5th Street, Kansas City, Kansas, 66101.

COMPLAINANT:

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

By:

William A. Spratlin Director Water, Wetlands, and Pesticides Division

Date:

By:

Demetra O. Salisbury Attorney Office of Regional Counsel

Date:

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RESPONDENT:

Qualis, Inc.

By:	 	
Title:	 	

Date:

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IT IS SO ORDERED. This Order shall become effective immediately.

ROBERT L. PATRICK Regional Judicial Officer U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region VII

Date