



by Section 112(r) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7412(r), and 40 C.F.R. Part 68, and that Respondent is therefore in violation of Section 112(r) of the CAA. Furthermore, this CA/FO serves as notice pursuant to Section 113(d)(2)(A) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7413(d)(2)(A), of EPA's intent to issue an order assessing penalties for this violation.

### Parties

3. The Complainant, by delegation from the Administrator of the EPA, and the Regional Administrator, EPA, Region 7, is the Director, Air and Waste Management Division, EPA, Region 7.

4. The Respondent is International Mineral Technologies, L.L.C., doing business as Tetra Micronutrients. This action involves the facility located at 71025 569<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Fairbury, Nebraska, which was sold subsequent to the initiation of this enforcement action.

### Statutory and Regulatory Requirements

5. On November 15, 1990, the President signed into law the CAA Amendments of 1990. The Amendments added Section 112(r) to the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7412(r), which requires the Administrator of EPA to, among other things, promulgate regulations in order to prevent accidental releases of certain regulated substances. Section 112(r)(3), 42 U.S.C. § 7412(r)(3), mandates the Administrator to promulgate a list of regulated substances, with threshold quantities, and defines the stationary sources that will be subject to the accident prevention regulations mandated by Section 112(r)(7). Specifically, Section 112(r)(7), 42 U.S.C. § 7412(r)(7), requires the Administrator to promulgate regulations that address release prevention, detection and correction requirements for these listed regulated substances.

6. On June 20, 1996, EPA promulgated a final rule known as the Risk Management Program, 40 C.F.R. Part 68, which implements Section 112(r)(7) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7412(r)(7). These regulations require owners and operators of stationary sources to develop and implement a Risk Management Program that includes a hazard assessment, a prevention program and an emergency response program.

7. The regulations at 40 C.F.R. Part 68 set forth the requirements of a Risk Management Program that must be established at each stationary source. The Risk Management Program is described in a Risk Management Plan ("RMP") that must be submitted to EPA.

8. Pursuant to Section 112(r)(7) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7412(r)(7), and 40 C.F.R. § 68.150, an RMP must be submitted by the owner or operator of a stationary source that has more than a threshold quantity of a regulated substance in a process no later than the latter of June 21, 1999, or the date on which a regulated substance is first present above the threshold quantity in a process.

9. Section 113(d) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7413(d), states that the Administrator may issue an administrative order against any person assessing a civil administrative penalty of up to \$25,000 per day of violation whenever, on the basis of any available information, the Administrator finds that such person has violated or is violating any requirement or prohibition of the CAA referenced therein, including Section 112(r)(7). Section 113(d) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7413(d), as amended by the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996, authorizes the United States to assess civil administrative penalties of not more than \$27,500 per day for each violation that occurs after January 30, 1997, through March 15, 2004, and \$32,500 per day for each violation that occurs after March 15, 2004. For each violation of Section 112(r) of the CAA that occurs after January 12, 2009, penalties of up to \$37,500 per day are now authorized.

#### Definitions

10. The regulations at 40 C.F.R. § 68.3 define “stationary source,” in part, as any buildings, structures, equipment, installations or substance emitting stationary activities which belong to the same industrial group, which are located on one or more contiguous properties, which are under the control of the same person (or persons under common control), and from which an accidental release may occur.

11. The regulations at 40 C.F.R. § 68.3 define “threshold quantity” as the quantity specified for regulated substances pursuant to Section 112(r)(5) of the CAA, as amended, listed in 40 C.F.R. § 68.130, Table 1, and determined to be present at a stationary source as specified in 40 C.F.R. § 68.115.

12. The regulations at 40 C.F.R. § 68.3 define “regulated substance” as any substance listed pursuant to Section 112(r)(3) of the CAA, as amended, in 40 C.F.R. § 68.130.

13. The regulations at 40 C.F.R. § 68.3 define “process” as any activity involving a regulated substance including any use, storage, manufacturing, handling or on-site movement of such substances, or combination of these activities. For the purposes of this definition, any group of vessels that are interconnected, or separate vessels that are located such that a regulated substance could be involved in a potential release, shall be considered a single process.

#### Alleged Violations

14. EPA alleges that Respondent has violated the CAA and federal regulations promulgated pursuant to the CAA, as follows:

15. Respondent is, and at all times referred to herein was, a “person” as defined by Section 302(e) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7602(e).

16. At all times relevant to this action, Respondent’s former facility, located at 71025 569<sup>th</sup> Avenue, in Fairbury, Nebraska, was a “stationary source” pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 68.3.

17. Anhydrous ammonia is a regulated substance pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 68.3. The threshold quantity for anhydrous ammonia, as listed in 40 C.F.R. § 68.130, Table 1, is 10,000 pounds.

18. On or about February 10, 2010, EPA conducted an inspection of the Fairbury, Nebraska, facility to determine compliance with Section 112(r) of the CAA and 40 C.F.R. Part 68.

19. Records collected during the inspection showed that Respondent had exceeded the threshold quantity for anhydrous ammonia.

20. Respondent is subject to the requirements of Section 112(r) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7412(r), and 40 C.F.R. Part 68, Subpart G, because it owned and operated a stationary source that had more than a threshold quantity of a regulated substance in a process.

21. Respondent was required under Section 112(r) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7412(r), and 40 C.F.R. Part 68, to develop and implement a Risk Management Program that includes a management system, a hazard assessment, a prevention program and an emergency response program.

22. Records collected during the inspection showed that Respondent failed to develop and implement a Risk Management Program that complied with all the requirements of 40 C.F.R. Part 68. Specifically:

- (a) Respondent failed to determine or document the priority order for conducting process hazard analyses ("PHAs"), as required by 40 C.F.R. § 68.67(a);
- (b) Respondent failed to update and revalidate its PHA every five years, as required by 40 C.F.R. § 68.67(f);
- (c) Respondent failed to develop operating procedures that address all the information required by 40 C.F.R. § 68.69(a);
- (d) Respondent failed to conduct a compliance audit at least every three years, as required by 40 C.F.R. § 68.79(a);
- (e) Respondent failed to develop a written plan of action regarding the implementation of employee participation, as required by 40 C.F.R. § 68.83(a);
- (f) Respondent failed to provide all the information required by 40 C.F.R. § 68.175(a) for each Program 3 process; and
- (g) Respondent failed to revise and update its Risk Management Plan at least once every five years, as required by 40 C.F.R. § 68.190(b)(1).

23. Respondent's failure to comply with the requirements of 40 C.F.R. Part 68, as set forth above, violates Section 112(r) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7412(r).

**CONSENT AGREEMENT**

24. Respondent and EPA agree to the terms of this CA/FO and Respondent agrees to comply with the terms of the Final Order portion of this CA/FO.

25. For purposes of this proceeding, Respondent admits the jurisdictional allegations set forth above, and agrees not to contest EPA's jurisdiction in this proceeding or any subsequent proceeding to enforce the terms of the Final Order portion of this CA/FO.

26. Respondent neither admits nor denies the factual allegations set forth above.

27. 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 portion of this CA/FO.

28. Respondent and EPA agree to conciliate this matter without the necessity of a formal hearing and to bear their respective costs and attorney's fees incurred as a result of this action.

29. This CA/FO addresses all civil and administrative claims for the CAA violations identified above. Complainant reserves the right to take enforcement action with respect to any other violations of the CAA or other applicable law.

30. Respondent certifies by the signing of this CA/FO that to the best of its knowledge, Respondent's facility is in compliance with all requirements of Section 112(r) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7412(r), and all regulations promulgated thereunder.

31. The effect of settlement described in Paragraph 29 is conditional upon the accuracy of the Respondent's representations to EPA, as memorialized in Paragraph 30, above, of this CA/FO.

32. Respondent consents to the issuance of the Final Order hereinafter recited and consents to the payment of the civil penalty as set forth in the Final Order.

33. Respondent understands that the failure to pay any portion of the civil penalty assessed herein in accordance with the provisions of this order may result in commencement of a civil action in Federal District Court to recover the total penalty, together with interest at the applicable statutory rate.

34. The undersigned representative of Respondent certifies that he or she is fully authorized to enter the terms and conditions of the CA/FO and to legally bind Respondent to it.

**FINAL ORDER**

Pursuant to the provisions of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7401 *et seq.*, and based upon the information set forth in this Consent Agreement, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. Respondent shall pay a civil penalty of Seventy Thousand Dollars (\$70,000) within thirty days of entry of this Final Order. Payment shall be by cashier's or certified check made payable to "United States Treasury" and shall be remitted to:

United State Environmental Protection Agency  
Fines and Penalties  
Cincinnati Finance Center  
Post Office Box 979077  
St. Louis, Missouri 63197-9000.

This payment shall reference docket number CAA-07-2011-0027.

2. A copy of the check should be sent to:

Regional Hearing Clerk  
United States Environmental Protection Agency - Region 7  
901 North Fifth Street  
Kansas City, Kansas 66101-2907

and to:

Erin Weekley  
Assistant Regional Counsel  
United States Environmental Protection Agency - Region 7  
901 North Fifth Street  
Kansas City, Kansas 66101-2907.

3. Respondent and Complainant shall bear their own costs and attorneys' fees incurred as a result of this matter.

COMPLAINANT:  
U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Date 10-21-11

Becky Weber  
Becky Weber  
Director, Air and Waste Management Division  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Region 7

Date 10-21-11

Erin Weekley  
Erin Weekley  
Assistant Regional Counsel  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Region 7

RESPONDENT:  
INTERNATIONAL MINERAL TECHNOLOGIES, L.L.C., d/b/a TETRA MICRONUTRIENTS

Date 10-12-11

Warren Pales  
Name  
Warren Pales  
Signature  
Dir Regulatory Affairs  
Title

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

Date

Oct. 24, 2011

Karina Borromeo  
Karina Borromeo  
Regional Judicial Officer  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Region 7



IN THE MATTER OF International Mineral Technologies, LLC d/b/a Tetra Micronutrients,  
Respondent  
Docket No. CAA-07-2011-0027

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Consent Agreement and Final Order was sent this day in the following manner to the addressees:

Copy hand delivered to  
Attorney for Complainant:

Erin Weekley  
Assistant Regional Counsel  
Region 7  
United States Environmental Protection Agency  
901 N. 5<sup>th</sup> Street  
Kansas City, Kansas 66101

Copy by Certified Mail Return Receipt to:

Warren Pales  
Director Regulatory Affairs  
International Mineral Technologies, LLC  
d/b/a Tetra Micronutrients  
71025 569<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Fairbury, Nebraska 68352

Dated: 10/24/11



Kathy Robinson  
Hearing Clerk, Region 7