

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

SEP 1 1 2014

# <u>CERTIFIED MAIL</u> RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Watt A. Ellis, IV Owner Ellis AG, LLC 7265 Alabama Highway 9 South Centre, Alabama 35960

> Re: Ellis AG, LLC, EPA Est. No. 74047-AL-001 Ratified Consent Agreement and Final Order Section 7 Expedited Settlement Agreement Docket No. FIFRA-04-2014-3127(b)

Dear Mr. Ellis:

Enclosed is a copy of the ratified Consent Agreement and Final Order (CAFO) in the above-referenced matter. The original CAFO has been filed with the Regional Hearing Clerk and served on the parties as directed in Section 22.6 of the Consolidated Rules of Practice, 40 C.F.R. Part 22.

EPA Region 4 has received proof of payment as per paragraph 6 of the Expedited Settlement Agreement and Final Order so no further action is required in this regard. Also enclosed is a copy of a document entitled "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 Securities and Exchange Commission any environmental enforcement actions taken by the Environmental Protection Agency.

.

Should you have any questions about this matter or your compliance status in the future, please contact Mr. Phillip Beard of the EPA Region 4 staff at (404) 562-9012.

Sincerely -----2 Anthony G. Toney Chief Pesticides and Toxic

Substances Branch

Enclosures

cc: Tony Cofer, Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries

## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 4

))

)

)

IN THE MATTER OF:

Ellis AG, LLC

Respondent

Docket No.: FIFRA-04-2014-377(b) EXPEDITED SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT AND FINAL ORDER

## **EXPEDITED SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT and FINAL ORDER**

1. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") alleges that Ellis AG, LLC ("Respondent") failed to comply with Section 7(c) of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), 7 U.S.C. § 136e(c).

2. Under Section 7(c) of FIFRA and 40 C.F.R. Part 167, Respondent was required to submit to the Administrator of EPA an annual report which indicates the types and amounts of pesticides or active ingredients which they are currently producing, which they produced during the past year and which they sold or distributed during the past year, pursuant to Section 7(c)(1) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136e(c)(1), and the regulations promulgated at 40 C.F.R. § 167.85.

3. Submittal of the annual report of pesticide production for calendar year 2012 was due on or before March 1, 2013.

4. Respondent failed to submit the annual report by the due date.

5. Therefore, Respondent violated Section 12(a)(2)(L) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. 136j(a)(2)(L).

6. EPA and Respondent agree that settlement of this matter for a civil penalty of \$400 (FOUR HUNDRED DOLLARS) is in the public interest.

7. EPA is authorized to enter into this Expedited Settlement Agreement and Final Order ("Agreement"), and this proceeding for the assessment of a civil penalty is simultaneously commenced and concluded, pursuant to Section 14(a) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 1361 and 40 C.F.R. § 22.13(b).

8. In signing this Agreement, Respondent: (a) admits that Respondent is subject to the requirement(s) in Paragraph 2 (above); (b) admits that EPA has jurisdiction over Respondent and Respondent's conduct as alleged herein; (c) neither admits nor denies the factual allegations contained herein; (d) consents to the assessment of this penalty; and (e) waives any right to contest the allegations contained herein, and its right to appeal the proposed Final Order attached hereto.

16. This Agreement is binding on the parties signing below, and in accordance with 40 C.F.R. 22.31(b), is effective upon filing.

IT IS SO AGREED,

Name (print): Watt A. Ellis IK Title (print): \_\_\_\_\_\_ Signature:

Date 8-15-14

APPROVED BY EPA:

erly H. Banister Division Director

Date 9-4-14

#### FINAL ORDER

Pursuant to the authority of Section 14(a) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 1361 and 40 C.F.R. § 22.13(b), and according to the terms of this Agreement, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

This Agreement shall be effective upon the filing of the Final Order by the Regional Hearing Clerk for EPA Region 4. Unless otherwise stated, all time periods herein shall be calculated in calendar days from such date.

IT IS SO ORDERED:

a D. Sekers

Susan Schub Regional Judicial Officer

Date 9/10/14

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on the date set out below, I filed the original and one copy of the foregoing Consent Agreement and Final Order and served a true and correct copy of the foregoing Consent Agreement and Final Order In the Matter of Ellis AG, LLC, Docket Number: FIFRA-04-2014-3127(b), to the addressees listed below:

Mr. Watt A. Ellis IV Owner Ellis AG, LLC 7265 Alabama Highway 9 South Centre, Alabama 35960 (via Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested)

Phillip Beard Pesticides Section U.S. EPA Region 4 61 Forsyth Street Atlanta, Georgia 30303 (via EPA's internal mail)

(via EPA's internal mail)

Robert Caplan Associate Regional Counsel Office of Environmental Accountability U.S. EPA Region 4 61 Forsyth Street Atlanta, Georgia 30303

9-11-14 Date:

Patter Bull

Patricia A. Bullock, Regional Hearing Clerk U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4 61 Forsyth Street Atlanta, Georgia 30303 (404) 562-9511