

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 4

FILED

Aug 19, 2024

9:40 am

**U.S. EPA REGION 4
HEARING CLERK**

In the Matter of:

Piedmont Chemical Industries I, LLC

Respondent.

Docket No. TSCA-04-2024-6007(b)

CONSENT AGREEMENT

I. NATURE OF ACTION

1. This is an administrative penalty assessment proceeding brought under Section 16(a) of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA or the Act), 15 U.S.C. § 2615(a), and Sections 22.13(b) and 22.18 of the *Consolidated Rules of Practice Governing the Administrative Assessment of Civil Penalties and the Revocation/Termination or Suspension of Permits*, as codified at Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.), Part 22.
2. This Consent Agreement and the attached Final Order shall collectively be referred to as the CAFO.
3. Having found that settlement is consistent with the provisions and objectives of the Act and applicable regulations, the Parties have agreed to settle this action pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 22.18 and consent to the entry of this CAFO without adjudication of any issues of law or fact herein.

II. PARTIES

4. Complainant is the Director of the Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division, United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region 4, who has been delegated the authority on behalf of the Administrator of the EPA to enter into this CAFO pursuant to 40 C.F.R. Part 22 and Section 16(a) of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2615(a).
5. Respondent is Piedmont Chemical Industries I, LLC, a limited liability company doing business in the State of North Carolina. This proceeding pertains to Respondent's facility located at 331 Burton Avenue, High Point, North Carolina 27262 (Facility).

III. GOVERNING LAW

6. Section 8(b) of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2607(b), requires the EPA to compile, keep current, and publish a list of each chemical substance that is manufactured or processed, including imports, in the United States for uses under TSCA. The list is also known as the "TSCA Inventory" or the TSCA "Master Inventory File" as defined in 40 C.F.R. § 711.3.
7. Pursuant to Section 15 of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2614, it is unlawful for any person to fail or refuse to comply with any rule or order promulgated pursuant to Sections 8 and 12 of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. §§ 2607 and 2611, or fail or refuse to establish or maintain records, submit reports, notices, or other information, or permit access to or copying of records, as required by TSCA or a rule thereunder.
8. Pursuant to Section 8(a) of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2607(a), the EPA promulgated rules pertaining to Chemical Data Reporting (CDR) found at 40 C.F.R. Part 711. According to 40 C.F.R. § 711.3, the definitions specified in 40 C.F.R. § 711.3, and the definitions in Section 3 of TSCA, apply to 40 C.F.R. Part 711. In addition, the definitions in 40 C.F.R. § 704.3 also apply to 40 C.F.R. Part 711, except the definitions of "manufacture" and "manufacturer" found in 40 C.F.R. § 704.3.
9. The term "person" is defined in 40 C.F.R. § 704.3, to include any individual, firm, company, corporation, joint venture, partnership, sole proprietorship, association, or any other business entity; any State or political subdivision thereof; any municipality; any interstate body; and any department, agency, or instrumentality of the Federal Government.
10. The term "importer" is defined in 40 C.F.R. § 704.3, to mean any person who imports any chemical substance or any chemical substance as part of a mixture or article into the customs territory of the United States.
11. The term "import" is defined in 40 C.F.R. § 704.3, to mean to import for commercial purposes.
12. The term "import for commercial purposes" is defined in 40 C.F.R. § 704.3, to mean to import with the purpose of obtaining an immediate or eventual commercial advantage for the importer and includes the importation of any amount of a chemical substance or mixture.
13. The term "manufacturer" is defined in 40 C.F.R. § 711.3, to mean a person who manufactures a chemical substance.
14. The term "manufacture" is defined in 40 C.F.R. § 711.3, to mean to manufacture, produce, or import, for commercial purposes. Manufacture includes the extraction, for commercial purposes, of a component chemical substance from a previously existing chemical substance or complex combination of chemical substances.
15. The term "manufacture for commercial purposes" is defined in 40 C.F.R. § 704.3, to mean to import, produce, or manufacture with the purpose of obtaining an immediate or eventual commercial advantage for the manufacturer, and includes among other things, such "manufacture" of any amount of a chemical substance or mixture: (i) for commercial distribution, including for test marketing; or (ii) for use by the manufacturer, including use for product research and development, or as an intermediate.

16. Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. §§ 711.8(a) and 711.20, any person who manufactured (including imported) for commercial purposes 25,000 pounds or more of a chemical substance described in 40 C.F.R. § 711.5, at any single site owned or controlled by that person, in any of the calendar years 2016, 2017, 2018, or 2019, is subject to the CDR requirements for the 2020 submission period.
17. Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 711.5, any chemical substance that is in the TSCA Master Inventory File at the beginning of a submission period described in 40 C.F.R. § 711.20 must be reported pursuant to the CDR requirements under Section 8(a) of TSCA and 40 C.F.R. Part 711, unless the chemical substance is specifically excluded by 40 C.F.R. § 711.6.
18. As referenced in 40 C.F.R. § 711.15, any person who is subject to 40 C.F.R. § 711.8 must submit the information described in 40 C.F.R. § 711.15(a) for each chemical substance described in 40 C.F.R. § 711.5 that the person manufactured (including imported) for commercial purposes in an amount of 25,000 pounds (11,340 kilograms (kgs)) or more, or in an amount of 2,500 pounds (1,134 kgs) or more for chemical substances subject to the rules, orders, or actions described in 40 C.F.R. § 711.8(b), at any one site during any calendar year since the last principal reporting year.
19. Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 711.15(b)(3)(iii), persons subject to reporting requirements under Subpart 711, must report, for the principal reporting year only, the total annual volume (in pounds) of each reportable chemical substance domestically manufactured or imported at each site. The total annual domestically manufactured volume (not including imported volume) and the total annual imported volume must be separately reported. These amounts must be reported to two significant figures of accuracy. In addition, the total annual volume (domestically manufactured plus imported volumes in pounds) of each reportable chemical substance at each site must be reported for each complete calendar year since the last principal reporting year.
20. The term “principal reporting year” is defined in 40 C.F.R. § 711.3, to mean the latest complete calendar year preceding the submission period.
21. Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 711.20, the 2020 submission period ran from June 1, 2020, until January 29, 2021, and 2020 CDR Reports were required to have been submitted to the EPA during that time period.
22. Pursuant to Section 12(b) of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2611(b), and 40 C.F.R. § 707.60(a), any person who exports or intends to export a chemical substance or mixture is required to notify the EPA of such exportation to a particular country, if, among other actions taken by the EPA, an order or rule has been issued for that chemical under Section 5 of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2604.
23. Pursuant to Section 5(a)(2) of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2604(a)(2), the EPA may, by rule, determine that use of a chemical is a significant new use with respect to which notification is required. Such significant new use rules are referred to as “SNURs.”
24. The term “exporter” is defined in 40 C.F.R. § 707.63(b), to mean the person who, as the principal party in interest in the export transaction, has the power and responsibility for determining and controlling the sending of the chemical substance or mixture to a destination out of the customs territory of the United States.

25. Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 707.65(a)(1)(ii), the export notification required under Section 12(b) of TSCA and 40 C.F.R. § 707.60(a) must only be submitted to the EPA for the first export or intended export by an exporter to a particular country when the chemical substance or mixture is the subject of a SNUR that has been proposed or promulgated under TSCA Section 5(a)(2).
26. Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 707.65(a)(2), any person exporting a chemical or mixture subject to a SNUR is required to submit an export notice to the EPA, postmarked within seven days of forming an intent to export or on the date of export, whichever is earlier. A notice of intent to export must be based on a definite contractual obligation, or an equivalent intra-company agreement, to export the regulated chemical.
27. Any information Respondent has claimed as Confidential Business Information which may support or form the basis for this CAFO has been intentionally redacted. To determine the identity of the chemical substances referenced in this CAFO (Chemicals E, F, and H), or to identify any other information designated as CBI, Respondent and/or Complainant should refer to the Opportunity to Show Cause letter dated May 29, 2024, sent to Respondent identifying potential violations of TSCA and notifying Respondent of the opportunity to show cause why the EPA should not proceed with an enforcement action.

IV. FINDING OF FACTS

28. Respondent is a person as defined in 40 C.F.R. § 704.3. Respondent operates a chemical manufacturing, distributing, processing, exporting, and importing business.
29. On June 8, 2023, the EPA sent Respondent a Notice of Inspection pursuant to Section 11(a) of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2610(a), notifying Respondent that the EPA would be conducting an inspection of Respondent's Facility to determine its compliance with TSCA. Pursuant to a request in the Notice, Respondent submitted certain records to the EPA prior to the inspection pertaining to its manufacture and importation of chemicals. On July 26, 2023, inspectors from the EPA Region 4 conducted a TSCA inspection at Respondent's Facility pursuant to Section 11(a) of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2610(a).
30. Based on a review of the records submitted by Respondent, the EPA issued Respondent an Opportunity to Show Cause letter on May 29, 2024, identifying potential violations of TSCA Section 8 pertaining to 2020 CDR reporting and TSCA Section 12 export requirements. On June 3, 2024, Respondent provided additional information to the EPA in response to the Opportunity to Show Cause letter. A show cause meeting was conducted with Respondent on June 20, 2024, to discuss potential violations.

Chemical Data Reporting for Chemicals E and F [CBI Deleted]

31. On November 17, 2020, pursuant to the requirements of 40 C.F.R. § 711.15, Respondent timely submitted its first 2020 CDR Report for twenty-five (25) chemicals (including Chemicals E and F) which Respondent had manufactured and imported for commercial purposes in quantities greater than 25,000 pounds during at least one of the years in the period 2016-2019. The report was required to be submitted by no later than the end of the 2020 CDR submission period, which was January 29, 2021.

32. The records submitted by Respondent in response to the Notice of Inspection and Opportunity to Show Cause letter included manufacturing records for 2018 – 2019, which revealed that Respondent manufactured two chemical substances (Chemicals E and F) for commercial purposes, and each of those chemicals was manufactured in a reportable quantity (greater than 25,000 pounds).
33. The two chemical substances, Chemicals E and F, were in the TSCA Master Inventory File at the beginning of a submission period described in 40 C.F.R. § 711.20 and are not exempted from the CDR reporting requirements by 40 C.F.R. § 711.6.
34. A comparison between Respondent's 2020 CDR Report and Respondent's 2019 manufacturing records (principal reporting year) indicate that Chemicals E and F were overreported in the CDR Report and therefore not reported to two significant figures of accuracy as required by 40 C.F.R. § 711.15(b)(3)(iii)). On July 31, 2023, Respondent submitted an amended 2020 CDR Report that correctly reported Chemicals E and F to two significant figures of accuracy for the principal reporting year.

Export of Chemical H [CBI Deleted]

35. Based on a review of the Respondent's records, the EPA determined that Respondent exported one shipment of Chemical H to India on March 10, 2020.
36. On October 1, 2014, the EPA proposed a significant new use rule (SNUR) for Chemical H. Chemical H's proposed SNUR is referenced at 79 Federal Register [CBI Deleted].
37. At the time that Chemical H was exported by Respondent on March 10, 2020, it was (1) subject to a proposed SNUR, and (2) subject to the export notification provisions of Section 12(b) of TSCA and 40 C.F.R. §§ 707.60(a), 707.65(a)(1)(ii), and 707.65(a)(2). Therefore, Respondent was required to submit an export notice for Chemical H to the EPA in writing for the first time it was exported to India, postmarked within seven days of forming an intent to export or on the date of export, whichever is earlier.
38. A review of the EPA's data system that tracks chemical exports confirmed that Respondent failed to submit an export notice to the EPA for Chemical H as required by Section 12(b) of TSCA within seven days of forming the intent to export or on the date of export, whichever was earlier, in connection with the first export of Chemical H to India. Respondent presented no evidence to the EPA showing a definite contractual obligation, or an equivalent intra-company agreement, forming an intent to export the regulated chemical. Therefore, the EPA determined that the notice should have been submitted by the date of the first export of Chemical H to India.
39. On July 31, 2023, Respondent submitted to the EPA a late export notice for the export of Chemical H to India on March 10, 2020.

V. ALLEGED VIOLATIONS

40. Based on the EPA's review of Respondent's records as set forth above, the EPA alleges that Respondent:

- a. Failed to report manufacturing volumes of Chemicals E and F to two significant figures of accuracy for the principal reporting year of 2019 in violation of 40 C.F.R. § 711.15(b)(3)(iii) and Section 8 of TSCA, as set forth in Section IV above. Failure to comply with Section 8 of TSCA and its implementing regulations constitutes a violation of Section 15 of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2614; and
- b. Failed to submit an export notice to the EPA for Chemical H within seven days of forming an intent to export or on the date of export for the first export of Chemical H to India as set forth in Section IV above, in violation of Section 12(b) of TSCA and 40 C.F.R. § 707.60(a), 40 C.F.R. §§ 707.65(a)(1)(ii), and 707.65(a)(2). Failure to comply with Section 12(b) and its implementing regulations constitutes a violation of Section 15 of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2614.

VI. STIPULATIONS

41. Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 22.13(b), the issuance of this CAFO simultaneously commences and concludes this proceeding.

42. For the purpose of this proceeding, as required by 40 C.F.R. § 22.18(b)(2), Respondent:

- a. admits that the EPA has jurisdiction over the subject matter alleged in this CAFO;
- b. neither admits nor denies the specific factual allegations set forth in Section IV (Findings of Facts) of this CAFO;
- c. consents to the assessment of a civil penalty as stated below;
- d. consents to the conditions specified in this CAFO;
- e. waives any right to contest the allegations set forth in Section V (Alleged Violations) of this CAFO; and
- f. waives its rights to appeal the Final Order accompanying this CAFO.

43. For the purpose of this proceeding, Respondent:

- a. agrees that this CAFO states a claim upon which relief may be granted against Respondent;
- b. acknowledges that this CAFO constitutes an enforcement action for purposes of considering Respondent's compliance history in any subsequent enforcement actions;
- c. waives any rights it may possess at law or in equity to challenge the authority of the EPA to bring a civil action in a United States District Court to compel compliance with the CAFO, and to seek an additional penalty for such noncompliance, and agrees that federal law shall govern in any such civil action;

- d. by executing this CAFO, certifies to the best of its knowledge that Respondent is currently in compliance with all relevant requirements of the Act and its implementing regulations, and that all violations alleged herein, which are neither admitted nor denied, have been corrected;
- e. waives any right it may have pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 22.8 to be present during any discussions with, or to be served with and reply to, any memorandum or communication addressed to EPA officials where the purpose of such discussion, memorandum, or communication is to persuade such official to accept and issue this CAFO; and
- f. agrees to comply with the terms of the CAFO.

44. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 22.5, the individuals named in the Certificate of Service are authorized to receive service related to this proceeding and the Parties agree to receive service by electronic means.

VII. TERMS OF PAYMENT

45. Respondent consents to the payment of a civil penalty, which was calculated in accordance with the Act, in the amount of **FORTY-SIX THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$46,600.00)**, which is to be paid within thirty (30) days of the Effective Date of this CAFO.
46. Payment shall be made by cashier's check, certified check, by electronic funds transfer (EFT), or by Automated Clearing House (ACH) (also known as REX or remittance express). If paying by check, the check shall be payable to: Treasurer, United States of America, and the Facility name and Docket Number for this matter shall be referenced on the face of the check. If Respondent sends payment by standard U.S. Postal Service delivery, the payment shall be addressed to:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
P.O. Box 979078
St. Louis, Missouri 63197-9000

If Respondent sends payment by non-standard mail delivery (e.g., FedEx, DHL, UPS, USPS certified, registered, etc.), the payment shall be sent to:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Government Lockbox 979078
3180 Rider Trail S.
Earth City, Missouri 63045

If paying by EFT, Respondent shall transfer the payment to:

Federal Reserve Bank of New York
ABA: 021030004
Account Number: 68010727
SWIFT address: FRNYUS33

33 Liberty Street
New York, New York 10045
Beneficiary: Environmental Protection Agency

If paying by ACH, Respondent shall remit payment to:

US Treasury REX/Cashlink ACH Receiver
ABA: 051036706
Account Number: 310006, Environmental Protection Agency
CTX Format Transaction Code 22 – checking
Physical location of US Treasury Facility:
5700 Rivertech Court
Riverdale, Maryland 20737
Remittance Express (REX): 1-866-234-5681

47. Respondent shall send proof of each payment electronically, within twenty-four (24) hours of payment of the civil penalty, to:

Regional Hearing Clerk
U.S. EPA Region 4
R4_Regional_Hearing_Clerk@epa.gov

and

Shanieka Pennamon
Chemical Safety and Land Enforcement Branch
Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division
U.S. EPA Region 4
pennamon.shanieka@epa.gov

48. "Proof of payment" means, as applicable, a copy of the check, confirmation of credit card or debit card payment, confirmation of wire or automated clearinghouse transfer, and any other information required to demonstrate that payment has been made according to EPA requirements, in the amount due, and identified with the Facility name and Docket No. TSCA-04-2024-6007(b).
49. Pursuant to Section 16(a) of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2615(a), 31 U.S.C. § 3717, 31 C.F.R. § 901.9, and 40 C.F.R. § 13.11, if Respondent fails to remit the civil penalty as agreed to herein, the EPA is entitled to assess interest and penalties on debts owed to the United States and a charge to cover the costs of processing and handling the delinquent claim. Accordingly, the EPA may require Respondent to pay the following amounts on any amount overdue:
- Interest. Interest will begin to accrue on the civil penalty from the Effective Date of this CAFO. If the civil penalty is paid within thirty (30) days of the Effective Date of this CAFO, interest is waived. However, if the civil penalty is not paid in full within thirty (30) days of the Effective Date of this CAFO, interest will continue to accrue on any unpaid portion until the unpaid portion of the civil penalty and accrued interest are paid. Interest will be assessed at the rate of the United States Treasury tax and loan rate, as established by

the Secretary of the Treasury, in accordance with 31 U.S.C. § 3717(a)(1), 31 C.F.R. § 901.9(b)(2), and 40 C.F.R. § 13.11(a).

- b. Non-Payment Penalty. On any portion of a civil penalty more than ninety (90) days past due, Respondent must pay a non-payment penalty of not more than six percent (6%) per annum, which will accrue from the date the penalty payment became due and is not paid, as provided in 31 U.S.C. § 3717(e)(2) and 31 C.F.R. § 901.9(d). This non-payment penalty is in addition to charges which accrue or may accrue under subparagraphs (a) and (c) and will be assessed monthly. 40 C.F.R. § 13.11(c).
- c. Monthly Handling Charge. Respondent must pay a late payment handling charge to cover the administrative costs of processing and handling the delinquent claim, based on either actual or average costs incurred. 31 C.F.R. § 901.9(c) and 40 C.F.R. § 13.11(b). Administrative costs will be assessed monthly throughout the period the debt is overdue except as provided by 40 C.F.R. § 13.12.

50. In addition to what is stated in the prior paragraph, if Respondent fails to timely pay any portion of the penalty assessed under this CAFO, the EPA may:

- a. refer the debt to a credit reporting agency or a collection agency (see 40 C.F.R. §§ 13.13 and 13.14);
- b. collect the debt by administrative offset (i.e., the withholding of money payable by the United States to, or held by the United States for, a person to satisfy the debt the person owes the Government), which includes, but is not limited to, referral to the Internal Revenue Service for offset against income tax refunds (see 40 C.F.R. Part 13, Subparts C and H);
- c. suspend or revoke Respondent's licenses or other privileges, or suspend or disqualify Respondent from doing business with the EPA or engaging in programs the EPA sponsors or funds (see 40 C.F.R. § 13.17); and/or
- d. request that the Attorney General bring a civil action in the appropriate district court to recover the amount assessed, in addition to the amounts described above, pursuant to Section 16(a) of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2615(a). In any such judicial action, the validity, amount, and appropriateness of the penalty and of this CAFO shall not be subject to review.

51. Penalties paid pursuant to this CAFO shall not be deductible for purposes of federal taxes.

VIII. EFFECT OF CAFO

52. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 22.18(c), Respondent's full compliance with this CAFO shall only resolve Respondent's liability for federal civil penalties for the violations and facts specifically alleged in Sections IV and V above.

53. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 22.18(c), full payment of the civil penalty, as provided in Section VII

(Terms of Payment) shall satisfy the requirements of this CAFO, but shall not in any case affect the right of the EPA or the United States to pursue appropriate injunctive or other equitable relief or criminal sanctions for any violations of law.

54. Any violation of this CAFO may result in a civil judicial action for civil penalties as provided in Section 16(a) of the Act, 15 U.S.C. § 2615(a), as well as criminal sanctions as provided in Section 16(b) of the Act, 15 U.S.C. § 2615(b). The EPA may use any information submitted under this CAFO in an administrative, civil judicial, or criminal action.
55. Nothing in this CAFO shall relieve Respondent of the duty to comply with all applicable provisions of the Act and other federal, state, or local laws or statutes, nor shall it restrict the EPA's authority to seek compliance with any applicable laws or regulations, nor shall it be construed to be a ruling on, or determination of, any issue related to any federal, state, or local permit, except as expressly provided herein.
56. Nothing herein shall be construed to limit the power of the EPA to undertake any action against Respondent or any person in response to an imminent hazard as authorized under Section 7 of the Act.
57. The terms, conditions, and compliance requirements of this CAFO may not be modified or amended except upon the written agreement of both Parties, and approval of the Regional Judicial Officer.
58. The provisions of this CAFO shall apply to and be binding upon Respondent and its successors and assigns. Respondent shall direct its officers, directors, employees, agents, trustees, and authorized representatives to comply with the provisions of this CAFO.
59. Any change in the legal status of Respondent, or change in ownership, partnership, corporate or legal status relating to the Facility, will not in any way alter Respondent's obligations and responsibilities under this CAFO.
60. By signing this Consent Agreement, Respondent acknowledges that this CAFO will be available to the public and agrees that this CAFO does not contain any confidential information under Section 14 of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2613, and 40 C.F.R. Part 2 and the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), or personally identifiable information.
61. By signing this Consent Agreement, the Complainant and the undersigned representative of Respondent each certify that he or she is fully authorized to execute and enter into the terms and conditions of this CAFO and has the legal capacity to bind the party he or she represents to this CAFO.
62. By signing this Consent Agreement, both Parties agree that each party's obligations under this CAFO constitute sufficient consideration for the other party's obligations.
63. By signing this Consent Agreement, Respondent certifies that the information it has supplied concerning this matter was at the time of submission, and continues to be, true, accurate, and complete for each such submission, response, and statement. Respondent acknowledges that there are significant penalties for submitting false or misleading information, including the

possibility of fines and imprisonment for knowing submission of such information, under 18 U.S.C. § 1001.

64. The EPA also reserves the right to revoke this CAFO and settlement penalty if and to the extent that the EPA finds, after signing this CAFO, that any information provided by Respondent was materially false or inaccurate at the time such information was provided to the EPA. If such false or inaccurate material was provided, the EPA reserves the right to assess and collect any and all civil penalties for any violation described herein. The EPA shall give Respondent notice of its intent to revoke, which shall not be effective until received by Respondent in writing.
65. It is the intent of the Parties that the provisions of this CAFO are severable. If any provision or authority of this CAFO or the application of this CAFO to any party or circumstances is held by any judicial or administrative authority to be invalid or unenforceable, the application of such provisions to other party or circumstances and the remainder of the CAFO shall remain in force and shall not be affected thereby.
66. Unless specifically stated otherwise in this CAFO, each party shall bear its own attorney's fees, costs, and disbursements incurred in this proceeding.

IX. EFFECTIVE DATE

67. This CAFO shall become effective after execution of the Final Order by the Regional Judicial Officer, on the date of filing with the Regional Hearing Clerk.

[Remainder of the Page Intentionally Left Blank]

Complainant and Respondent will Each Sign on Separate Pages]

The foregoing Consent Agreement In the Matter of **Piedmont Chemical Industries I, LLC**, Docket No. **TSCA-04-2024-6007(b)**, is Hereby Stipulated, Agreed, and Approved for Entry.

FOR RESPONDENT:

Benjamin Espada
Signature

August 9, 2024
Date

Printed Name: Benjamin Espada

Title: President

Address: 331 Burton Avenue High Point NC 27262

The foregoing Consent Agreement In the Matter of **Piedmont Chemical Industries I, LLC**, Docket No. **TSCA-04-2024-6007(b)**, is Hereby Stipulated, Agreed, and Approved for Entry.

FOR COMPLAINANT:

Keriema S. Newman
Director
Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 4

In the Matter of:

Piedmont Chemical Industries I, LLC

Respondent.

Docket No. **TSCA-04-2024-6007(b)**

FINAL ORDER

The Regional Judicial Officer is authorized to ratify this Consent Agreement which memorializes a settlement between Complainant and Respondent. 40 C.F.R. §§ 22.4(b) and 22.18(b)(3). The foregoing Consent Agreement is, therefore, hereby approved, ratified, and incorporated by reference into this Final Order in accordance with the *Consolidated Rules of Practice Governing the Administrative Assessment of Civil Penalties and the Revocation/Termination or Suspension of Permits*, 40 C.F.R. Part 22.

Respondent is hereby ORDERED to comply with all of the terms of the foregoing Consent Agreement effective immediately upon filing of this Consent Agreement and Final Order with the Regional Hearing Clerk. This Final Order disposes of this matter pursuant to 40 C.F.R. §§ 22.18 and 22.31.

BEING AGREED, IT IS SO ORDERED.

Regional Judicial Officer

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that the foregoing Consent Agreement and Final Order, In the Matter of **Piedmont Chemical Industries I, LLC**, Docket No. **TSCA-04-2024-6007(b)**, were filed and copies of the same were emailed to the Parties as indicated below.

Via email to all Parties at the following email addresses:

To Respondent: Ben Espada
President
Piedmont Chemical Industries I, LLC
bespada@piedmontchemical.com
336-885-5131

To EPA: Shanieka Pennamon
Case Development Officer
pennamon.shanieka@epa.gov
404-562-9213

Robert Caplan
Senior Attorney
caplan.robert@epa.gov
404-562-9520

Shannon Richardson
Regional Hearing Clerk
R4_Regional_Hearing_Clerk@epa.gov