

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 4

FILED

Oct 29, 2025

2:43 pm

U.S. EPA REGION 4
HEARING CLERK

In the Matter of:

Zinpro Specialty Products, LLC

Respondent.

Docket No. FIFRA-04-2025-3019(b)

CONSENT AGREEMENT

I. NATURE OF ACTION

1. This is an administrative penalty assessment proceeding brought under Section 14(a) of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA or the Act), as amended, 7 U.S.C. § 136/(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 of FIFRA 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 or Agency), 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 14(a) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136/(a).
5. Respondent is Zinpro Specialty Products, LLC (Zinpro), a limited liability company doing business in the State of Alabama. This proceeding pertains to Respondent's facility located at 411 Ranch Road, Rainsville, Alabama 35986 (Facility).

III. GOVERNING LAW

6. The term "label" is defined in Section 2(p)(1) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136(p)(1), to mean the written, printed, or graphic matter on, or attached to, the pesticide or device or any of its containers or wrappers.
7. The term "labeling" is defined in Section 2(p)(2) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136(p)(2), to mean all labels and all other written, printed, or graphic matter: (a) accompanying the pesticide or device at any time; or (b) to which reference is made on the label or in literature accompanying the pesticide or device.
8. The term "person" is defined in Section 2(s) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136(s), to mean any individual, partnership, association, corporation, or any organized group of persons whether incorporated or not.
9. The term "pest" is defined in Section 2(t) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136(t), to mean any insect, rodent, nematode, fungus, weed; or any other form of terrestrial or aquatic plant or animal life or virus, bacteria, or other microorganism (except viruses, bacteria, or other microorganisms on or in living man or other living animals) which the Administrator declares to be a pest under Section 25(c)(1) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136w(c)(1).
10. The term "pesticide" is defined in Section 2(u) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136(u), to mean any substance or mixture of substances intended for preventing, destroying, repelling, or mitigating any pest. Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 152.15, the term "pesticide" is further defined to mean any substance (or mixture of substances) intended for a pesticidal purpose.
11. The term "to distribute or sell" is defined in Section 2(gg) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136(gg), 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.
12. Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 152.3, "distribute or sell," and other grammatical variations of the term such as "distributed or sold" and "distribution or sale," is further defined to mean the acts of distributing, selling, offering for sale, holding for sale, shipping, holding for shipment, delivering for shipment, or receiving and (having so received) delivering or offering to deliver, or releasing for shipment to any person in any State.
13. The term "antimicrobial pesticide" is defined in Section 2(mm) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136(mm), to mean a pesticide that is intended to disinfect, sanitize, reduce, or mitigate growth or development of microbiological organisms.
14. Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 158.2203, the term "sanitizer" means a substance, or mixture of substances, that reduces the bacteria population in the inanimate environment by significant numbers but does not destroy or eliminate all bacteria.
15. Pursuant to Section 3 of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136a, pesticides that are sold or distributed in the United States are required to be registered with the EPA.
16. Pursuant to Section 12(a)(1)(A) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136j(a)(1)(A), it is unlawful for any person to

distribute or sell to any person any pesticide that is not registered under Section 3 of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136a.

17. Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 152.15, no person may distribute or sell any pesticide product that is not registered under the Act, except as provided in 40 C.F.R. §§ 152.20, 152.25, and 152.30. A pesticide is any substance (or mixture of substances) intended for pesticidal purpose, i.e., use for the purpose of preventing, destroying, repelling, or mitigating any pest or use as a plant regulator, defoliant, or desiccant. A substance is considered to be intended for a pesticidal purpose, and thus to be a pesticide requiring registration, if:
 - (a) The person who distributes or sells the substance claims, states, or implies (by labeling or otherwise):
 1. That the substance (either by itself or in combination with any other substance) can or should be used as a pesticide; or
 2. That the substance consists of or contains an active ingredient and that it can be used to manufacture a pesticide; or
 - (b) The substance consists of or contains one or more active ingredients and has no significant commercially valuable use as distributed or sold other than
 1. Use for pesticidal purpose (by itself or in combination with any other substance);
 2. Use for manufacture of a pesticide; or
 - (c) The person who distributes or sells the substance has actual or constructive knowledge that the substance will be used, or is intended to be used, for a pesticidal purpose.
18. Section 14(a) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136/(a), in conjunction with 40 C.F.R. Part 19, Adjustments of Civil Monetary Penalties for Inflation, authorizes the assessment of a civil penalty for violations of the Act.

IV. FINDINGS OF FACT

19. Respondent is a “person” as defined in Section 2(s) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136(s), and as such is subject to FIFRA and the regulations promulgated thereunder.
20. On April 10, 2024, the EPA conducted an inspection at Respondent’s Facility.
21. During the inspection, the inspector collected labels for the products Traffic C.O.P. and Cool-N-Klean, which stated that the products were “Cleaners & Sanitizers.”
22. As part of the follow-up to the inspection, on April 2, 2025, Respondent sent an email to the EPA that included sales and distribution records for Traffic C.O.P. and Cool-N-Klean from January 27, 2025, to March 25, 2025. Respondent confirmed that the labels collected during the April 10, 2024, inspection were the labels for Traffic C.O.P. and Cool-N-Klean at the time of the 2025 sales and distributions.
23. Based on the sanitization claim on the labels, Traffic C.O.P. and Cool-N-Klean are intended for a pesticidal purpose. Therefore, Traffic C.O.P. and Cool-N-Klean are pesticides, as defined in Section

2(u) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136(u), and must be registered pursuant to Section 3 of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136a.

24. Based on a review of the EPA's Pesticide Product Labeling System, Traffic C.O.P. and Cool-N-Klean are not registered pesticides as required by Section 3 of FIFRA.

V. ALLEGED VIOLATIONS

25. The EPA alleges that Respondent violated Section 12(a)(1)(A) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136j(a)(1)(A), by selling or distributing unregistered pesticides, Traffic C.O.P. and Cool-N-Klean, on one or more occasions between January 27, 2025, and March 25, 2025.

VI. STIPULATIONS

26. The issuance of this CAFO simultaneously commences and concludes this proceeding.
See 40 C.F.R. § 22.13(b).
27. 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 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 alleged violations of law set forth in Section V (Alleged Violations) of this CAFO; and
 - (f) waives its rights to appeal the Final Order accompanying this CAFO.
28. 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 right 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 FIFRA 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 or issue this CAFO;
- (f) waives any rights or defenses that Respondent has or may have for this matter to be resolved in federal court, including but not limited to any right to a jury trial, and waives any right to challenge the lawfulness of the Final Order accompanying this Consent Agreement;

and

- (g) agrees to comply with the terms of this CAFO.

29. 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

30. Respondent consents to the payment of a civil penalty, which was calculated in accordance with the Act, in the amount of **ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-SIX THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$136,000.00)**, which is to be paid within thirty (30) days of the Effective Date of this CAFO.
31. Respondent shall pay the civil penalty and any interest, fees, and other charges due using any method, or combination of appropriate methods, as provided on the following EPA website: <https://www.epa.gov/financial/makepayment>. For additional instructions, see: <https://www.epa.gov/financial/additional-instructions-making-payments-epa>.. In addition, Respondent shall identify every payment with Respondent's name and the docket number of this CAFO, **Docket No. FIFRA-04-2025-3019(b)**.
32. Respondent shall send proof of payment, within twenty-four (24) hours of payment of the civil penalty, to:

Regional Hearing Clerk
R4_Regional_Hearing_Clerk@epa.gov

and

Deborah Ortiz
Chemical Safety and Land Enforcement Branch
Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division
ortiz.deborah@epa.gov

and

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Cincinnati Finance Center
CINWD_AcctsReceivable@epa.gov

33. "Proof of payment" means, as applicable, confirmation of credit card or debit card payment, confirmation of wire or automated clearinghouse transfer, and/or any other information required to demonstrate that payment has been made according to EPA requirements, in the amount due, and identified with Respondent's name and Docket No. **FIFRA-04-2025-3019(b)**.
34. Interest, Charges, and Penalties on Late Payments. Pursuant to 31 U.S.C. § 3717, 31 C.F.R. § 901.9, and 40 C.F.R. § 13.11, if Respondent fails to timely pay any portion of the civil penalty, interest, or other charges and penalties per this CAFO, the entire unpaid balance of the civil penalty and all accrued interest shall become immediately due and owing, and the EPA is authorized to recover the following amounts.
- (a) Interest. Interest will begin to accrue from the Effective Date of this CAFO. If the civil penalty is paid in full 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 until any unpaid portion of the civil penalty as well as any interest, penalties, and other charges are paid in full. To protect the interests of the United States, the rate of interest is set at the IRS large corporate underpayment rate, as any lower rate would fail to provide Respondent adequate incentive for timely payment.
 - (b) Handling Charges. Respondent will be assessed monthly a charge to cover the EPA's costs of processing and handling overdue debts.
 - (c) Late Payment Penalty. A late payment penalty of six percent (6%) per annum will be assessed monthly on all debts, including any portion of the civil penalty, interest, penalties, and other charges that remain delinquent more than ninety (90) days.
35. Late Penalty Actions. In addition to the amounts described in the prior Paragraph, If Respondent fails to timely pay any portion of the civil penalty, interest, or other charges and penalties per this CAFO, the EPA may take additional actions. Such actions the EPA may take include, but are not limited to, the following:
- (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 government to, or held by the United States government for, a person to satisfy the debt the person owes the United States 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 pursuant to Section 14(a)(5) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136l(a)(5).

36. Allocation of Payments. Pursuant to 31 C.F.R. §901.9(f) and 40 C.F.R. § 13.11(d), a partial payment of a debt will be applied first to outstanding handling charges, second to late penalty charges, third to accrued interest, and last to the principal that is the outstanding civil penalty amount.

37. Pursuant to 26 U.S.C. § 6050X and 26 C.F.R. § 1.6050X-1, the EPA is required to send a completed Form 1098-F ("Fines, Penalties, and Other Amounts") to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) annually with respect to any court order and settlement agreement (including administrative settlements), that requires a payor to pay an aggregate amount that the EPA reasonably believes will be equal to, or in excess of, \$50,000 for the payor's violation of any law or the investigation or inquiry into the payor's potential violation of any law, including amounts paid for "restitution or remediation of property" or to come "into compliance with a law." The EPA is further required to furnish a written statement, which provides the same information provided to the IRS, to each payor (for example, a copy of Form 1098-F). In order to provide the EPA with sufficient information to enable it to fulfill these obligations, the EPA herein requires, and Respondent herein agrees, that:

(a) Respondent shall complete a Form W-9 ("Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification"), which is available at <https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/fw9.pdf>;

(b) Respondent shall therein certify that its completed Form W-9 includes Respondent's correct Tax Identification Number (TIN) or that Respondent has applied and is waiting for issuance of a TIN;

(c) Respondent shall email its completed Form W-9 to the EPA's Cincinnati Finance Center Region 4's contact, Jessica Henderson (Henderson.Jessica@epa.gov), on or before the date that Respondent's initial penalty payment is due, pursuant to Paragraph 30 of this CAFO, and the EPA recommends encrypting Form W-9 email correspondence; and

(d) In the event that Respondent has certified in its completed Form W-9 that it has applied for a TIN and that TIN has not been issued to Respondent by the date that its initial penalty payment is due, then Respondent, using the same email address identified in the preceding sub-paragraph, shall further:

1. notify EPA's Cincinnati Finance Center of this fact, via email, by the date that Respondent's initial penalty payment is due; and

2. provide EPA's Cincinnati Finance Center with Respondent's TIN, via email, within five (5) days of Respondent's issuance and receipt of the TIN.

(e) Failure to comply with providing Form W-9 or TIN may subject Respondent to a penalty. See 26 U.S.C. § 6723, 26 U.S.C. § 6724(d)(3), and 26 C.F.R. § 301.6723-1.

38. Tax Treatment of Penalties. Penalties, interest, and other charges paid pursuant to this CAFO shall not be deductible for purposes of federal taxes.

VIII. EFFECT OF CAFO

39. 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 above.
40. 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.
41. Any violation of this CAFO may result in a civil judicial action for civil penalties as provided in Section 14(a) of the Act, 7 U.S.C. § 136/(a), as well as criminal sanctions as provided in Section 14(b) of the Act, 7 U.S.C. § 136/(b). The EPA may use any information submitted under this CAFO in an administrative, civil judicial, or criminal action.
42. Nothing in this CAFO shall relieve Respondent of the duty to comply with all applicable provisions of FIFRA 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.
43. Nothing herein shall be construed to limit the power of the EPA to undertake any action against Respondent or any person in response to conditions that may present an imminent hazard as provided under the Act.
44. 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.
45. 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.
46. 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.
47. 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 business information or personally identifiable information.

48. 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.
49. 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.
50. 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.
51. The EPA 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.
52. 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 parties or circumstances and the remainder of the CAFO shall remain in force and shall not be affected thereby.
53. 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

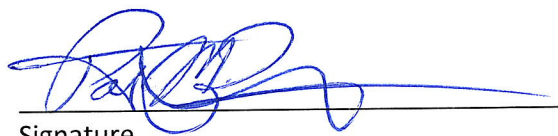
54. This CAFO shall become effective upon execution of the Final Order by the Regional Judicial Officer on the date of filing with the Regional Hearing Clerk.

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Complainant and Respondent will Each Sign on Separate Pages]

The foregoing Consent Agreement In the Matter of **Zinpro Specialty Products, LLC**, Docket Number **FIFRA-04-2025-3019(b)**, is Hereby Stipulated, Agreed, and Approved for Entry.

FOR RESPONDENT:


Signature

10/21/25
Date

Printed Name: Patrick Brunner

Title: Chief Operating officer

Address: 7500 Flying Cloud drive, suite 800
Eden Prairie, mn 55344

The foregoing Consent Agreement In the Matter of **Zinpro Specialty Products, LLC**, Docket Number **FIFRA-04-2025-3019(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:

Zinpro Specialty Products, LLC

Respondent.

Docket No. **FIFRA-04-2025-3019(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 **Zinpro Specialty Products, LLC** Docket No. **FIFRA-04-2025-3019(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: Latoya Burrell
 General Counsel
 Zinpro Specialty Products, LLC
 ljburrell@zinpro.com
 952-983-3863

To EPA: Deborah Ortiz
 Physical Scientist
 ortiz.deborah@epa.gov
 404-562-8230

 Ximena Vasquez
 Attorney
 vasquez.maria-ximena@epa.gov
 404-562-9548

 Colleen Michuda
 Supervisory Attorney
 michuda.colleen@epa.gov
 404-562-9685

Regional Hearing Clerk
R4_Regional_Hearing_Clerk@epa.gov