



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 5  
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD  
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590  
November 18, 2014

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:  
LC- 8J

**CERTIFIED MAIL: No.7011 1150 0000 2643 8036**  
**RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

Northern Environmental Consultants, LLC  
325 Quincy Street  
Hancock, Michigan 49930  
Attn: Raymond Gerhart, President

Expedited Agreement and Final Order In the Matter of  
Northern Environmental Consultants, LLC, Docket No. TSCA-05-2015-0001

Mr. Gerhart:

Enclosed please find a copy of a fully executed Expedited Agreement and Final Order (ESA) in resolution of the above case. This document was filed on November 18, 2014 with the Regional Hearing Clerk.

The civil penalty in the amount of \$200 is to be paid in the manner described in paragraphs 6 and 7. Please be certain that the docket number is written on both the transmittal letter and on the check. Payment is due by December 18, 2014, (within 30 calendar days of the filing date).

Thank you for your cooperation in resolving this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pamela Grace".

Pamela Grace  
Pesticides and Toxics Compliance Section

Enclosure

UNITED STATES  
 ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
 REGION 5



|  |   |                          |
|--|---|--------------------------|
| IN THE MATTER OF:                      | ) | Docket No.               |
|  | ) | <b>TSCA-05-2015-0001</b> |
| Northern Environmental Consultants LLC | ) |                          |
| Hancock, Michigan                      | ) |                          |
|  | ) | EXPEDITED SETTLEMENT     |
| Respondent                             | ) | AGREEMENT AND            |
|  | ) | FINAL ORDER              |
|  | ) |                          |
|  | ) |                          |

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EXPEDITED SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT AND FINAL ORDER

1. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency alleges that Northern Environmental Consultants LLC (Respondent) failed to comply with regulations promulgated under Section 402 of the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), 15 U.S.C. § 2682, in violation of Section 409 of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2689.
  
2. EPA alleges that on several occasions from March 28, 2013 through November 22, 2013, the Respondent's training program provided, offered, or claimed to provide EPA accredited lead-based paint activities courses or renovator or dust sampling courses in violation of TSCA as follows:  
  
 Respondent's training program's principal instructor and/or training manager failed to provide EPA with notification following completion of renovator, dust sampling technician, or lead-based paint activities courses, pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 745.225(c)(14), in violation of Section 409 of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2689.
  
3. EPA and Respondent agree that settlement of this matter for a civil penalty of \$200 is in the public interest.
  
4. EPA is authorized to enter into this Expedited Settlement Agreement and Final Order (Agreement) pursuant to Section 16 of TSCA and 40 C.F.R. § 22.13(b).
  
5. In signing this Agreement, Respondent: (1) admits that Respondent is subject to 40 C.F.R. § 745.225(a); (2) admits that EPA has jurisdiction over Respondent and Respondent's conduct as alleged herein; (3) neither admits nor denies the factual allegations contained herein; and (4) consents to the assessment of this penalty.
  
6. Within 30 days after the effective date of this Agreement, Respondent shall pay a civil penalty of \$200 for the TSCA violations identified in this Agreement by sending a cashier's or certified check, payable to "Treasurer, United States of America" to:

U.S. EPA  
Fines and Penalties  
Cincinnati Finance Center  
P.O. Box 979077  
St. Louis, Missouri 63197-9000

The check must state the case title (“In the Matter of: Northern Environmental Consultants LLC”), and the docket number of this Agreement.

7. Respondent must send a notice of payment that states Respondent’s name, complete address, and the case docket number (along with a photocopy of the check) to EPA, ATTN: Pamela Grace, 77 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois 60604, when it pays the penalty.
8. This civil penalty is not deductible for federal tax purposes.
9. If Respondent does not pay timely the civil penalty, EPA may refer this matter to the Attorney General who will recover such amount, plus interest, in the appropriate district court of the United States under Section 16(a) of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2615(a). The validity, amount and appropriateness of the civil penalty are not reviewable in a collection action.
10. Pursuant to 31 C.F.R. § 901.9, Respondent must pay the following on any amount overdue under this Agreement. Interest will accrue on any amount overdue at a rate established pursuant to 31 U.S.C. § 3717. Respondent must pay a \$15 handling charge each month that any portion of the penalty is more than 30 days past due. In addition, Respondent must pay a 6 percent per year penalty on any principal amount 90 days past due.
11. This Agreement resolves only Respondent’s liability for federal civil penalties for the violation alleged in the Agreement.
12. This Agreement does not affect the rights of EPA or the United States to pursue appropriate injunctive or other equitable relief or criminal sanctions for any violations of law.
13. EPA reserves all of its rights to take enforcement action for any other past, present, or future violations by Respondent of TSCA, any other federal statute or regulation, or this Agreement.
14. This Agreement does not affect Respondent’s responsibility to comply with TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2601 *et seq.*, and other applicable federal, state, and local laws.
15. Respondent certifies that it is complying with Section 402 of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2682, and its implementing regulations at 40 C.F.R. Part 745.
16. The terms of this Agreement bind Respondent, and its successors and assigns.
17. Each person signing this agreement certifies that he or she has the authority to sign for the party whom he or she represents and to bind that party to its terms.

18. Upon signing and returning this Agreement to EPA, Respondent waives any and all remedies, claims for relief and other available rights to judicial or administrative review Respondent may have with respect to any issue of fact or law set forth in this Expedited Settlement Agreement, including the opportunity for a hearing or appeal pursuant to TSCA and 40 C.F.R. Part 22 and any right of judicial review under Chapter 7 of the Administrative Procedure Act, 5 U.S.C. §§ 701 -706.

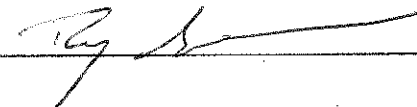
19. Each party shall bear its own costs and fees, if any.

20. 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.

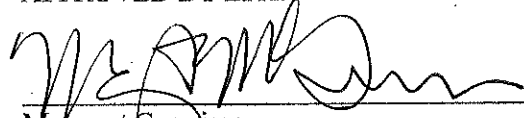
NAME (print): Ray Gerhart

TITLE (print): Manager

SIGNATURE: 

DATE: 10-1-14

APPROVED BY EPA:



DATE: 11/6/2014

Margaret Gueniero  
Director  
Land and Chemicals Division  
United States Environmental Protection Agency  
Region 5

FINAL ORDER

This Expedited Settlement Agreement and Final Order, as agreed to by the parties, shall become effective immediately upon filing with the Regional Hearing Clerk. This Expedited Settlement Agreement and Final Order concludes this proceeding pursuant to 40 C.F.R. §§ 22.18 and 22.31.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

11-12-14

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



\_\_\_\_\_  
Susan Hedman  
Regional Administrator  
United States Environmental Protection Agency  
Region 5

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that the original signed copy of the Expedited Agreement and Final Order in resolution of the civil administrative action involving Northern Environmental Consultants, LLC, was filed on November 18, 2014, with the Regional Hearing Clerk (E-19J), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5, 77 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois, 60604, and that I mailed by Certified Mail, Receipt No. 7011 1150 0000 2643 8036, and a copy of the original to the Respondent:

Northern Environmental Consultants, LLC  
325 Quincy Street  
Hancock, Michigan 49930  
Attn: Raymond Gerhart, President

and forwarded copies (intra-Agency) to:

Ann Coyle, Regional Judicial Officer, ORC/C-14J  
Robert Peachey, Regional Judicial Officer, ORC/C-14J  
Eric Volck, Cincinnati Finance/MWD



Frederick Brown  
Pesticides and Toxics Compliance Section  
U.S. EPA - Region 5  
77 West Jackson Boulevard  
Chicago, Illinois 60604

Docket No. TSCA-05-2015-0001