

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Region 4

FILED

Feb 25, 2026

4:35 pm

U.S. EPA REGION 4  
HEARING CLERK

In the Matter of:

**Marchant Property Management, LLC**

Respondent.

Docket No. **TSCA-04-2026-6100(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 Marchant Property Management, LLC, a limited liability company doing business in the State of South Carolina. This proceeding pertains to Respondent's management of target housing located in the State of South Carolina.

### **III. GOVERNING LAW**

6. Pursuant to Sections 402 and 406 of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. §§ 2682 and 2686, the EPA Administrator promulgated the "Residential Property Renovation Rules" at 40 C.F.R. Part 745, Subpart E, including the Pre-Renovation Education Rule; Renovation, Repair, and Painting Rule; and the Lead-Based Paint Activities Rule. It is a prohibited act under Section 409 of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2689, for any person to fail or refuse to comply with any of the rules issued under 40 C.F.R. Part 745, Subpart E.
7. The term "target housing" is defined at Section 401(17) of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2681(17), and 40 C.F.R. § 745.103, to mean, in part, any housing constructed prior to 1978, except housing for the elderly or persons with disabilities (unless any child who is less than six years of age resides or is expected to reside in such housing) or any 0-bedroom dwelling.
8. The term "pamphlet" is defined at 40 C.F.R. § 745.83, to mean, in part, the EPA pamphlet titled "Renovate Right: Important Lead Hazard Information for Families, Child Care Providers and Schools" developed under Section 406(a) of TSCA for use in complying with Section 406(b) of TSCA, or any State or Tribal pamphlet approved by the EPA pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 745.326 that is developed for the same purpose. This includes reproductions of the pamphlet when copied in full and without revision or deletion of material from the pamphlet (except for the addition or revision of State or local sources of information).
9. The term "renovation" is defined at 40 C.F.R. § 745.83, to mean, in part, the modification of any existing structure or portion thereof, that results in the disturbance of painted surfaces, unless that activity is performed as part of an "abatement" as defined at 40 C.F.R. § 745.223. The term renovation includes but is not limited to the following: the removal, modification, or repair of painted surfaces or painted components (e.g., modification of painted doors, surface restoration, window repair, surface preparation activity (such as sanding, scraping or other such activities that may generate paint dust)); and the removal of building components (e.g., walls, ceilings, plumbing, windows).
10. The term "firm" is defined at 40 C.F.R. § 745.83, to mean a company, partnership, corporation, sole proprietorship or individual doing business, association or other business entity; a Federal, State, Tribal, or local government; or a nonprofit organization.
11. Pursuant to Section 406 of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2686, and 40 C.F.R. § 745.84(a)(2), firms performing renovations are required to provide the adult occupant of any residential unit of target housing with the EPA-approved pamphlet identified in Paragraph 8 no more than 60 days prior to beginning the renovation. Firms performing renovations must also either: (i) obtain from the adult occupant, a written acknowledgement that the adult occupant has received the pamphlet, or certify in writing that a pamphlet has been delivered to the dwelling and that the firm performing the renovation has been unsuccessful in obtaining a written acknowledgement

from an adult occupant; or (ii) obtain a certificate of mailing at least seven days prior to the renovation.

12. Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 745.84(d)(1), the written acknowledgement required by 40 C.F.R. § 745.84(a)(2) must include a statement recording the adult occupant's name and acknowledging receipt of the pamphlet prior to the start of the renovation, the address of the unit undergoing renovation, the signature of the adult occupant, and the date of signature.
13. Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 745.81(a)(2)(ii), no firm may perform, offer, or claim to perform renovations without having obtained certification from the EPA under 40 C.F.R. § 745.89(a)(1), which requires firms that perform renovations for compensation to apply to the EPA for certification to perform renovations.
14. Persons who violate 40 C.F.R. Part 745, Subpart E, are subject to civil penalties pursuant to Section 16 of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2615, and 40 C.F.R. Part 19.

#### **IV. FINDINGS OF FACTS**

15. Respondent is, and was at all times relevant to this CAFO, a "firm" that performs "renovations" for compensation as those terms are defined at 40 C.F.R. § 745.83.
16. On June 5, 2024, an inspector with the EPA conducted an inspection at Respondent's place of business located at 4 East Lee Road, Taylors, South Carolina 29687. At the time of the inspection, the EPA requested copies of Respondent's records to evaluate Respondent's compliance with the requirements of 40 C.F.R. Part 745, Subpart E.
17. On July 17, 2024, Respondent submitted records in response to the EPA's request pertaining to the performance of Respondent's renovation project at 17 Arthur Avenue, Greenville, South Carolina 29605 (the Property), which commenced on or about April 28, 2024, and which is a "renovation" as that term is defined at 40 C.F.R. § 745.103.
18. The Property was constructed before 1978 and is "target housing" as defined at 40 C.F.R. § 745.103.
19. Based on the EPA's review of Respondent's records, the EPA determined that Respondent had performed, offered, or claimed to perform the renovation at the Property for compensation, and that at the time Respondent performed, offered, or claimed to perform the renovation at the Property, Respondent had not obtained "firm certification" as required by 40 C.F.R. §§ 745.81(a)(2)(ii) and 745.89(a)(1).
20. Based on the EPA's review of Respondent's records, the EPA determined that within 60 days before beginning renovation activities at the Property, Respondent failed to either: (i) obtain from the adult occupant of the Property, a written acknowledgment that the adult occupant received the EPA-approved pamphlet, or to certify in writing that a pamphlet had been delivered to the dwelling and that Respondent had been unsuccessful in obtaining a written acknowledgement from an adult occupant; or (ii) obtain a certificate of mailing at least seven days prior to the renovation of the Property, as required by 40 C.F.R. § 745.84(a)(2).

## V. ALLEGED VIOLATIONS

21. Based on the EPA's review of Respondent's records, the EPA alleges that, in the course of the renovation of the Property, Respondent:
  - a. Failed to apply to the EPA and obtain firm certification to perform, offer, or claim to perform renovations for compensation, in violation of 40 C.F.R. §§ 745.81(a)(2)(ii) and 745.89(a); and
  - b. Failed to either: (i) obtain, from the adult occupant of the Property, a written acknowledgement that the adult occupant received the EPA-approved pamphlet, or to certify in writing that a pamphlet had been delivered to the dwelling and that Respondent had been unsuccessful in obtaining a written acknowledgement from an adult occupant; or (ii) obtain a certificate of mailing at least seven days prior to the renovation of the Property, in violation of 40 C.F.R. § 745.84(a)(2)(i).

## VI. STIPULATIONS

22. The issuance of this CAFO simultaneously commences and concludes this proceeding. 40 C.F.R. § 22.13(b).
23. 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 allegations set forth in Section V (Alleged Violations) of this CAFO; and
  - f. waives its rights to appeal the Final Order accompanying this CAFO.
24. 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. 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;
- e. 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;
- f. by executing this CAFO, certifies to the best of its knowledge that Respondent is currently in compliance with all relevant requirements of 40 C.F.R. Part 745, Subpart E, and the Act; and
- g. agrees to comply with the terms of the CAFO.

25. 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

26. Respondent consents to the payment of a civil penalty, which was calculated in accordance with the Act, in the amount of **THREE THOUSAND, EIGHT HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$3,800.00)**, which is to be paid within thirty (30) days of the Effective Date of this CAFO.
27. 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. TSCA-04-2026-6100(b)**.
28. Respondent shall send proof of payment, within twenty-four (24) hours of payment of the civil penalty, to:

Regional Hearing Clerk  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4  
R4\_Regional\_Hearing\_Clerk@epa.gov

and

Mathew Rouse  
TSCA Enforcement Section

Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4  
rouse.mathew@epa.gov

and

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Cincinnati Finance Center  
CINWD\_AcctsReceivable@epa.gov

29. "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. TSCA-04-2026-6100(b)**.
30. Interest, Charges, and Penalties on Late Payments. Pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 2615, 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 under 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, interest is waived. If the civil penalty is not paid in full within thirty (30) days, 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 standard 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. If Respondent fails to pay the civil penalty in accordance with this CAFO, the EPA will assess a charge to cover the costs of handling any unpaid amounts for the first thirty (30) day period after the Effective Date. Additional handling charges will be assessed each subsequent thirty (30) days, or any portion thereof, until the unpaid portion of the civil penalty, as well as any accrued interest, penalties, and other charges are paid in full.
  - (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.
31. 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) Per 15 U.S.C. § 2615(a), the Attorney General will bring a civil action in the appropriate district court to recover the full remaining balance of the debt plus interest. In any such action, the validity, amount, and appropriateness of the civil penalty shall not be subject to review.
32. 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.
33. 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**

34. 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.
35. Full payment of the civil penalty, as provided in Section VII (Terms of Payment), 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. 40 C.F.R. § 22.18(c).
36. 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.
37. 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.

38. 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.
39. The provisions of this CAFO shall apply to and be binding upon Respondent and its officers, directors, employees, agents, trustees, authorized representatives, successors, and assigns.
40. Any change in the legal status of Respondent, or any change in the ownership or management of the Property, will not in any way alter Respondent's obligations and responsibilities under this CAFO.
41. 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.
42. 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.
43. 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.
44. 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.
45. 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.
46. 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.
47. 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**

48. 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.

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**Complainant and Respondent will Each Sign on Separate Pages**



The foregoing Consent Agreement In the Matter of **Marchant Property Management, LLC**, Docket No. **TSCA-04-2026-6100(b)**, is Hereby Stipulated, Agreed, and Approved for Entry.

FOR COMPLAINANT:

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for 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:

**Marchant Property Management, LLC**

Respondent.

Docket No. **TSCA-04-2026-6100(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.**

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Regional Judicial Officer

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that the foregoing "Consent Agreement" and "Final Order," In the Matter of **Marchant Property Management, LLC, Docket No. TSCA-04-2026-6100(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:** Hunter W. Hughey, President  
Marchant Property Management, LLC  
hunter@marchantpm.com  
(864) 332-9066

**To EPA:** Mathew Rouse, Case Development Officer  
rouse.mathew@epa.gov  
(404) 562-8522

F. Marshall Binford, Jr., Associate Regional Counsel  
binford.marshall@epa.gov  
(404) 562-9543

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Regional Hearing Clerk  
R4\_Regional\_Hearing\_Clerk@epa.gov