

#### UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 4
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

SEP 2 4 2014

## CERTIFIED MAIL RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Ms. Anthony Yount
Director Environment, Health & Safety
Ardent Mills, LLC
11 ConAgra Drive
Omaha, Nebraska 68102

Re: Ardent Mills, LLC

**Expedited Settlement Agreement** 

CAA-04-2014-8007(b)

Dear Mr. Yount:

Enclosed please find an executed copy of the Expedited Settlement Agreement (ESA) that resolves the Clean Air Act (CAA) matter (Docket No. CAA-04-2014-8007(b)) involving Ardent Mills, LLC. The ESA was filed with the Regional Hearing Clerk, as required by 40 CFR Part 22 and became effective on the date of the filing.

As required by the ESA, within fifteen days of receipt of this letter, payment to the Treasurer, United States of America in the amount of \$1,980 should be submitted as follows:

For payment sent via electronic transfer
Federal Reserve Bank of New York
ABA = 021030004
Account = 68010727
SWIFT address = FRNYUS33
33 Liberty Street
New York, New York 10045
Field Tag 4200 of the Fedwire message should read:
"D 680107:27 Environmental Protection Agency";

For payment sent via U.S. Postal Service U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Fines and Penalties Cincinnati Finance Center PO Box 97'9077 St. Louis, IMO 63197-9000; or

For payment sent via overnight mail service (FedEx, UPS)
U.S. Bank
1005 Convention Plaza
Mail Station SL-MO-C2-GL
St. Louis, MO 63101
314-418-4087.

Also, a written statement that payment has been made in accordance with the ESA should be sent to the following individuals:

Regional Hearing Clerk U.S. EPA, Region 4 61 Forsyth Street, S.W. Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Deanne Grant EPCRA Enforcement Section U.S. EPA, Region 4 61 Forsyth Street, S.W. Atlanta, Georgia 30303; and

Saundi Wilson Office of Environmental Accountability U.S. EPA, Region 4 61 Forsyth Street, S.W. Atlanta, Georgia 30303.

Also enclosed, please find a copy of the "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 (SEC) any environmental enforcement actions taken by the EPA. If you have any questions with regard to the SEC's environmental disclosure requirements, you may refer to the contact phone number at the bottom of the SEC Notice.

If you need additional information in this matter, please call Deanne Grant at (404) 562-9291.

Sincerely,

Mark J. Fite
Acting Chief

**EPCRA** Enforcement Section

**Enclosures** 

# UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 4

#### EXPEDITED SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

This ESA is issued to: Ardent Mills, LLC

**DOCKET NO: CAA-04-2014-8007(b)** 

1B Riverside Lane

Chattanooga, Tennessee 37406

for violating 40 CFR § 68.67, 40 CFR § 68.79, and Section 112(r)(7) of the Clean Air Act.

This Expedited Settlement Agreement (ESA) is being entered into by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region 4, the Director of the Air, Pesticides and Toxics Management Division (Complainant), and by the successor in interest to Horizon Milling, LLC, Ardent Mills, LLC, (Respondent), pursuant to Section 113(d) of the Clean Air Act (the "Act"), 42 U.S.C. § 7413(d), and pursuant to 40 CFR § 22.13(b).

## **ALLEGED VIOLATIONS**

Based on a compliance monitoring inspection conducted at the Respondent's facility located at 1B Riverside Lane, Chattanooga, Tennessee 37406, on September 10, 2013, EPA alleges that the Respondent violated the Act's Chemical Accident Prevention Program, when at the time of inspection, Respondent did not provide evidence that:

it established a system to promptly address the team's process hazard analysis findings and recommendations; assured that the recommendations are resolved in a timely manner and documented; documented what actions are to be taken; completed actions as soon as possible; developed a written schedule of when these actions are to be completed; and communicated the actions to operating, maintenance, and other employees whose work assignments are in the process and who may be affected by the recommendations as required by 40 CFR § 68.67(e);

it certified that the stationary source has evaluated compliance with the provisions of the prevention program at least every three years to verify that the developed procedures and practices are adequate and being followed as required by 40 CFR § 68.79(a);

its compliance audit was conducted by at least one person knowledgeable in the process as required by 40 CFR § 68.79(b).

EPA REGION IV 2014 SEP 24 AM 8: 39 HEARING CLERK

#### SETTLEMENT

In consideration of Respondent's size, its full compliance history, its good faith effort to comply, and other factors as justice may require, and upon consideration of the entire record the parties enter into the ESA in order to settle the violations cited above, for the total penalty amount of \$1,980.

This settlement is subject to the following terms and conditions: the Respondent by signing below admits the jurisdictional allegations contained herein, neither admits nor denies the specific factual allegations contained herein, and consents to the assessment of the penalty as stated above; Respondent waives its rights to a hearing afforded by Section 113(d)(2)(A) of the Act, 42 U.S.C § 7413(d)(2)(A), and to appeal this ESA or otherwise contest the allegations contained in this ESA; and each party to this action shall bear its own costs and fees, if any.

Respondent certifies, subject to civil and criminal penalties for making a false submission to the United States Government, that the Respondent has corrected the alleged violations listed in this ESA.

Within fifteen (15) days of receiving a copy of the fully executed ESA, Respondent shall pay a civil penalty in the amount of \$1,980. Respondent's payment shall be made by sending a cashier's check or certified check (payable to the "Treasurer, United States of America") in the amount of \$1,980, in payment of the full penalty amount to one of the following addresses:

For payment sent via U.S. Postal Service U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Fines and Penalties Cincinnati Finance Center PO Box 979077 St. Louis, MO 63197-9000; or

For payment sent via overnight mail service (FedEx, UPS)
U.S. Bank
1005 Convention Plaza
Mail Station SL-MO-C2GL
St. Louis, MO 63101

The Respondent's name and the Docket Number of this ESA <u>must be included on the check</u>. The Docket Number is located at the top left corner of the first page of this ESA.

At the time of payment, Respondent shall send a separate copy of the check, and a written statement that payment has been made in accordance with this ESA to:

Saundi Wilson U. S. EPA, Region 4 Office of Environmental Accountability 61 Forsyth Street S.W. Atlanta, Georgia 30303, and Deanne Grant U. S. EPA, Region 4 EPCRA Enforcement Section 61 Forsyth Street S.W. Atlanta, Georgia 30303

The penalty specified in this ESA shall represent civil penalties assessed by EPA and shall not be deductible for purposes of State or Federal taxes.

Upon Respondent's payment of the penalty, EPA will take no further civil action against Respondent for the alleged violations of the Act referenced in this ESA. EPA does not waive any other enforcement action for any other violations of the Act or any other statute.

The following individual represents EPA in this matter and is authorized to receive service for EPA in this proceeding:

Mark J. Fite U.S. EPA, Region 4 61 Forsyth Street S.W. Atlanta, Georgia 30303 (404) 562-9740

THIS SECTION INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

This ESA is binding on the parties signing below. This ESA is effective upon filing with the Regional Hearing Clerk.

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### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that I have this day served a true and correct copy of the foregoing Expedited Settlement Agreement, in the matter of Ardent Mills, LLC, CAA-04-2014-8007(b), on the parties listed below in the manner indicated:

Mark J. Fite

(Via EPA's internal mail)

U. S. EPA, Region 4
Air, Pesticides and Toxics
Management Division
61 Forsyth Street
Atlanta, GA 30303

Ellen Rouch

(Via EPA's internal mail)

U. S. EPA, Region 4
Office of Environmental Accountability
61 Forsyth Street
Atlanta, GA 30303

Anthony Yount Ardent Mills, LLC 11 ConAgra Drive Omaha, NNE 68102 (Via Certified Mail -Return Receipt Requested)

Date: 4-24-14

Patricia A. Bullock, Regional Hearing Clerk

United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4 Atlanta Federal Center 61 Forsyth Street, S.W. Atlanta, GA 30303 (404) 562-9511