

**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 4**

IN THE MATTER OF:)

Fibre Tech, Inc.)

Respondent.)

Docket Number: EPCRA-04-2019-2016(b)

CONSENT AGREEMENT AND FINAL ORDER

I. Nature of the Action

1. This is a civil penalty proceeding pursuant to Section 325 of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA), 42 U.S.C. § 11045, and pursuant to the Consolidated Rules of Practice Governing the Administrative Assessment of Civil Penalties and the Revocation/Termination or Suspension of Permits (Consolidated Rules), codified at 40 C.F.R. Part 22.

2. Complainant is the Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). On EPA's behalf, the Director of the Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division, Region 4, is delegated the authority to settle civil administrative penalty proceedings under Section 325 of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11045. Respondent is Fibre Tech, Inc.

3. Complainant and Respondent have conferred for the purpose of settlement pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 22.18 and desire to resolve this matter and settle the allegations described herein without a formal hearing. Therefore, without the taking of any evidence or testimony, the making of any argument, or the adjudication of any issue in this matter, and in accordance with 40 C.F.R. §§ 22.13(b) and 22.18(b), this Consent Agreement and Final Order (CAFO) will simultaneously commence and conclude this matter.

II. Preliminary Statements

4. Respondent is Fibre Tech, Inc., a company doing business in the State of Florida.

5. Respondent is a "person" and is the owner and operator of a "facility" as those terms are defined in Section 329(7) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11049(7), and Section 329(4) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11049(4).

6. Respondent's facility is located at 2323 34th Way North, Largo, Florida, 33771.

III. EPA's Allegations of Violations

7. Section 313 of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11023, and 40 C.F.R. §§ 372.22 and 372.30, require the owner or operator of a facility that (a) has 10 or more full-time employees; (b) is in a Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) major group or industry listed in 40 C.F.R. § 372.23(a) for which the corresponding North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) subsector and industry codes

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are listed in 40 C.F.R. §§ 372.23(b) and 372.23(c); and (c) manufactured, processed, or otherwise used a toxic chemical listed in Section 313(c) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11023(c), and 40 C.F.R. § 372.65, in excess of an applicable threshold quantity established under Section 313(f) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11023(f) and set forth in 40 C.F.R. § 372.25, during the calendar year, to complete and submit a toxic chemical release inventory reporting Form R (EPA Form 9350-1) to the Administrator of the EPA and to the State in which the facility is located, by July 1 for the preceding calendar year for each toxic chemical known by the owner or operator to be manufactured, processed, or otherwise used in quantities exceeding the established threshold quantity during the preceding calendar year.

8. As set forth in Section 313(f) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11023(f), and 40 C.F.R. § 372.25, the reporting threshold amount for a toxic chemical manufactured or processed at a facility is 25,000 pounds per calendar year. The reporting threshold for a toxic chemical otherwise used at a facility is 10,000 pounds. Notwithstanding 40 C.F.R. § 372.25 or 40 C.F.R. § 372.27, lower reporting thresholds for chemicals of special concern are set forth in 40 C.F.R. § 372.28.

9. Respondent has 10 or more full-time employees, as defined at 40 C.F.R. § 372.3 at its facility.

10. Respondent's facility is classified under SIC code 3087 and NAICS code 326199.

11. Respondent's facility is classified in a covered SIC code as described at 40 C.F.R. § 372.22 and in a covered NAICS code as described at 40 C.F.R. § 372.23.

12. Styrene is a toxic chemical listed under Section 313(c) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11023(c), and 40 C.F.R. § 372.65.

13. Respondent's facility processed styrene in excess of the 25,000 pound threshold quantity for the chemical established under Section 313(f) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11023(f), and 40 C.F.R. § 372.25, during calendar years 2015, 2016, and 2017.

14. Respondent violated the reporting requirements of Section 313 of EPCRA at its facility by failing to submit the required Form Rs for styrene for calendar years 2015, 2016, and 2017, by July 1 of the following year, and is, therefore, subject to the assessment of penalties under Section 325 of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11045.

15. Pursuant to Section 325(c) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11045(c), and 40 C.F.R. Part 19, the EPA may assess a civil penalty for each violation of Section 313. Each day a violation of Section 313 continues constitutes a separate violation. Civil penalties under Section 325(c) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11045(c), may be assessed by an Administrative Order.

IV. Consent Agreement

16. For the purposes of this CAFO, Respondent admits the jurisdictional allegations set out above but neither admits nor denies the factual allegations set out above.

17. Respondent waives any right to contest the allegations and its right to appeal the proposed Final Order accompanying the Consent Agreement.

18. Respondent consents to the assessment of and agrees to pay the civil penalty as set forth in this CAFO.

19. Respondent certifies that as of the date of its execution of this CAFO, it is in compliance with all relevant requirements of EPCRA at the facility.

20. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 22.18(c), compliance with this CAFO only resolves Respondent's liability for federal civil penalties for the allegations in Section III of this CAFO and does not affect the right of the EPA or U.S. to pursue appropriate injunctive or other equitable relief or criminal sanctions for any violation of law. This CAFO does not waive, extinguish or otherwise affect Respondent's obligation to comply with all applicable provisions of EPCRA or other applicable laws and regulations.

21. Complainant and Respondent agree to settle this matter by their execution of this CAFO. The parties agree that the settlement of this matter is in the public interest and that this CAFO is consistent with the applicable requirements of EPCRA.

V. Final Order

22. Respondent shall pay a civil penalty of **EIGHT THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$8,750)**, for the EPCRA violation alleged in Section III. Payment shall be paid within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this CAFO.

23. Respondent shall pay the penalty by forwarding a cashier's or certified check, payable to "Treasurer, United States of America," to one of the following addresses:

BY MAIL

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Cincinnati Finance Center
P.O. Box 979077
St. Louis, MO 63197-9000

BY OVERNIGHT

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Government Lockbox 979077
1005 Convention Plaza
SL-MO-C2-GL
St. Louis, Missouri 63101
(513) 487-2091

The check shall reference on its face the name and the Docket Number of the CAFO.

24. 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 CAFO, to the following persons at the following addresses:

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

Erika White
U.S. EPA, Region 4
61 Forsyth Street, S.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

25. For the purposes of state and federal income taxes, Respondent shall not be entitled, and agrees not to attempt, to claim a deduction for any civil penalty payment made pursuant to this CAFO. Any attempt by Respondent to deduct any such payments shall constitute a violation of this CAFO.

VI. Other Provisions

26. Pursuant to 31 U.S.C. § 3717, the EPA is entitled to assess interest and penalties on debts owed to the United States and a charge to cover the cost of processing and handling a delinquent claim. Interest will therefore begin to accrue on the civil penalty from the effective date of this CAFO if the penalty is not paid by the date required. Interest will be assessed at the rate established by the Secretary of Treasury pursuant to 31 U.S.C. § 3717. A charge will be assessed to cover the costs of debt collection, including processing and handling costs and attorney fees. In addition, a penalty charge will be assessed on any portion of the debt that remains delinquent more than ninety (90) days after payment is due.

27. Complainant and Respondent shall bear their own costs and attorney fees in this matter, except as referenced in Paragraph 26.

28. This CAFO shall be binding upon the Respondent, its successors and assigns.

29. Each undersigned representative of the parties to this CAFO certifies that he or she is fully authorized by the party represented to enter into this CAFO and legally bind that party to it.

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VII. Effective Date

30. The effective date of this CAFO shall be the date upon which the CAFO is filed with the Regional Hearing Clerk.

AGREED AND CONSENTED TO:

Fibre Tech, Inc.

By: *Scott A Morris* Date: 5/6/19
Name: Scott A Morris (Typed or Printed)
Title: President (Typed or Printed)

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

By: *Suzanne G Rubini* Date: 6/3/19
Suzanne G. Rubini
Acting Director
Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division

APPROVED AND SO ORDERED this 10th day of June, 20 19

Tanya Floyd
Tanya Floyd
Regional Judicial Officer

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this day served a true and correct copy of the foregoing
Consent Agreement and Final Order, In the Matter of Fibre Tech, Inc., Docket Number: EPCRA-04-
2019-2016(b), on the parties listed below in the manner indicated:

Todd Russo
U.S. EPA, Region 4
Air Enforcement Branch
61 Forsyth Street, S.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

(Via EPA's internal mail)

Valerie Nowell
U.S. EPA, Region 4
Office of Regional Counsel
61 Forsyth Street, S.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

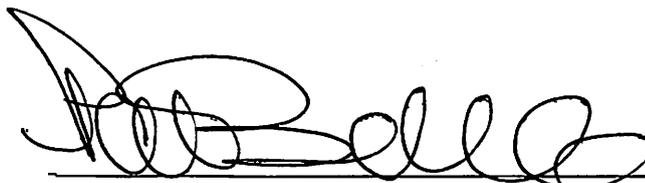
(Via EPA's internal mail)

Mr. Scott Morris
President
Fibre Tech, Inc.
2323 34th Way North
Largo, Florida 33771

(Via Certified Mail—Return Receipt Requested)

Date:

6-12-19



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