



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 4
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

MAR 05 2009

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Carl Wren
R&D Plastics of Hickory Ltd.
345 27th Street Drive SE
Hickory, North Carolina 28602

SUBJECT: R&D Plastics of Hickory Ltd.
Consent Agreement and Final Order
Docket No. EPCRA-04-2009-2023(b)

Dear Mr. Wren:

Enclosed please find an executed copy of the Consent Agreement and Final Order (CAFO) that resolves the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act of 1986 (EPCRA) matter (Docket No. EPCRA-04-2009-2023(b)) involving R&D Plastics of Hickory Ltd. The CAFO was filed with the Regional Hearing Clerk, as required by 40 CFR Part 22 and became effective on the date of the filing.

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 Security and Exchange Commission (SEC) any environmental enforcement actions taken by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). If you have any questions with regards to the SEC's environmental disclosure requirements, you may refer to the contact phone number at the bottom of the SEC Notice.

If you have any questions, please call Mr. Vinson Poole at (404) 562-9186.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Caron B. Falconer".

Caron B. Falconer
Chief, EPCRA Enforcement Section

Enclosures

7. Respondent's facility is located at 345 26th Street Drive SE, Hickory, North Carolina.

8. Section 312 of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11022, and the regulations found at 40 C.F.R. Part 370, provide that the owner or operator of a facility that is required to prepare or have available a Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) for hazardous chemicals under the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (OSHA) and regulations promulgated under that Act, shall submit to the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC), and the fire department with jurisdiction over the facility, on or before March 1 annually, a completed emergency and hazardous chemical inventory form (Tier I or Tier II) as described in 40 C.F.R. Part 370, containing the information required by that part for hazardous chemicals present at the facility at any one time in the calendar year in amounts equal to or greater than 10,000 pounds and containing the information required by that part for extremely hazardous substances (EHS) present at the facility at any one time in amounts equal to or greater than the threshold planning quantity (TPQ) or 500 pounds, whichever is less.

9. At some time during the calendar years of 2007, 2006, and 2005, polyethylene was present at the facility in an amount equal to or greater than 10,000 pounds.

10. Polyethylene is a "hazardous chemical" as defined by Section 329(5) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11049(5)] for which Respondent is required to prepare or have available an MSDS under OSHA at its facility.

11. Respondent failed to submit a completed Emergency and Hazardous Chemical Inventory Form for polyethylene to the SERC, the LEPC, and fire department with jurisdiction over the facility for calendar years 2007, 2006, and 2005, by March 1 of following year.

12. Respondent violated the reporting requirements of Section 312 of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11022, at its facility for calendar years 2007, 2006 and 2005 and is therefore subject to the assessment of civil penalties under Section 325 of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11045.

13. Pursuant to Section 325(c) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11045(c), and 40 C.F.R. Part 19, EPA may assess a civil penalty of not more than \$32,500 for each violation of Section 312 that occurred on or after March 15, 2004. Each day a violation of Section 312 continues constitutes a separate violation. Civil penalties under Section 325(c) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11045(c), may be assessed by Administrative Order.

III. Consent Agreement

14. 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.

15. Respondent waives any right to contest the allegations and its right to appeal the proposed final order accompanying the Consent Agreement.

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

17. 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.

18. Compliance with this CAFO shall resolve the allegations of violations contained herein. This CAFO shall not otherwise affect any liability of Respondent to the United States other than as expressed herein. Neither EPA nor Complainant waives any right to bring an enforcement action against Respondent for a violation of any federal or state statute, regulation or permit; to initiate an action for imminent and substantial endangerment; or to pursue criminal enforcement.

19. 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.

IV. Final Order

20. Respondent shall pay a civil penalty of THIRTEEN THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED NINETY DOLLARS (\$13,590), for the violations alleged in Section II. Payment shall be paid in six monthly installments in the amount of TWO THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED SIXTY FIVE DOLLARS (\$2,265). Payments will be made according to the schedule below:

May 1, 2009	\$2,265.00
April 1, 2009	\$2,265.00
June 1, 2009	\$2,265.00
July 1, 2009	\$2,265.00
August 1, 2009	\$2,265.00
September 1, 2009	\$2,265.00

21. Respondent shall pay the penalty by forwarding a cashiers or certified check, payable to: "Treasurer, United States of America," to the following address:

By Mail:

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

Overnight:

U.S. Bank
Attn: Natalie Pearson 314-418-4087
1005 Convention Plaza
Mail Station SL-MO-C2GL
St. Louis, Missouri 63101

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

22. 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

Vinson Poole
U.S. EPA, Region 4
Air, Pesticides & Toxics Management Division
61 Forsyth Street, S.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

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

23. Pursuant to 31 U.S.C. § 3717, 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 date of entry of the 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.

24. Complainant and Respondent shall bear their own costs and attorney fees in this matter.

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

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

Caron B. Falconer
U.S. EPA, Region 4
Air, Pesticides & Toxic Management Division
61 Forsyth Street, S.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303
(404) 562-8451

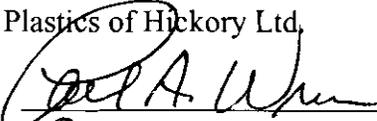
27. Each undersigned representative of the parties to this CAFO certifies that he or she is fully authorized by the party represented to enter into this CAFO and legally bind that party to it.

V. Effective Date

28. 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:

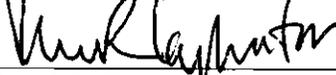
R&D Plastics of Hickory Ltd.

By:  Date: 2-26-09

Name: CARL A. WREN (Typed or Printed)

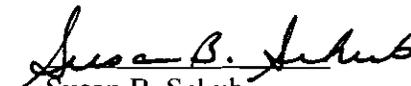
Title: GENERAL MANAGER (Typed or Printed)
R&D PLASTICS OF HICKORY, LLC

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

By:  Date: 2/24/09

Carol L. Kemker, Acting Director
Air, Pesticides & Toxics
Management Division
Region 4

APPROVED AND SO ORDERED this 4th day of March, 2009


Susan B. Schub
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 R&D Plastics of Hickory Ltd.
EPCRA-04-2009-2023(b), on the parties listed below in the manner indicated:

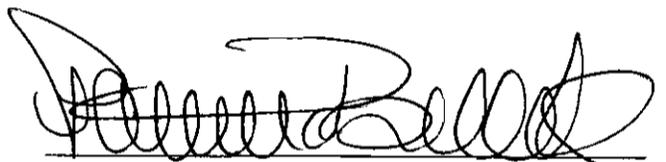
Caron B. Falconer (Via EPA's internal mail)
U.S. EPA, Region 4
Air, Pesticides & Toxics Management Division
61 Forsyth Street
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Robert Caplan (Via EPA's internal mail)
U.S. EPA, Region 4
Office of Environmental Accountability
61 Forsyth Street
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Mr. Carl Wren (Via Certified Mail - Return Receipt
Requested)
R&D Plastics of Hickory Ltd.
345 26th Street Drive SE
Hickory, North Carolina 28602-1459

Date:

3-5-09



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

EPA ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE CONTROL NUMBER FORM

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE ORIGINATING OFFICE:

(Attach a copy of the final order and transmittal letter to Defendant/Respondent)

This form was originated by: Saundi Wilson on 3/4/09
(Name) (Date)

in the Region 4, ORC, OEA at (404) 562-9504
(Office) (Telephone Number)

Non-SF Judicial Order/Consent Decree
USAO COLLECTS

Administrative Order/Consent Agreement
FMO COLLECTS PAYMENT

SF Judicial Order/Consent Decree
DOJ COLLECTS

Oversight Billing - Cost Package required:
Sent with bill

Other Receivable

Not sent with bill

This is an original debt

Oversight Billing - Cost Package not required

This is a modification

PAYEE: R+D Plastics of Hickory
(Name of person and/or Company/Municipality making the payment)

The Total Dollar Amount of the Receivable: \$ 13,590
(If installments, attach schedule of amounts and respective due dates. See Other side of this form.)

The Case Docket Number: EPCWA 04 2009 2023(b)

The Site Specific Superfund Account Number: _____

The Designated Regional/Headquarters Program Office: _____

The IFMS Accounts Receivable Control Number is: _____ Date _____

If you have any questions, please call: _____ of the Financial Management Section at: _____

DISTRIBUTION:

A. **JUDICIAL ORDERS:** Copies of this form with an attached copy of the front page of the **FINAL JUDICIAL ORDER** should be mailed to:

- | | |
|--|------------------------------|
| 1. Debt Tracking Officer
Environmental Enforcement Section
Department of Justice RM 1647
P.O. Box 7611, Benjamin Franklin Station
Washington, D.C. 20044 | 2. Originating Office (EAD) |
| | 3. Designated Program Office |

B. **ADMINISTRATIVE ORDERS:** Copies of this form with an attached copy of the front page of the Administrative Order should be to:

- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Originating Office | 3. Designated Program Office |
| 2. Regional Hearing Clerk | 4. Regional Counsel (EAD) |