

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

SEP 2 0 2016

CERTIFIED MAIL **RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

Mr. Avikam Levy President Envirological Engineering, Inc. 130 Barnard Place Atlanta, Georgia 30328

> Re: Envirological Engineering, Inc. Consent Agreement and Final Order Docket No. CAA-04-2016-1752(b)

Dear Mr. Levy:

Enclosed is a copy of the ratified Consent Agreement and Final Order (CAFO) in the above-referenced matter. The original CAFO has been filed with the Regional Hearing Clerk and served on the parties as directed in Section 22.6 of the Consolidated Rules of Practice, 40 C.F.R. Part 22.

Please refer to Section V of the CAFO for penalty information and payment requirements. To ensure proper processing, the Respondent's Name and Docket Number for this case, identified above and in the CAFO, should be noted on any cashier's or certified checks submitted in payment of the penalty.

Also enclosed is a copy of a document entitled "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 any environmental enforcement actions taken by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Where used in the document "SEC" refers to the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Should you have any questions about this matter or your compliance status in the future, please contact Ms. Pamela McIlvaine of the EPA Region 4 staff at (404) 562-9197.

Sincerely.

Anthony G. Toney

Chief Chemical Safety and Enforcement Branch

Enclosures

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 4 BEFORE THE ADMINISTRATOR

In the Matter of:

Envirological Engineering, Inc.

Respondent.

Docket No. CAA-04-2016-1752(b)

HEARING CLERK

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CONSENT AGREEMENT

A. PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

- This is an administrative penalty assessment proceeding brought under Section 113(d) of the Clean Air Act (the "Act"), 42 U.S.C. § 7413(d), and Sections 22.13 and 22.18 of the Consolidated Rules of Practice Governing the Administrative Assessment of Civil Penalties and the Revocation/Termination or Suspension of Permits ("Consolidated Rules"), as codified at 40 C.F.R. Part 22.
- Complainant is the United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4 (the "EPA"). On the EPA's behalf, the Director of the Air, Pesticides and Toxics
 Management Division, is delegated the authority to settle civil administrative penalty proceedings under Section 113(d) of the Act.
- Respondent is Envirological Engineering (Envirological), a corporation doing business in the State of Georgia. Respondent is a "person" as defined in Section 302(e) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 7602(e).
- 4. Complainant and Respondent, having agreed that settlement of this action is in the public interest, consent to the entry of this consent agreement ("Consent Agreement" or "Agreement") and the attached final order ("Final Order" or "Order") without

adjudication of any issues of law or fact herein, and Respondent agrees to comply with the terms of this Consent Agreement and Final Order.

B. JURISDICTION

- 5. This Consent Agreement is entered into under Section 113(d) of the Act, as amended,
 42 U.S.C. § 7413(d), and the Consolidated Rules, 40 C.F.R. Part 22.
- 6. The EPA and the United States Department of Justice jointly determined that this matter, although it involves an alleged violation that occurred more than one year before the initiation of this proceeding, is appropriate for an administrative penalty assessment.
- 7. 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).
- 8. The issuance of this Consent Agreement and attached Final Order simultaneously commences and concludes this proceeding. 40 C.F.R. § 22.13(b).

C. GOVERNING LAW

9. Pursuant to Section 112(*l*) of the CAA, the EPA delegated the Administrator's authorities and responsibilities to implement and enforce emission standards and prevention requirements for asbestos under Section 112 of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7412, to the State of Georgia. The State has adopted rules for asbestos that are at least or more stringent than EPA's asbestos regulations located at 40 C.F.R. Part 61, Subpart M, promulgated pursuant to Section 112 of the CAA. As indicated in Section 112(*l*)(7) of the CAA, nothing in Section 112(*l*) of the CAA shall prohibit the

Administrator from enforcing any applicable emission standard or requirement under Section 112 of the CAA.

- 10. Asbestos is a "hazardous air pollutant" as that term is defined in Section 112(a) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7412(a), and is the subject of regulations codified at 40 C.F.R. Part 61, Subpart M, "National Emission Standard for Asbestos," promulgated pursuant to Section 112 of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7412.
- 11. A "person" is defined in Section 302 of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7602 as an individual, corporation, partnership, association, state, municipality, political subdivision of a state and any agency, department or instrumentality of the United States and any officer, agent or employee thereof.
- 12. A "facility" is defined in 40 C.F.R. § 61.141, in part, as any institutional, commercial, public, industrial or residential structure, installation or building (including any structure, installation or building containing condominiums or individual dwelling units operated as a residential cooperative, but excluding residential buildings having four or fewer dwelling units); any ship; and any active or inactive waste disposal site.
- 13. "Demolition" is defined in 40 C.F.R. § 61.141 as the wrecking or taking out of any load- supporting structural member of a facility together with any related handling operations or the intentional burning of any facility.
- 14. "Renovation" is defined in 40 C.F.R. § 61.141 as altering a facility or one or more facility components in any way, including the stripping or removal of regulated asbestos-containing material from a facility component.
- An "owner or operator of a demolition or renovation activity" is defined in 40 C.F.R.
 § 61.141 as any person who owns, leases, operates, controls or supervises the facility

Consent Agreement and Final Order, CAA-04-2016-1752(b)

being demolished or renovated or any person who owns, leases, operates, controls or supervises the demolition or renovation operation or both.

- 16. Since the EPA has delegated the Administrator's authorities and responsibilities for asbestos under Section 112 of the CAA to the State of Georgia, owners or operators of demolition or renovation activity occurring in the State must notify the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Georgia Environmental Protection Division (Georgia EPD), Lead-Based Paint and Asbestos Program of any such activity pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 61.145(b).
- 17. Any person who violates Section 112 of the CAA may be assessed a penalty of up to \$25,000 for each such violation, in accordance with Section 113(d) of the CAA,
 42 U.S.C. § 7413(d). The Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996 requires the EPA to review and adjust penalties, as necessary, for inflation at least once every four years. Pursuant to the Adjustment of Civil Monetary Penalties for Inflation Rule, as amended through 2016 (40 C.F.R. Part 19), the maximum penalty for each violation occurring after January 12, 2009, through November 2, 2015, is \$37,500. Each day a violation continues may constitute a separate violation.

D. STIPULATED FACTS

- 18. Respondent is a corporation registered to operate and conduct business in the State of Georgia. Therefore, Respondent is a "person" as defined in Section 302 of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7602.
- The "renovation" occurred on or about April 27, 2015, at an apartment complex formerly located at 421 West Trinity Place in Decatur, Georgia.

- 20. At the time of the renovation, the apartment complex had more than four units under one roof, and therefore, met the definition of a "facility."
- 21. Respondent was directly involved in conducting the renovation operation activities at the Facility and was responsible for submitting the written notice of intention to renovate to Georgia EPD. Therefore, Respondent meets the definition of an "owner or operator of a renovation or demolition activity."
- 22. The Respondent did not provide written notice of intention to renovate postmarked at least 10 days prior to the commencement of the renovation. The submitted notification stated that the renovation would be conducted from April 27, 2015 through May 27, 2015. This notification was not received by Georgia EPD until May 4, 2015, approximately seventeen (17) days late.
- 23. The EPA determined Respondent's compliance based on the review of information collected by the EPA on or about July 2, 2015, pursuant to Section 114 of the Clean Air Act, and through subsequent discussions with the Respondent.
- 24. On November 24, 2015, the EPA issued to Respondent a notice of potential violation ("NOPV") providing notice that the EPA found the Respondent potentially in violation of the asbestos regulations described in Section E of this Agreement and providing Respondent an opportunity to confer with the EPA. On March 4, 2016, an EPA representative held a Show Cause meeting via conference call with the Respondent to discuss the alleged violation of Section 112 of the CAA and 40 C.F.R. § 61.145(b)(3)(i).

E. ALLEGED VIOLATIONS OF LAW

- 25. Pursuant to Section 112 of the CAA and 40 C.F.R. § 61.145(b)(3)(i), the owner or operator of a renovation or demolition operation is required to provide written notice of intention to renovate or demolish postmarked at least ten (10) days prior to commencing the renovation or demolition.
- 26. Based on the facts stipulated above in Section D, the EPA alleges that Respondent violated Section 112 of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7412, and 40 C.F.R. § 61.145(b)(3)(i) by failing to provide written notice of intention to renovate postmarked at least ten (10) days prior to commencing the renovation.

F. TERMS OF CONSENT AGREEMENT

- 27. 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 Agreement;
 - (b) neither admits nor denies the factual allegations stated above;
 - (c) consents to the assessment of a civil penalty as stated below;
 - (d) consents to the issuance of any specified compliance or corrective action order;
 - (e) consents to the conditions specified in this Agreement;
 - (f) waives any right to contest the alleged violations of law set forth in
 Section E of this Consent Agreement;
 - (g) waives its rights to appeal the Order accompanying this Agreement; and

- (h) certifies that as of its execution of this Agreement, it is in compliance with all the relevant requirements of 40 C.F.R. Part 61 Subpart M.
- 28. For the purpose of this proceeding, Respondent:
 - (a) agrees that this Agreement states a claim upon which relief may be granted against Respondent;
 - (b) acknowledges that this Agreement constitutes an enforcement action for purposes of considering Respondent's compliance history in any subsequent enforcement actions;
 - (c) waives any and all remedies, claims for relief and otherwise available rights to judicial or administrative review that Respondent may have with respect to any issue of fact or law set forth in this Order, including any right of judicial review under Section 307(b)(1) of the Clean Air Act, 42 U.S.C. § 7607(b)(1);
 - (d) consents to personal jurisdiction in any action to enforce this Agreement or Order, or both, in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Georgia; and
 - (e) 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 Agreement or Order, or both, and to seek an additional penalty for such noncompliance, and agrees that federal law shall govern in any such civil action.

- 29. <u>Penalty Payment</u>. Respondent agrees to:
 - (a) pay the civil penalty of Four Thousand Two Hundred Dollars (\$4,200)
 ("EPA Penalty"). The first installment is due within 30 days of the
 Effective Date of this Agreement. The subsequent three payments shall be
 due in 90 day intervals thereafter. Each of the four payments will be in the
 amount of One Thousand Fifty Six Dollars and Sixty Seven Cents
 (\$1,056.67). Including the civil penalty and interest, the total amount that
 will be paid upon the completion of all payments will be Four Thousand
 Two Hundred Twenty Six Dollars and Sixty Eight Cents (\$4,226.68).
 - (b) pay the EPA Penalty using any method, or combination of methods, provided on the website <u>http://www2.epa.gov/financial/additional-</u> <u>instructions-making-payments-epa</u>, and identify each and every payment with "Docket No. CAA-04-2016-1752(b)." Within 24 hours of payment of the EPA Penalty, send proof of each payment to the following persons at the following addresses:

Pamela McIlvaine U.S. EPA Region 4, 61 Forsyth Street, S.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30303 mcilvaine.pam@epa.gov.

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

Saundi Wilson Office of Regional Counsel U.S. EPA Region 4 61 Forsyth Street, S.W. Atlanta, Georgia 30303 "Proof of payment" means, as applicable, a copy of the check, confirmation of credit card or debit card payment, confirmation of wire or automated clearinghouse transfer, and any other information required to demonstrate that payment has been made according to the EPA requirements.

- 30. If Respondent fails to timely pay any portion of the penalty assessed under this Agreement, the EPA may:
 - (a) request the Attorney General to bring a civil action in an appropriate district court to recover: the amount assessed; interest at rates established pursuant to 26 U.S.C. § 6621(a)(2); the United States' enforcement expenses; and a ten percent quarterly nonpayment penalty, 42 U.S.C. § 7413(d)(5);
 - (b) refer the debt to a credit reporting agency or a collection agency,
 42 U.S.C. § 7413(d)(5), 40 C.F.R. §§ 13.13, 13.14, and 13.33; or
 - (c) collect the debt by administrative offset (i.e., the withholding of money payable by the United States to, or held by the United States for, a person to satisfy the debt the person owes the Government), which includes, but is not limited to, referral to the Internal Revenue Service for offset against income tax refunds,

40 C.F.R. Part 13, Subparts C and H; and

(d) suspend or revoke Respondent's licenses or other privileges, or (ii)
 suspend or disqualify Respondent from doing business with the EPA or
 engaging in programs the EPA sponsors or funds, 40 C.F.R. § 13.17.

- 31. The provisions of this Agreement shall apply to and be binding upon Respondent and its officers, directors, employees, agents, trustees, servants, authorized representatives, successors, and assigns.
- 32. By signing this Agreement, Respondent acknowledges that this Agreement and Order will be available to the public and agrees that this Agreement does not contain any confidential business information or personally identifiable information.
- 33. By signing this Agreement, the undersigned representative of 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 Agreement and has the legal capacity to bind the party he or she represents to this Agreement.
- 34. By signing this Agreement, Respondent certifies that the information it has supplied concerning this matter was at the time of submission 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.
- 35. Except as qualified by Paragraph 30, each party shall bear its own attorney's fees, costs, and disbursements incurred in this proceeding.

G. EFFECT OF CONSENT AGREEMENT AND ATTACHED FINAL ORDER

36. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 22.18(c), completion of the terms of this Consent Agreement and Final Order resolves only Respondent's liability for federal civil penalties for the violations and facts specifically alleged above.

- Penalties paid pursuant to this Agreement shall not be deductible for purposes of federal taxes.
- 38. This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement and understanding of the parties and supersedes any prior agreements or understandings, whether written or oral, among the parties with respect to the subject matter hereof.
- 39. The terms, conditions, and compliance requirements of this Agreement may not be modified or amended except upon the written agreement of both parties, and approval of the Regional Judicial Officer.
- 40. Any violation of this Order may result in a civil judicial action for an injunction or civil penalties of up to \$93,750 per day per violation, or both, as provided in Section 113(b)(2) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 7413(b)(2), as well as criminal sanctions as provided in Section 113(c) of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 7413(c). The EPA may use any information submitted under this Order in an administrative, civil judicial, or criminal action.
- 41. Nothing in this Agreement 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.
- 42. 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 and substantial endangerment to the public health, welfare, or the environment.

43. The EPA reserves the right to revoke this Agreement and settlement penalty if and to the extent that the EPA finds, after signing this Agreement, that any information provided by Respondent was materially false or inaccurate at the time such information was provided to the EPA, and 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.

H. EFFECTIVE DATE

44. Respondent and Complainant agree to issuance of the attached Final Order. Upon filing, the EPA will transmit a copy of the filed Consent Agreement to the Respondent. This Consent Agreement and attached Final Order shall become effective after execution of the Final Order by the Regional Judicial Officer, on the date of filing with the Hearing Clerk.

INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

The foregoing Consent Agreement in the Matter of Envirological Engineering, Inc., Docket No. CAA-04-2016-1752(b), is Hereby Stipulated, Agreed, and Approved for Entry.

FOR RESPO	NDENT:			
Signature	h	Date	9-1-201	۱ (p
Printed Name	- AUIKAM LEVY			
Title:	PRESEDENT			
Address:		<u>-</u>		
	Envirological Engineering Inc. 2070 Peachtree Industrial Ct. Suite 104 Atlanta, GA 30341	PLEA	блё Сфорте	ADDRESS

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The foregoing Consent Agreement in the Matter of Envirological Engineering, Inc., Docket No. CAA-04-2016-1752(b), is Hereby Stipulated, Agreed, and Approved for Entry.

FOR COMPLAINANT:

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Jeaneanne M. Gettle Acting Director Pesticides and Toxics Management Division

Consent Agreement and Final Order, CAA-04-2016-1752(b)

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 4 BEFORE THE ADMINISTRATOR

In the Matter of:

Envirological Engineering, Inc.,

Docket No. CAA-04-2016-1752(b)

Respondent.

Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 22.18(b) of the EPA's Consolidated Rules of Practice and Section 113(d) of the Clean Air Act, 42 U.S.C. § 7413(d), the attached Consent Agreement resolving this matter is incorporated by reference into this Final Order and is hereby ratified.

The Respondent is ORDERED to comply with all terms of the Consent Agreement, effective immediately.

So ordered.

stember 15, 2016

ja Hour

Tanya Floyd ⁷ Regional Judicial Officer

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that the foregoing "Consent Agreement" and "Final Order," in the Matter of Envirological Engineering, Inc., Docket No. CAA-04-2016-1752(b), were filed and copies of the same were mailed to the parties as indicated below.

Via Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested

Mr. Avikam Levy President Envirological Engineering, Inc. 2070 Peachtree Industrial Court Suite 104 Atlanta, Georgia 30341

Via EPA's internal mail

Ms. Pamela McIlvaine Lead and Asbestos Section U.S. EPA Region 4 61 Forsyth Street, S.W. Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Ms. Marlene Tucker Office of Regional Counsel U.S. EPA Region 4 61 Forsyth Street, S.W. Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Mr. Bob Caplan Office of Regional Counsel U.S. EPA Region 4 61 Forsyth Street, S.W. Atlanta, Georgia <u>3</u>0303

-20-16

Patricia Bullock Regional Hearing Clerk

DATE