

March 31, 2016

Chief Administrative Law Judge

Kelly Gable Assistant Regional Counsel (3RC20) U.S. EPA, Region III 1650 Arch Street Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029

Re: Recycled Aggregates, LLC and John Driggs Company Docket No. CWA-03-2016-0040

Dear Ms. Gable:

This Office, the Office of Administrative Law Judges, offers an Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) process to facilitate the settlement of adjudicative cases. Please inform my legal staff assistant, Danielle Pope by April 14, 2016, as directed below, whether you accept or decline this offer to participate in ADR in an effort to settle the above cited case. The ADR process will be conducted pursuant to the Administrative Dispute Resolution Act of 1996, as amended, 5 U.S.C. §§ 571-584, by a Judge of this Office serving as a neutral. The process will be entirely voluntary and completely confidential; both of these points, together with general procedures, are reviewed below.

<u>Voluntary</u>. Both EPA and Respondent(s) must elect to participate in ADR. The choice to use or not to use ADR does not prejudice either party. If ADR is utilized, either party may terminate the ADR process at any time.

<u>Confidential</u>. The ADR process will be conducted in a confidential manner, in accordance with Section 574 of the Administrative Dispute Resolution Act of 1996. The Judge who serves as the neutral will not disclose to anyone the contents of any of the parties' ADR communications.

<u>Initial Procedures and Method</u>. A Judge in this Office will serve as a neutral. The ADR Judge will ordinarily begin by arranging a telephone conference with the parties to establish procedures. The parties are encouraged to discuss their expectations of the ADR process with the neutral Judge. As a general practice, our Office offers mediation as the method of ADR. The neutral Judge, as mediator, hears each party's position and arguments, either in writing, orally or both, may ask the parties questions, may request the parties submit documents or other information, helps identify the factual and legal issues, enables each party to understand the other party's position and arguments, keeps the focus on the facts and issues that may lead toward settlement, and helps the parties explore their options, including practical concerns, to assist in reaching a settlement. At

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<u>Authorization to Commit</u>. For the ADR process to be effective, the persons communicating with the neutral Judge must either have authority to commit his or her side to a settlement, or have ready access to a person with such authority.

Method of Communication. All ADR discussions and conferences are held by telephone, except where the parties can demonstrate, and the neutral Judge agrees, that an in-person or video settlement conference, or that a visit to the facility by the parties and the neutral Judge, is necessary.

Non-Binding. The neutral Judge has no authority to impose a decision or settlement of the case on the parties. The purpose of ADR is to facilitate a settlement between the parties.

Impartial. The neutral Judges, like all Judges in this Office, render their decisions and opinions independent of any supervision or direction by any prosecuting or investigating employee or agent of the Environmental Protection Agency, and independent of the influence of any interested person outside the Agency, pursuant to Sections 554(d) and 557 of the Administrative Procedure Act. The Judges are certified as administrative law judges by the Office of Personnel Management and are appointed in accordance with 5 U.S.C. § 3105. The Judges are not subject to evaluation by the Environmental Protection Agency, or by any component or employee of EPA. These measures ensure the fair and impartial resolution of proceedings before this Office.

<u>Duration</u>. Unless terminated earlier by either party, the ADR process will continue for 60 days from the date the case is assigned to the neutral Judge. After that time, if no settlement has been reached, the case will be assigned to another Judge to commence the litigation process.

<u>Follow-Up</u>. At the termination of the ADR process, I will send the parties a questionnaire to elicit their views and experience with the process. The contents of individual questionnaires will be kept confidential and will be made available to the neutrals and others only in a composite format.

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Please note that pursuant to an official EPA pilot program, rather than filing all documents with the Regional Hearing Clerk as specified in 40 C.F.R. § 22.5(a), all documents and correspondence filed in this matter shall be filed with the Headquarters Hearing Clerk at the following address: Sybil Anderson, Headquarters Hearing Clerk, Office of Administrative Law Judges, 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Mail Code 1900R, Washington, D.C. 20460. If filings are sent by commercial carriers, such as UPS and Fedex, or hand-delivered, the following physical address should be used: Ronald Reagan Building, Rm. M1200, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20004. The Regional Hearing Clerk may properly reject any documents that a party attempts to file in the Regional Office while this matter is before the Administrative Law

Judge.

Very truly yours,

Susan L. Biro

Chief Administrative Law Judge

cc: Recycled Aggregates John Driggs

Patrick D. Joyce

Kelly Gable

Sybil Anderson, Headquarters Hearing Clerk



March 31, 2016

Chief Administrative Law Judge

Recycled Aggregates David Cantwell, General Manager 8700 Ashwood Drive Capitol Heights, MD 20743

Re: Recycled Aggregates, LLC and John Driggs Company Docket No. CWA-03-2016-0040

Dear Mr. Cantwell:

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Susan L. Biro

Chief Administrative Law Judge

cc: Jeryl L. Olson
John Driggs
Patrick D. Joyce
Kelly Gable
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March 31, 2016

Chief Administrative Law Judge

Jeryl L. Olson Patrick D. Joyce SEYFARTH SHAW LLP 131 South Dearborn Street Suite 2400 Chicago, Illinois 60603

Re: Recycled Aggregates, LLC and John Driggs Company Docket No. CWA-03-2016-0040

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cc: Recycled Aggregates, LLC
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Chief Administrative Law Judge

John Driggs, President John Driggs Company 8700 Ashwood Drive Capitol Heights, MD 20743

Re: Recycled Aggregates, LLC and John Driggs Company Docket No. CWA-03-2016-0040

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