# BEFORE THE ENVIRONMENTAL APPEALS BOARD UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY WASHINGTON, D.C.

In the Matter of: Andrew B. Chase, a/k/a Andy Chase, Chase Services, Inc., Chase Convenience Stores, Inc., and Chase Commercial Land Development, Inc.,

Docket Number RCRA-02-2011-7503

I, D.C.

ENVIR. APPEALS BOARD

RCRA (9006) Appeal No. 13-04

#### MOTION TO EXTEND FILING DATE FOR APPEAL BRIEF

Complainant, the Director of the Division of Enforcement and Compliance Assistance, EPA, Region 2 (the "Region"), hereby requests the Environmental Appeals Board ("Board") to issue an order to modify the "ORDER GRANTING MOTION TO MODIFY JULY 16, 2013 ORDER," dated and filed with the Clerk of the Board on July 24, 2013 (the "July 24<sup>th</sup> order"). The instant motion is intended to supercede the motion the Region filed on September 30, 2013; through this filing, the Region formally withdraws the September 30<sup>th</sup> motion. The Region now requests that this Board extend the previously scheduled filing deadline established in the July 24<sup>th</sup> order through to November 22, 2013. For the reasons set forth below, Complainant submits that the attendant circumstances support the relief the Region seeks through this motion.

The July 24<sup>th</sup> order provides, *inter alia*:

Any party (or non-party participant) filing a response brief [to an appeal filed] must submit such brief on or before Tuesday, October 15, 2013.

Furthermore, if either party files a cross-appeal, such cross-appeal is due the same date responses are due, on Tuesday, October 15, 2013.

The Region is now seeking this extension because of the following circumstances. Over two weeks were lost because of the recent partial shutdown of federal government (which lasted from October 1, 2013 through October 16, 2013);¹ during that time, it was unlawful for the undersigned to have worked on the appeal brief.² With this appeal before the Board, and with any ensuing ruling having national precedential value for purposes of Part 22 EPA administrative adjudication, the Region is required to consult with various offices within EPA headquarters in the preparation of the brief; such consultations and discussions necessarily are time consuming. Further, the undersigned has previously made plans to be out of the office (and out of town) for the entire week of October 28th (returning to the office on Monday, November 4th). In addition, given that this filing is intended to supercedes the September 30th one, this motion thereby functionally constitutes the first affirmative request for additional time the Region is independently making to the Board.³ The Region submits that these considerations in the aggregate militate for the extension of time through November 22nd.

The Region has contacted Chase counsel to inquire whether he objects to the relief EPA is herein seeking (e-mail, sent 1:10 PM today). In a subsequent telephone conversation, the undersigned was informed that counsel who has handled the matter throughout the proceeding

One consequence of the federal government shutdown and the accompanying furlough of many EPA employees (including the undersigned) was that the October 15<sup>th</sup> filing deadline was not met.

The undersigned was so informed, the operative provision being the Anti-Deficiency Act.

The Region's July 18<sup>th</sup> motion sought additional time for filing a cross-appeal subsequent to Chase having requested additional time to file its appeal (an extension this Board did grant).

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before the Administrative Law Judge, Thomas Plimpton, is on extended leave, and that other

counsel (Justin R. Meyer) will be handling the appeal. As of 3:30 PM today (October 17<sup>th</sup>), no

reply to EPA's e-mail communication has been received. Given the problems and delays that

might have been engendered by the government shutdown and the two-week cessation of much

of EPA's work, the Region deems it a high priority to inform this Board as soon as possible of

the present situation and the Region's request for additional time. Thus, while the Region does

not now know whether Chase counsel does or does not object to the requested extension of time,

the undersigned does note that previously Mr. Plimpton indicated he did not oppose such a

request.

The Region thus submits the requisite good cause exists for the granting of this motion

exists.

Therefore, the Region respectfully moves this Board, pursuant to 40 C.F.R. §§ 22.7(b),

22.16(a) and 22.30(a), for an order: a) modifying the July 24<sup>th</sup> order so as to extend the time

until November 22, 2013 for the Region to submit a response brief to the Chase appeal (dated

August 22, 2013) and/or cross-appeal; b) and granting such other and further as this Board deems

just, lawful and proper.

Dated: October 17, 2013

New York, New York

Respectfully submitted

Lee A. Spielmann

Assistant Regional Counsel

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TO: The Environmental Appeals Board
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U.S. EPA East Building, Room 3332
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Clerk of the Environmental Appeals Board U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 1201 Constitution Avenue, N.W. U.S. EPA East Building, Room 3334 Washington, DC 20004

Justin R. Meyer, Esq. Stafford, Piller *et al*. One Cumberland Avenue P.O. Box 2947 Plattsburgh, New York 12901

## In re Andrew B. Chase et al. RCRA (9006) Appeal No. 13-04

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify that I have this day caused to be sent the foregoing "MOTION TO EXTEND FILING DATE FOR APPEAL BRIEF MOTION," dated October 17, 2013, in the above-referenced proceeding in the following manner to the respective addressees listed below:

Original and One Copy By UPS OVERNIGHT:

Clerk of the Environmental Appeals Board U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 1201 Constitution Avenue, N.W. U.S. EPA East Building, Room 3334 Washington, DC 20004

### **Copy by UPS OVERNIGHT:**

The Environmental Appeals Board U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 1201 Constitution Avenue, N.W. U.S. EPA East Building, Room 3332 Washington, DC 20004

## **Copy by UPS OVERNIGHT:**

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Dated: October 17, 2013
New York, New York