

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Region 2

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 In the Matter of :
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A&I Developers, Inc., :
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 Respondent. :
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 Proceeding under Section 16(a) of :
 the Toxic Substances Control Act. :
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COMPLAINT AND NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING

Docket No. TSCA-02-2018-9289

COMPLAINT

This is a civil administrative action instituted pursuant to § 16(a), 15 U.S.C. § 2615(a), of the Toxic Substances Control Act (“TSCA”), 15 U.S.C. § 2601 *et seq.* This Complaint serves notice of Complainant’s preliminary determination that Respondent has violated Section 409 of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2689, by failing to comply with the regulatory requirements of 40 C.F.R. Part 745 Subpart E, which were promulgated pursuant to 15 U.S.C. §§ 2682, 2686, and 2687.

Complainant in this proceeding, the Director, Division of Enforcement and Compliance Assistance, United States Environmental Protection Agency (“EPA”), Region 2, has been duly delegated the authority to institute this action. Complainant, as and for her Complaint against Respondent, hereby alleges upon information and belief:

STATUTORY AND REGULATORY BACKGROUND

1. Congress passed the Residential Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Act of 1992 (Act), 42 U.S.C. §§ 4851 to 4856, to address the need to control exposure to lead-based paint hazards. One of the stated purposes of the Act is to implement a broad program to reduce lead-based paint hazards in the Nation’s housing stock. 42 U.S.C. § 4851a(2). The Act amended TSCA by adding *Title IV-Lead Exposure Reduction*, Sections 401 to 412, 15 U.S.C. §§ 2681 to 2692.

2. Section 402 of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2682, requires that the Administrator of EPA promulgate regulations governing the training and certification of individuals and contractors engaged in lead-based paint activities, including renovation of residences built prior to 1978. Section 406 of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2686, requires that the Administrator promulgate regulations requiring persons who perform for compensation a renovation of target housing to provide a lead hazard information pamphlet to the owner and occupant prior to commencing the renovation.

3. Section 407 of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2687, requires that the regulations promulgated pursuant to the TSCA include recordkeeping and reporting requirements to ensure effective implementation.

4. Section 409 of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2689, makes it unlawful for any person to fail or refuse to comply with these sections of TSCA, as well as all other provisions, rules or orders under Subchapter IV of TSCA.

5. In 1996, the EPA promulgated regulations to implement Section 402(a) of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2682(a). These regulations are set forth at 40 C.F.R. Part 745, Subpart L, *Lead Based Paint Activities*. In 1998, the EPA promulgated regulations to implement Section 406(b) and Section 407 of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2686(b) and 2687. These regulations were set forth at 40 C.F.R. Part 745, Subpart E, *Residential Property Renovation*. In 2008, the EPA promulgated regulations to implement Section 402(c)(3) of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2682(c)(3), by amending and recodifying regulations at 40 C.F.R. Part 745, Subparts E and L, and adding additional regulations at 40 C.F.R. Subpart L (Renovation, Repair, and Painting Rule). *See* Lead; Renovation, Repair, and Painting Program, 73 Fed. Reg. 21692, 21758 (Mar. 31, 2008).

6. The Renovation, Repair, and Painting (RRP) Rule establishes work practice standards for renovations that disturb paint in target housing and child-occupied facilities and requires firms and individuals performing, offering, or claiming to perform such renovations to obtain EPA certification.

7. The regulations at 40 C.F.R. §§ 745.80 and 745.82(a) provide that the regulations contained in 40 C.F.R. Subpart E, *Residential Property Renovation*, apply to all renovations performed for compensation in target housing and child-occupied facilities.

8. The regulation at 40 C.F.R. § 745.83 defines “renovation” as the modification of any existing structure, or portion thereof, that results in the disturbance of painted surfaces, unless that activity is performed as part of an abatement as defined by 40 C.F.R. § 745.223. The term renovation includes, but is not limited to, the removal, modification, or repair of painted surfaces or painted components (*e.g.*, modification of painted doors, surface restoration, window repair, surface preparation activity (such as sanding, scraping, or other such activities that may generate paint dust)); the removal of building components (*e.g.*, walls, ceilings, plumbing, windows); weatherization projects (*e.g.*, cutting holes in painted surfaces to install blown-in insulation or to gain access to attics, planing thresholds to install weather stripping); and interim controls that disturb painted surfaces.

9. Section 401(17) of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2681(17), defines “target housing” as any housing constructed prior to 1978, except housing for the elderly or persons with disabilities or any zero-bedroom dwelling (unless any child who is less than six years of age resides or is expected to reside in such housing).

10. The regulation at 40 C.F.R. § 745.83 defines “firm” as a company, partnership, corporation, sole proprietorship or individual doing business, association, or other business entity; a Federal, State, Tribal, or local government agency; or a nonprofit organization.

11. The regulation at 40 C.F.R. § 745.83 defines “person” as any natural or judicial person including any individual, corporation, partnership, or association; any Indian Tribe, State, or political subdivision thereof; any interstate body; and any department, agency, or instrumentality of the Federal Government.

