

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

JAN 24 2012

<u>CERTIFIED MAIL</u> RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Francisco Rafael Arriera President Delta Hardware Distributors, Inc. 6500 West 4th Avenue, #15 Hialeah, Florida 33012

Re: Delta Hardware Distributors, Inc. Docket No. FIFRA 04-2012-3005(b)

Dear Mr. Arriera:

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.

As stated in Section V of the CAFO, the assessed penalty of \$200 is due within 30 days from the effective date. Please ensure that the face of your cashier's or certified check includes the name of the company and the Docket Number of this case. Penalty payment questions should be directed to Ms. Heather Russell either by telephone at (513) 487-2044 or by written correspondence to her attention at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Cincinnati Accounting Operations address identified in the CAFO. Should you have any questions about this matter or your compliance status in the future, please call Mrs. Cheryn L. Jones at (404) 562-9006.

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 (SEC) any environmental enforcement actions taken by EPA.

Sincerely,

Jeancanne M. Gettle

Chief Pesticides and Toxic Substances Branch

Enclosures

cc: Mr. Craig Bryant State File No. 210-064-4101 MSC

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 4 ATLANTA, GEORGIA

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In the Matter of:

Delta Hardware Distributors, Inc.

TECTION AGENCY NA EORGIA Docket No.: FIFRA-04-2012-205(64)

Respondent.

CONSENT AGREEMENT AND FINAL ORDER

I. <u>Nature of the Action</u>

- This is a civil penalty proceeding pursuant to Section 14(a) of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act, as amended, 7 U.S.C. § 136*l*(a) (FIFRA), and pursuant to the Consolidated Rules of Practice Governing Administrative Assessment of Civil Penalties and the Revocation/Termination or Suspension of Permits (Consolidated Rules), 40 C.F.R. Part 22. Complainant is the Director of the Air, Pesticides and Toxics Management Division, United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4. Respondent is Delta Hardware Distributors, Inc.
- 2. Complainant and Respondent have conferred for the purpose of settlement pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 22.18 and desire to resolve this matter and settle the allegations described herein without a formal hearing. Therefore, without the taking of any evidence or testimony, the making of any argument, or the adjudication of any issue in this matter, and in accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 22.13(b), this Consent Agreement and Final Order (CAFO) will simultaneously commence and conclude this matter.

II. Preliminary Statements

- 3. The authority to take action under Section 14(a) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136*l*(a), is vested in the Administrator of EPA. The Administrator of EPA has delegated this authority under FIFRA to EPA Region 4 by EPA Delegation 5-14, dated May 11, 1994.
- Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 22.5(c)(4) the following individual is authorized to receive service for EPA in this proceeding:

Cheryn Jones Pesticides Section U.S. EPA - Region 4 61 Forsyth Street Atlanta, Georgia 30303-8960 (404) 562-9006.

- Respondent is Delta Hardware Distributors, Inc., a Florida corporation, located at 6500 West 4th Avenue, #15, Hialeah, Florida 33012.
- Respondent is a "person" as defined by Section 2(s) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136(s), and as such is subject to FIFRA and the regulations promulgated thereunder.

III. Specific Allegations

- On or about November 10, 2010, an authorized representative of the EPA conducted an inspection at Respondent's facility located at 6500 West 4th Avenue, #15, Hialcah, Florida 33012.
- During the aforementioned inspection, the Respondent was distributing or selling Rush
 Deer Pearl Balls and Deer Refined Camphor.
- 9. The label on Rush Deer Pearl Balls bore the claim "Kills clothes moths and larvae."
- 10. The label on Deer Refined Camphor bore the claim "For protection against moths, silverfish and other insect pests."

- Because the labels for Rush Deer Pearl Balls and Deer Refined Camphor made pesticidal claims, these products are pesticides as defined in Section 2(u) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C.
 § 136(u), which includes any substance or mixture of substances intended for preventing, destroying, repelling, or mitigating any pest.
- 12. A pest is defined in Section 2(t) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136(t), as any insect, rodent, nematode, fungus, weed, or any other form of terrestrial or aquatic plant or animal life or virus, bacteria, or other micro-organism (except viruses, bacteria, or other microorganisms on or in living man or other living animals) which the Administrator declares to be a pest under Section 25(c)(1) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136w(c)(1).
- Respondent "distributes or sells" pesticides. The term "to distribute or sell" as defined by
 Section 2(gg) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136(gg), includes to distribute, sell, offer for sale, hold for distribution, hold for sale, hold for shipment, ship, deliver for shipment, or release for shipment.
- Pesticides that are sold and distributed in the United States are required to be registered with the EPA, pursuant to Section 3 of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136a.
- At the time of the inspection Rush Deer Pearl Balls and Deer Refined Camphor were not registered as pesticides with EPA.
- At the time of the inspection, the inspector observed the said pesticides being offered for sale and/or distribution.
- 17. Under Section 12(a)(1)(A) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136j(a)(1)(A), it is unlawful for any person to distribute or sell to any person any pesticide that is not registered under Section 3 of FIFRA.

Delta Hardware Distributors, Inc. FIFRA-04-2012-3005(b) 3

- Respondent violated Section 12(a)(1)(A) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136j(a)(1)(A), on at least two occasions and is therefore subject to the assessment of civil penalties under Section 14 of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136*l*.
- 19. At the time of the inspection, the label on each of the pesticides failed to bear directions for use, the ingredient statement and a warning or caution statement, which includes the appropriate toxic category word.
- 20. Pursuant to Section 2(q) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136(q), a pesticide is misbranded if its label fails to bear directions for use, a warning or caution statement and the ingredient statement.
- Under Section 12(a)(1)(E) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136j(a)(1)(E), it is unlawful for any person to distribute or sell to any person any pesticide that is misbranded.
- 22. Respondent violated Section 12(a)(1)(E) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136j(a)(1)(E), on at least two occasions and is therefore subject to the assessment of a civil penalty under Section 14(a) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136*l*(a).
- Section 14(a) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136/(a), in conjunction with the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996, authorizes the assessment of a civil penalty.
- 24. Section 14(a)(4) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136/(a)(4), requires EPA to consider the appropriateness of the assessed penalty to the size of business of the Respondent, the effect on Respondent's ability to continue in business, and the gravity of the violation.
- After consideration of the factors set forth in Section 14(a)(4) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C.
 § 136/(a)(4), the EPA proposes to assess a total civil penalty of TWO HUNDRED
 DOLLARS (\$200) against the Respondent for the above-described violations. Civil

Delta Hardware Distributors, Inc. FIFRA-04-2012-3005(b)

penalties under Section 14(a) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136/(a), may be assessed by Administrative Order.

IV. Consent Agreement

- 26. For the purposes of this CAFO, Respondent admits the jurisdictional allegations set forth above and neither admits nor denies the factual allegations set forth above.
- 27. Respondent waives its right to a hearing on the allegations contained herein and its right to appeal the proposed Final Order accompanying the Consent Agreement.
- Respondent consents to the assessment of the penalty proposed by EPA and agrees to pay the civil penalty as set forth in this CAFO.
- 29. Respondent certifies that as of the date of its execution of this CAFO, it is in compliance with all relevant requirements of FIFRA.
- 30. Compliance with this CAFO shall resolve the allegations of the 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 violation of any federal or state statute, regulation or permit, to initiate an action for imminent and substantial endangerment, or to pursue criminal enforcement.
- 31. 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 FIFRA.

V. Final Order

32. Respondent is assessed a civil penalty of TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$200) which shall be paid within 30 days from the effective date of this CAFO. 33. Respondent shall remit the penalty by either a cashier's or certified check made payable to the "Treasurer, United States of America," and shall send the check via U.S. mail to the following address:

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

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

34. At the time of payment, Respondent shall send a separate copy of the check and a written statement that the payment is being 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 Atlanta, Georgia 30303-8960;

Cheryn L. Jones Pesticides Section U.S. EPA - Region 4 61 Forsyth Street Atlanta, Georgia 30303-8960; and

Saundi J. Wilson Office of Environmental Accountability U.S. EPA - Region 4 61 Forsyth Street Atlanta, Georgia 30303-8960.

35. For the purposes of state and federal income taxation, Respondent shall not be entitled, and agrees not to attempt, to claim a deduction for any civil penalty payment made pursuant to this CAFO. Any attempt by Respondent to deduct any such payments shall constitute a violation of this CAFO.

- 36. 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 effective date of this CAFO, if the penalty is not paid by the date required. A charge will also be assessed to cover the administrative costs, both direct and indirect, of overdue debts. In addition, a late payment penalty charge shall be applied on any principal amount not paid within 90 days of the due date.
- 37. Complainant and Respondent shall bear their own costs and attorney fees in this matter.
- 38. This CAFO shall be binding upon the Respondent, its successors and assigns. 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 hereby legally binds that party to it.

The remainder of this page intentionally left blank.

VI. Effective Date

39. The effective date of this CAFO shall be the date on which the CAFO is filed with the

Regional Hearing Clerk.

AGREED AND CONSENTED TO:

Respondent:Delta Hardware Distributors, Inc.Docket No.:FIFRA-04-2012-3005(b)

(Signature) Date: JADUARY 3,012. B ΰ» (Cyped or Printed) Name: Title: (Typed or Printed)

Complainant:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

By: e Ax Beverly II. Banister, Director Air, Pesticides and Toxics

Management Division

Date: 1.18.2012

APPROVED AND SO ORDERED this $2^{\frac{2}{7}}$ day of _____ 201 Janu org

B. Schub

Susan B. Schub Regional Judicial Officer

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the date set out below, I filed the original and one copy of the

foregoing Consent Agreement and Final Order and served a true and correct copy of the

foregoing Consent Agreement and Final Order In the Matter of Delta Hardware Distributors,

Inc., Docket Number: FIFRA-04-2012-3005(b), to the addressees listed below:

Francisco Rafael Arriera President Delta Hardware Distributors, Inc. 6500 West 4th Avenue, #15 Hialeah, Florida 33012

Cheryn L. Jones Pesticides Section U.S. EPA Region 4 61 Forsyth Street Atlanta, Georgia 30303 (via Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested)

(via EPA's internal mail)

Robert Caplan Associate Regional Counsel Office of Environmental Accountability U.S. EPA Region 4 61 Forsyth Street Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Date: 1-24-12

(via EPA's internal mail)

Patricia Bullock, Regional Hearing Clerk U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4 Atlanta Federal Center 61 Forsyth Street Atlanta, Georgia 30303 (404) 562-9511