

# UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION III

FOUR PENN CENTER – 1600 JOHN F. KENNEDY BLVD. PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19103



In the Matter of:

:

U.S. EPA Docket No. RCRA-03-2023-0142

Frederick Northup, Inc.

8249 History Land Hwy : Proceeding under Section 9006 of the Resource

Warsaw, VA 22572 : Conservation and Recovery Act, 42 U.S.C.

: Section 6991e

Respondent.

:

Kermit Thomas Store 8249 History Land Hwy Warsaw, VA 22572

:

Facility.

# **CONSENT AGREEMENT**

### PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

- 1. This Consent Agreement is entered into by the Director of the Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III ("Complainant") and Frederick Northup, Inc. d/b/a Kermit Thomas Store ("Respondent") (collectively the "Parties"), pursuant to Section 9006 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act, commonly referred to as the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, ("RCRA"), 42 U.S.C. § 6991e, and the Consolidated Rules of Practice Governing the Administrative Assessment of Civil Penalties and the Revocation/Termination or Suspension of Permits (Consolidated Rules of Practice"), 40 C.F.R. Part 22. Section 9006 of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6991e, authorizes the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to assess penalties and undertake other actions required by this Consent Agreement. The Administrator has delegated this authority to the Regional Administrator who, in turn, has delegated it to the Complainant. This Consent Agreement and the attached Final Order (hereinafter jointly referred to as the "Consent Agreement and Final Order") resolve Complainant's civil penalty claims against Respondent under RCRA Subtitle I for the violations alleged herein.
- 2. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. §§ 22.13(b) and 22.18(b)(2) and (3) of the Consolidated Rules of Practice, Complainant hereby simultaneously commences and resolves this administrative proceeding.

## **JURISDICTION**

- 3. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") has jurisdiction over the above-captioned matter, as described in Paragraph 1, above.
- 4. The Consolidated Rules of Practice govern this administrative adjudicatory proceeding pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 22.1(a)(4).
- 5. EPA has given the Commonwealth of Virginia, through the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality ("VADEQ"), notice of the issuance of this Consent Agreement and Final Order in accordance with Section 9006(a)(2) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6991e(a)(2).

# **GENERAL PROVISIONS**

- 6. For purposes of this proceeding only, Respondent admits the jurisdictional allegations set forth in this Consent Agreement and Final Order.
- 7. Except as provided in Paragraph 6, above, Respondent neither admits nor denies the specific factual allegations set forth in this Consent Agreement.
- 8. Respondent agrees not to contest the jurisdiction of EPA with respect to the execution of this Consent Agreement, the issuance of the attached Final Order, or the enforcement of this Consent Agreement and Final Order.
- 9. For purposes of this proceeding only, Respondent hereby expressly waives its right to contest the allegations set forth in this Consent Agreement and Final Order and waives its right to appeal the accompanying Final Order.
- 10. Respondent consents to the assessment of the civil penalty stated herein, to the issuance of any specified compliance order herein, and to any conditions specified herein.
- 11. Respondent shall bear its own costs and attorney's fees in connection with this proceeding.

## FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 12. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. §§ 22.13(b) and 22.18(b)(2) and (3) of the Consolidated Rules of Practice, Complainant alleges and adopts the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law set forth immediately below.
- 13. Section 9006(d) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6991e(d), authorizes EPA to assess civil penalties against any owner or operator of an underground storage tank ("UST") who fails to comply with, *inter alia*, any requirement or standard of a State program that has been approved pursuant to Section 9004 of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6991c, for the violations alleged herein.

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- 14. Effective October 28, 1998, pursuant to Section 9004 of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6991*c*, and 40 C.F.R. Part 281, Subpart A, EPA approved the Commonwealth of Virginia to administer a state UST management program *in lieu* of the Federal UST management program established under Subtitle I of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 6991-6991m. The provisions of the Virginia UST management program which EPA approved have become requirements of RCRA Subtitle I and are, accordingly, enforceable by EPA pursuant to Section 9006 of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6991e. Virginia's authorized UST management program regulations are set forth in the Virginia Code as "Underground Storage Tanks: Technical Standards and Corrective Action Requirements" ("VA UST Regulations"), 9 VAC § 25-580-10 *et seq.* <sup>1</sup>
- 15. At all times relevant to the alleged violations in this Consent Agreement and Final Order, Respondent has been a Virginia corporation.
- 16. At all times relevant to the alleged violations in this Consent Agreement and Final Order, Respondent has been a "person" as defined by Section 9001(5) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6991(5), and 9 VAC § 25-580-10.
- 17. At all times relevant to the alleged violations in this Consent Agreement and Final Order, Respondent has been the "owner" and/or "operator" of USTs and "UST systems," as those terms are defined in Sections 9001(3), (4), and (10) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6991(3), (4), and (10), and 9 VAC § 25-580-10, respectively, at Kermit Thomas Store facility located at 8249 History Land, VA 22572 ("the Facility").
- 18. On June 8, 2022, under the authority of Section 9005(a) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6991d(a), an EPA inspector conducted a compliance evaluation inspection at the Facility ("CEI").
- 19. At the time of the June 8, 2022 CEI, and at all times relevant to the applicable violations alleged herein, four (4) USTs, as described below, each of which contained a "regulated substance" as that term is defined in Section 9001(7) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6991(7), and 9 VAC § 25-580-10, were located at the Facility:

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Effective May 3, 2021, EPA approved revisions to the Commonwealth of Virginia's Underground Storage Tank (UST) program. Since the alleged violations of this Consent Agreement and Final Order occurred during a period of time that straddles May 3, 2021, these newly approved revisions apply to part of the alleged violations in this Agreement.

Tank #	Material Stored	Capacity	Installation	Tank Construction	Piping Construction
		(gal.)	Date	Material	Material
				StiP3	Fiberglass-reinforced
1	Kerosene	1,000	12/1/97	Cathodically Protected	plastic
				Steel	
				StiP3	Fiberglass-reinforced
2	Non-ethanol	2,000	12/1/97	Cathodically Protected	plastic
	Gasoline			Steel	
		2,000		StiP3	Fiberglass-reinforced
3	Highway Diesel		12/1/97	Cathodically Protected	plastic
				Steel	
	Regular	4,000		StiP3	Fiberglass-reinforced
4	Gasoline		12/1/97	Cathodically Protected	plastic
				Steel	

- 20. At all times relevant to the alleged violations in this Consent Agreement and Final Order, USTs 1 through 4 are "new tank systems", as defined in 9 VAC 25-580-10, which states that a "new tank system" means a tank system used to contain an accumulation of regulated substances or for which installation has commenced after December 22, 1988.
- 21. All of the USTs at the Facility were StiP3 (coated steel construction with anodes) tanks and utilized fiberglass-reinforced plastic piping that routinely contained regulated substances conveyed using a safe suction system.
- 22. The Facility used statistical inventory reconciliation ("SIR") as its tank release detection method to detect leaks.
- 23. At all times relevant to the alleged violations in this Consent Agreement and Final Order, all of the USTs at the Facility and the respective underground piping associated with each UST, was a "petroleum UST system" as these terms are defined in 9 VAC § 25-580-10.

#### **COUNT I**

(Failure to inspect the cathodic protection system for USTs 1-4)

- 24. The information and allegations in the preceding paragraphs of this Consent Agreement are incorporated by reference.
- 25. 9 VAC § 25-580-90.2.a. states, in relevant part that :
  - "All UST systems equipped with cathodic protection systems must be inspected for proper operation by a qualified cathodic protection tester in accordance with the following requirements:
  - a. Frequency. All cathodic protection systems must be tested within six months of installation and at least every three years thereafter..."
- 26. At the time of the June 8, 2022 CEI, the cathodic protection system had been inspected for proper operation on June 19, 2018 and was due for a three-year inspection by June 19, 2021. The cathodic protection system was next inspected for proper operation on June 7,

- 2022, which was 353 days past due.
- 27. From at least June 20, 2021, through June 6, 2022, Respondent failed to inspect the cathodic protection system for proper operation for USTs 1-4 at the Facility.
- 28. Respondent violated 9 VAC § 25-580-90.2.a. by failing to inspect the cathodic protection system for proper operation for USTs 1-4 at the Facility at least once every three years.
- 29. In failing to comply with 9 VAC § 25-580-90.2.a., Respondent violated Subtitle I of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 6991-6991m, and is subject to the assessment of penalties under Section 9006(d)(2) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6991e(d)(2).

#### **COUNT II**

(Failure to test the overfill functionality)

- 30. The information and allegations in the preceding paragraphs of this Consent Agreement are incorporated by reference.
- 31. 9 VAC § 25-580-82.A.2. states, in relevant part, that "...Overfill prevention equipment must be inspected at least once every three years. At a minimum, the inspection must ensure that overfill prevention equipment is set to activate at the correct level specified in subdivision 3 of 9 VAC 25-580-50 and will activate when regulated substance reaches that level."<sup>2</sup>
- 32. At the time of the June 8, 2022 CEI, USTs 1 and 2 were due for the three-year functionality inspection by May 3, 2021. Respondent indicated that it had not previously conducted overfill functionality testing for USTs 1 and 2. USTs 1 and 2 were inspected for functionality on June 7, 2022 for UST 1, and August 9, 2022 for UST 2, which were 400 and 463 days past due, respectively.
- 33. From at least May 3, 2021 through June 6, 2022 for UST 1, and from May 3, 2021 through August 8, 2022 for UST 2, Respondent failed to inspect the overfill functionality at least once every three years for USTs 1 and 2 at the Facility.
- 34. Respondent violated 9 VAC § 25-580-82.A.2 by failing to inspect the overfill functionality for USTs 1 and 2 at the Facility at least once every three years.
- 35. In failing to comply with 9 VAC § 25-580-82.A.2, Respondent violated Subtitle I of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 6991-6991m, and is subject to the assessment of penalties under Section 9006(d)(2) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6991e(d)(2).

#### **COUNT III**

(Failure to equip UST systems with adequate overfill prevention equipment for UST 1)

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> 9 Va. Admin. Code § 25-580-85.A.1 was effective in Virginia starting January 1, 2018 and federally effective starting May 3, 2021.

- 36. The information and allegations in the preceding paragraphs of this Consent Agreement are incorporated by reference.
- 37. 9 VAC § 25-580-50.3.a(2) provides that all UST systems must be equipped with adequate overfill prevention equipment, defined as either a) an automatic shut off of input flow when the tank is no more than 95% full, b) an alert to transfer operators when the tank is no more than 90% full, or c) a restriction on the flow 30 minutes prior to overfilling, an alert to transfer officer with high level alarm one minute before overfilling, or an automatic shut off of flow into the tank.
- 38. At the time of the June 8, 2022 CEI, UST 1 at the Facility was not equipped with adequate overfill protection equipment. UST 1 was equipped with a drop tube with automatic shut off, however, the mechanism component of the overfill prevention equipment was too short and therefore unable to provide automatic shut-off of input flow when the tank is no more than 95% full.
- 39. On August 9, 2022 Respondent installed the correct sized tube for UST 1's overfill prevention mechanism, meeting the requirements of 9 VAC § 25-580-50.3.a(2) for UST 1 at the Facility.
- 40. From at least June 8, 2022, through August 8, 2022 Respondent failed to have adequate overfill protection equipment for UST 1 at the Facility.
- 41. Respondent violated 9 VAC § 25-580-50.3.a(2) by failing to have adequate overfill prevention equipment for UST 1 at the Facility.
- 42. In failing to comply with 9 VAC § 25-580-50.3.a(2), Respondent violated Subtitle I of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 6991-6991m, and is subject to the assessment of penalties under Section 9006(d)(2) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6991e(d)(2).

### **COUNT IV**

(Failure to test the spill prevention equipment for UST 1)

- 43. The information and allegations in the preceding paragraphs of this Consent Agreement are incorporated by reference.
- 44. 9 VAC § 25-580-82.A.1.b states, in relevant part:

"Spill prevention equipment (such as a catchment basin, spill bucket, or other spill containment device) and containment sumps used for interstitial monitoring of piping must prevent releases to the environment by meeting one of the following:

a. The equipment is double walled and the integrity of both walls is periodically monitored as described in 9 VAC 25-580-85 A 1 a (1) at a frequency not less than the frequency of the walkthrough inspections described in 9VAC25-580-85. Within 30 days of discontinuing periodic monitoring under this subdivision, owners and operators must

- conduct a test in accordance with subdivision A 1 b of this section and begin meeting the requirements of that subdivision; or
- b. The spill prevention equipment and containment sumps used for interstitial monitoring of piping are tested at least once every three years to ensure the equipment is liquid tight by using vacuum, pressure, or liquid testing [emphasis added] in accordance with one of the following criteria..."<sup>3</sup>
- 45. At the time of the June 8, 2022 CEI, the records provided by Respondent indicated that the spill prevention equipment at the Facility for UST 1 was a spill bucket which was due for the once every three years liquid testing by May 3, 2021. Respondent indicated that it had not previously conducted liquid testing for UST 1. Respondent liquid tested the spill bucket on June 7, 2022, which was 400 days past due.
- 46. From at least May 3, 2021 through June 6, 2022, Respondent failed to liquid test the spill prevention equipment once every three years for UST 1 at the Facility.
- 47. Respondent violated 9 VAC § 25-580-82.A.1.b by failing to liquid test once every three years the spill prevention equipment for UST 1 at the Facility.
- 48. In failing to comply with 9 VAC § 25-580-82.A.1.b, Respondent violated Subtitle I of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 6991-6991m, and is subject to the assessment of penalties under Section 9006(d)(2) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6991e(d)(2).

## **CIVIL PENALTY**

- 49. In settlement of EPA's claims for civil penalties for the violations alleged in this Consent Agreement, Respondent consents to the assessment of a civil penalty in the amount of **Thirty Thousand One Hundred Eighty dollars (\$30,180.00)**, which Respondent shall be liable to pay in accordance with the terms set forth below.
- 50. The civil penalty is based upon EPA's consideration of a number of factors, including the penalty criteria ("statutory factors") set forth in Sections 9006 (c) and (e) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 6991e(c) and (e), which includes the seriousness of the violation, any good faith efforts to comply with the applicable requirements, the compliance history of the owner or operator and any other factors considered appropriate. In developing a proposed penalty for the violations alleged in this Consent Agreement, EPA will take into account the particular facts and circumstances of this case with specific reference to EPA's November 1990 U.S. E.P.A. Penalty Guidance for Violations of UST Regulations ("UST Penalty Policy"), the 2018 Interim Consolidated Enforcement Penalty Policy for Underground Storage Tank Regulations ("Enforcement Penalty Policy") (collectively the "UST Penalty Policies), the appropriate *Adjustment of Civil Monetary Penalties for Inflation*, pursuant to 40 C.F.R. Part 19, and the applicable EPA memoranda addressing EPA's civil penalty policies to account for inflation.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> 9 Va. Admin. Code § 25-580-85.A.1 was effective in Virginia starting January 1, 2018 and federally effective starting May 3, 2021.

- 51. Payment of the civil penalty amount, and any associated interest, administrative fees, and late payment penalties owed, shall be made by either cashier's check, certified check or electronic wire transfer, in the following manner:
  - a. All payments by Respondent shall include reference to Respondent's name and address, and the Docket Number of this action, *i.e.*, EPA Docket Number RCRA-03-2023-0142;
  - b. All checks shall be made payable to the "United States Treasury";
  - c. All payments made by check and sent by regular mail shall be addressed and mailed to:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Cincinnati Finance Center P.O. Box 979078 St. Louis, MO 63197-9000

d. For additional information concerning other acceptable methods of payment of the civil penalty amount see:

https://www.epa.gov/financial/makepayment

e. A copy of Respondent's check or other documentation of payment of the penalty using the method selected by Respondent for payment shall be sent simultaneously by email to:

Jeffrey S. Nast Sr. Assistant Regional Counsel nast.jeffrey@epa.gov

and

U.S. EPA Region III Regional Hearing Clerk R3 Hearing Clerk@epa.gov

- 52. Pursuant to 31 U.S.C. § 3717 and 40 C.F.R. § 13.11, EPA is entitled to assess interest and late payment penalties on outstanding debts owed to the United States and a charge to cover the costs of processing and handling a delinquent claim, as more fully described below. Accordingly, Respondent's failure to make timely payment of the penalty as specified herein shall result in the assessment of late payment charges including interest, penalties and/or administrative costs of handling delinquent debts.
- 53. Payment of the civil penalty, in accordance with the above terms and provisions, is due and payable immediately upon receipt by Respondent of a true and correct copy of the

fully executed and filed Consent Agreement and Final Order. Receipt by Respondent or Respondent's legal counsel of such copy of the fully executed Consent Agreement and Final Order, with a date stamp indicating the date on which the Consent Agreement and Final Order was filed with the Regional Hearing Clerk, shall constitute receipt of written initial notice that a debt is owed EPA by Respondent in accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 13.9(a).

- 54. INTEREST: In accordance with 40 C.F.R § 13.11(a)(1), interest on the civil penalty assessed in this Consent Agreement and Final Order will begin to accrue on the date Respondent is notified of its debt to the United States as established upon ratification and filing of the fully executed Consent Agreement and Final Order with the Regional Hearing Clerk. However, EPA will not seek to recover interest on any amount of the civil penalties that is paid within thirty (30) calendar days after the date on which such interest begins to accrue. Interest will be assessed at the rate of the United States Treasury tax and loan rate in accordance with 40 C.F.R § 13.11(a).
- 55. ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS: The costs of the EPA's administrative handling of overdue debts will be charged and assessed monthly throughout the period a debt is overdue. 40 C.F.R. § 13.11(b). If payment is not received within 30 calendar days of the effective date of this Consent Agreement, EPA will also assess a \$15.00 administrative handling charge for administrative costs on unpaid penalties for the first thirty (30) day period after the payment is due and an additional \$15.00 for each subsequent thirty (30) days the penalty remains unpaid.
- 56. LATE PAYMENT PENALTY: A late payment penalty of six percent per year will be assessed monthly on any portion of the civil penalty that remains delinquent more than ninety (90) calendar days. 40 C.F.R. § 13.11(c). Should assessment of the penalty charge on the debt be required, it shall accrue from the first day payment is delinquent. 31 C.F.R. § 901.9(d).
- 57. Respondent agrees not to deduct for federal tax purposes the civil penalty assessed in this Consent Agreement and Final Order.
- 58. The parties consent to service of the Final Order by e-mail at the following valid e-mail address: <a href="mailto:nast.jeffrey@epa.gov">nast.jeffrey@epa.gov</a> (for Complainant), and <a href="mailto:barkema@dagglaw.com">barkema@dagglaw.com</a> (for Respondent).

## **GENERAL SETTLEMENT CONDITIONS**

59. By signing this Consent Agreement, Respondent acknowledges that this Consent Agreement and Final Order will be available to the public and represents that, to the best of Respondent's knowledge and belief, this Consent Agreement and Final Order does not contain any confidential business information or personally identifiable information from Respondent.

60. Respondent certifies that any information or representation it has supplied or made to EPA concerning this matter, including information on ability to pay, was, at the time of submission true, accurate, and complete and that there has been no material change regarding the truthfulness, accuracy or completeness of such information or representation. EPA shall have the right to institute further actions to recover appropriate relief if EPA obtains evidence that any information provided and/or representations made by Respondent to the EPA regarding matters relevant to this Consent Agreement and Final Order, including information about Respondent's ability to pay a penalty, are false or, in any material respect, inaccurate. This right shall be in addition to all other rights and causes of action that EPA may have, civil or criminal, under law or equity in such event. Respondent and its officers, directors and agents are aware that the submission of false or misleading information to the United States government may subject a person to separate civil and/or criminal liability.

# **CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE**

61. Respondent certifies to EPA, upon personal investigation and to the best of its knowledge and belief, that it currently is in compliance with regard to the violations alleged in this Consent Agreement.

## **OTHER APPLICABLE LAWS**

62. Nothing in this Consent Agreement and Final Order shall relieve Respondent of its obligation to comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations, nor shall it restrict EPA's authority to seek compliance with any applicable laws or regulations, nor shall it be construed to be a ruling on the validity of any federal, state or local permit. This Consent Agreement and Final Order does not constitute a waiver, suspension or modification of the requirements of RCRA Subtitle I, or any regulations promulgated thereunder.

# **RESERVATION OF RIGHTS**

63. This Consent Agreement and Final Order resolves only EPA's claims for civil penalties for the specific violation[s] alleged against Respondent in this Consent Agreement and Final Order. EPA reserves the right to commence action against any person, including Respondent, in response to any condition which EPA determines may present an imminent and substantial endangerment to the public health, public welfare, or the environment. This settlement is subject to all limitations on the scope of resolution and to the reservation of rights set forth in Section 22.18(c) of the Consolidated Rules of Practice, 40 C.F.R. § 22.18(c). EPA reserves any rights and remedies available to it under RCRA, Subtitle I, the regulations promulgated thereunder and any other federal law or regulation to enforce the terms of this Consent Agreement and Final Order after its effective date.

## **EXECUTION /PARTIES BOUND**

64. This Consent Agreement and Final Order shall apply to and be binding upon the EPA, the Respondent and the officers, directors, employees, contractors, successors, agents and assigns of Respondent. By his or her signature below, the person who signs this Consent Agreement on behalf of Respondent is acknowledging that he or she is fully authorized by the Respondent to execute this Consent Agreement and to legally bind Respondent to the terms and conditions of this Consent Agreement and Final Order.

## **EFFECTIVE DATE**

65. The effective date of this Consent Agreement and Final Order is the date on which the Final Order, signed by the Regional Administrator of EPA, Region III, or his/her designee, the Regional Judicial Officer, is filed along with the Consent Agreement with the Regional Hearing Clerk pursuant to the Consolidated Rules of Practice.

### **ENTIRE AGREEMENT**

66. This Consent Agreement and Final Order constitutes the entire agreement and understanding between the Parties regarding settlement of all claims for civil penalties pertaining to the specific violations alleged herein and there are no representations, warranties, covenants, terms, or conditions agreed upon between the Parties other than those expressed in this Consent Agreement and Final Order.

For Respondent:

Frederick Northup, Inc.

Date: 9/13/2023

Lester S. Terhune, III Chairman, Secretary/Treasurer

# For the Complainant:

After reviewing the Consent Agreement and other pertinent matters, I, the undersigned Director of the Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division of the United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region III, agree to the terms and conditions of this Consent Agreement and recommend that the Regional Administrator, or his/her designee, the Regional Judicial Officer, issue the attached Final Order.

	Ву:	[Digital Signature and Date]  Karen Melvin, Director  Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division  U.S. EPA – Region III  Complainant
Attorney for Complainant:		
	By:	
	J	[Digital Signature and Date]
		Jeffrey S. Nast
		Sr. Assistant Regional Counsel
		U.S. EPA – Region III



# UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION III

FOUR PENN CENTER – 1600 JOHN F. KENNEDY BLVD. PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA 19103

Sep 21, 2023 1:59 pm U.S. EPA REGION III HEARING CLERK

In the Matter of:

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U.S. EPA Docket No. RCRA-03-2023-0142

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8249 History Land Hwy : Proceeding under Section 9006 of the Resource

Warsaw, VA 22572 : Conservation and Recovery Act, 42 U.S.C.

: Section 6991e

Respondent.

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Kermit Thomas Store 8249 History Land Hwy Warsaw, VA 22572

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Facility.

## **FINAL ORDER**

Complainant, the Director of the Enforcement & Compliance Assurance Division, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III, and Respondent, Frederick Northup, Inc. d/b/a Kermit Thomas Store have executed a document entitled "Consent Agreement," which I hereby ratify as a Consent Agreement in accordance with the Consolidated Rules of Practice Governing the Administrative Assessment of Civil Penalties and the Revocation/Termination or Suspension of Permits ("Consolidated Rules of Practice"), 40 C.F.R. Part 22 (with specific reference to Sections 22.13(b) and 22.18(b)(2) and (3)). The terms of the foregoing Consent Agreement are accepted by the undersigned and incorporated into this Final Order as if fully set forth at length herein.

Based upon the representations of the parties in the attached Consent Agreement, the penalty agreed to therein is based upon consideration of, *inter alia*, EPA's November 1990 U.S. E.P.A. Penalty Guidance for Violations of UST Regulations ("UST Penalty Policy"), and the 2018 Interim Consolidated Enforcement Penalty Policy for Underground Storage Tank Regulations ("Enforcement Penalty Policy") (collectively the "UST Penalty Policies) which reflects the statutory penalty criteria and factors set forth Section 9006(c) of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act ("RCRA"), and the appropriate *Adjustment of Civil Monetary Penalties for Inflation*, pursuant to 40 C.F.R. Part 19, and the applicable EPA memoranda addressing EPA's civil penalty polices to account for inflation.

NOW, THEREFORE, PURSUANT TO Section 9006(d) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6991e(d), and Section 22.18(b)(3) of the Consolidated Rules of Practice, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Respondent pay a civil penalty in the amount of THIRTY THOUSAND ONE-HUNDRED EIGHTY DOLLARS (\$30,180.00), in accordance with the payment provisions set forth in the Consent Agreement and in 40 C.F.R. § 22.31(c), and comply with the terms and conditions of the Consent Agreement.

This Final Order constitutes the final Agency action in this proceeding. This Final Order shall not in any case affect the right of the Agency or the United States to pursue appropriate injunctive or other equitable relief, or criminal sanctions for any violations of the law. This Final Order resolves only those causes of action alleged in the Consent Agreement and does not waive, extinguish or otherwise affect Respondent's obligation to comply with all applicable provisions of RCRA and the regulations promulgated thereunder.

The effective date of the attached Consent Agreement and this Final Order is the date on which this Final Order is filed with the Regional Hearing Clerk.

Date:	By:	
	•	[Digital Signature and Date]
		Joseph J. Lisa
		Regional Judicial and Presiding Officer
		U.S. EPA Region III



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Kermit Thomas Store 8249 History Land Hwy Warsaw, VA 22572

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Facility.

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# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify that the foregoing *Consent Agreement and Final Order* was filed with the EPA Region III Regional Hearing Clerk on the date that has been electronically stamped on the *Consent Agreement and Final Order*. I further certify that on the date set forth below, I caused to be served a true and correct copy of the foregoing to each of the following persons, in the manner specified below, at the following addresses:

Copies served via email to:

Bruce E. Arkema, Esq.
Durrette, Arkema, Gerson & Gill
1111 E. Main Street, 16<sup>th</sup> Floor
Richmond, VA 23219
barkema@dagglaw.com

Jeffrey S. Nast Senior Assistant Regional Counsel U.S. EPA, Region III nast.jeffrey@epa.gov

Melissa Toffel RCRA Branch, Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division U.S. EPA, Region III toffel.melissa@epa.gov

[Digital Signature and Date]
Bevin Esposito
Regional Hearing Clerk
U.S. EPA, Region III