

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 8

FILED
Apr 25, 2024
11:05 am
U.S. EPA REGION 8
HEARING CLERK

IN THE MATTER OF:)
)
The Arthur Companies, Inc.)
12785 15th Street Southeast)
Pillsbury, North Dakota 58065)
EPA Est. No. 53461-ND-6)
)
)
)
Respondent)
)

Docket No. _____

EXPEDITED SETTLEMENT
AGREEMENT

EXPEDITED SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

1. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) alleges that The Arthur Companies, Inc. (Respondent) failed to comply with section 7(c) of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), 7 U.S.C. § 136e(c), for its facility, EPA Establishment Number 53461-ND-6, located at 12785 15th Street Southeast, Pillsbury, North Dakota 58065.

2. Section 7(c) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136e(c), requires any producer operating a registered pesticide-producing establishment to inform the EPA of the types and amounts of pesticides (and, if applicable, active ingredients used in producing pesticides), which it is producing; which it has produced during the past year; and which it has sold or distributed during the past year. In addition, 7 U.S.C. §136e(c) provides that the required information shall be kept current and submitted to the Administrator annually, as required by regulations prescribed by the Administrator.

3. 40 C.F.R. § 167.85(a) and (b) adds the following requirements for reporting: devices produced at registered pesticide-producing establishments; the name and address of the establishment; and an estimate of the amount of pesticide product to be produced during the current year.

4. 40 C.F.R. § 167.85(c) requires the producer to obtain, complete, and submit annually the pesticide reporting form supplied by the EPA. The applicable form, "EPA Form 3540-16, Pesticide Report for Pesticide-Producing and Device-Producing Establishments," (Form) requires: identification

of the establishment; identification of the company; authorized signature and signature date; and specific pesticide production information.

5. 40 C.F.R. § 167.85(d) requires the pesticide-production reports to be filed annually on or before March 1st, even if the producer has not produced any pesticidal products for that reporting year.

6. The EPA reviewed its records and determined that Respondent did not submit the annual Form pursuant to 40 C.F.R. §167.85(d) and section 7(c)(1) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136(e), on or before March 1, 2023, for calendar year 2022.

7. Respondent's failure to comply with section 7(c) of FIFRA and 40 C.F.R. § 167.85 constitutes a violation of section 12(a)(2)(L) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136j(a)(2)(L).

8. The EPA and Respondent agree to settle this matter for a civil penalty of \$1,000.00 (one thousand dollars and zero cents). The parties agree that settlement of this matter is in the public interest.

9. The EPA is authorized to enter into this Agreement (Agreement), and this proceeding for the assessment of a civil penalty is simultaneously commenced and concluded, pursuant to section 14(a) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136l, and 40 C.F.R. § 22.13(b) and § 22.18(b).

10. By signing this Agreement, Respondent: (a) admits that Respondent is subject to the requirements in Paragraphs 2 through 5 above; (b) admits that the EPA has jurisdiction over Respondent and Respondent's conduct as alleged herein; (c) neither admits nor denies the factual allegations contained herein; (d) consents to the assessment of the penalty set forth herein; and (e) waives any right to contest the allegations contained herein and its right to appeal the Agreement.

11. Within 30 days of the effective date of this Agreement, Respondent shall pay a civil penalty of **\$1,000.00 (one thousand dollars and zero cents)** for the FIFRA violations identified in this Agreement by sending a cashier's or certified check, payable to "Treasurer, United States of America" via either:

- U.S. mail to:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
P.O. Box 979077
St. Louis, MO 63197-9000

- Or overnight/common carrier (i.e., FedEx, DHL, UPS) to:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Government Lockbox 979078
3180 Rider Trail S.
Earth City, MO 63045

Alternatively, the penalty payment to “Treasurer, United States of America” may be made via:

- Electronic deposit for payment (Vendor Express, Fedwire, Pay.gov) at <http://www2.epa.gov/financial/makepayment> following the online directions for an electronic funds transfer (EFT).

The check or electronic funds transfer instrument must state the case title (“In the Matter of: The Arthur Companies, Inc.”) and docket number of this Agreement.

12. Upon payment of the penalty, Respondent must send a notice of payment that states the Respondent’s name, complete address, and case docket number (along with a photocopy of the check or a statement of affirmation or receipt of an electronic funds transfer) to:

Devin Donaldson, Enforcement and Compliance Division
U.S. EPA, Region 8
donaldson.devin@epa.gov

13. Full payment of the penalty set forth in this Agreement shall only resolve Respondent’s liability for federal civil penalties for the violations and facts alleged herein.

14. No portion of the civil penalty or interest paid by Respondent pursuant to the requirements of this Agreement shall be claimed by Respondent as a deduction for federal, state, or local income tax purposes.

15. If Respondent does not timely pay the civil penalty, the EPA may bring an action to collect any unpaid portion of the penalty with interest, handling charges, nonpayment penalties, and the United States’ enforcement expenses for the collection action. The validity, amount, and appropriateness of the civil penalties are not reviewable in a collection action.

16. The EPA reserves all rights to take enforcement action for any other past, present, or future violations by Respondent of FIFRA, any other federal statute or regulation, or this Agreement.

17. Respondent certifies that it has corrected the alleged violation(s), and is complying with section 7(c) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136e(c), and its implementing regulations set forth at 30 C.F.R. §167.85.

18. Upon signing and returning this Agreement to the EPA, Respondent waives any and all remedies, claims for relief and other available rights to judicial or administrative review that Respondent may have with respect to any issue of fact or law set forth in this Agreement, including the opportunity for a hearing or appeal pursuant to FIFRA and 40 C.F.R. Part 22 and any right of judicial review under Chapter 7 of the Administrative Procedure Act, 5 U.S.C. §§ 701-706.

19. Each party shall bear its own costs and fees, if any.

20. This Agreement is binding on the parties signing below, and in accordance with 40 C.F.R. §22.31(b), is effective upon filing of a final order to be issued by the Regional Judicial Officer.

21. The party's consent to service of this Agreement by e-mail at the following valid e-mail addresses: donaldson.devin@epa.gov (for Complainant), and tolson@arthurcompanies.com (for Respondent).

IT IS SO AGREED,

FOR RESPONDENT:

Name (print): Todd Olson

Title (print): Safety Director

Signature:



Date:

4/10/24

FOR COMPLAINANT:

Name [of Agency delegated official] (print): The Environmental Protection Agency

Title (print): David Cobb

Signature: DAVID COBB Digitally signed by DAVID COBB
Date: 2024.04.10 08:49:24
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Date: 4/10/24