

# UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION I

1 Congress Street Suite 1100 - SEL Boston, MA 02114-2023

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June 1, 2009

Wanda Santiago Regional Hearing Clerk U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Region I One Congress Street Suite 1100, Mail Code RAA Boston, MA 02114-2023 BY HAND OF CLERK OFFICE OF REGIONAL HEARING CLERK

Re:

In the Matter of: George T. Taylor & Son, Inc. d/b/a "Taylor Energy"

CWA-01-2009-0002

Dear Ms. Santiago:

Enclosed for filing, please find a Consent Agreement and Final Order (CAFO) settling the matter referenced above.

Pursuant to EPA Order Classification No. 2551.1A dated June 7, 2006, the Regional Hearing Clerk (RHC) shall send a copy of the CAFO in any Clean Water Act (CWA) case assessing a penalty under the authority of Section 311 of the CWA to:

U.S EPA Cincinnati Finance Center 26 W. Martin Luther King Drive (MS-002) Cincinnati, OH 45268

In addition, the RHC must pass along the name and address of the regional attorney responsible for any collection recommendation if the civil debt becomes delinquent. For this case, the responsible attorney is:

Jeffrey Kopf Senior Enforcement Counsel EPA Region 1 1 Congress St., Suite 1100 (SEL) Boston, MA 02114-2023 Tel: 617-918-1796 Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Kopf, Senior Enforcement Counsel EPA Region 1

Enclosure

Mark T. Taylor, Taylor Energy cc:

# UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 1 RECEIVED

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IN THE MATTER OF: )	CONSENT AGREEMENT AND FINAL ORDER  GER ORD GER
George T. Taylor & Son, Inc. ) d/b/a "Taylor Energy" ) 152 Broad Brook Rd. )	Docket No. CWA-01-2009-0002
Respondent. )	

This Consent Agreement is proposed and entered into under the authority vested in the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") by Section 311(b)(6)(B)(ii) of the Clean Water Act ("CWA"), 33 U.S.C. § 1321(b)(6)(B)(ii), as amended by the Oil Pollution Act of 1990, and under the authority provided by the Consolidated Rules of Practice Governing the Administrative Assessment of Civil Penalties, and the Revocation/Termination or Suspension of Permits, set forth at 40 C.F.R. Part 22 ("Part 22").

# I. PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

- 1. EPA initiated this proceeding against George T. Taylor & Son, Inc. ("Respondent") pursuant to Section 311(b)(6) of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 1321(b)(6), by filing an Administrative Complaint, Docket No. CWA-01-2009-0002 ("Complaint") on December 12, 2008.
- 2. The Complaint alleges that Respondent's violations of Sections 311(j) of the CWA have subjected Respondent to penalties up to the statutory maximum authorized under the CWA.

3. The factual and jurisdictional basis for proposing the assessment of civil penalties is set

forth in the Complaint and incorporated herein by reference.

4. Section 311(b)(6)(C) of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. 1319(b)(6)(C) and 40 C.F.R. § 22.45(b),

provide that, prior to issuing an order assessing a penalty under Section 311(j) of the CWA,

33 U.S.C. § 1321(j), EPA must provide public notice of, and reasonable opportunity to comment

on, the proposed issuance of such order. EPA has satisfied this requirement by providing public

notice of, and reasonable opportunity to comment on, the proposed penalty from December 17,

2008 through January 15, 2009. EPA has received no public comments regarding this matter.

II. CONSENT AGREEMENT

5. Respondent stipulates that EPA has jurisdiction over the subject matter alleged in the

Complaint and that the Complaint states a claim upon which relief can be granted against

Respondent.

6. Respondent neither admits nor denies the specific factual allegations contained in the

Complaint.

Waiver of Rights

7. Respondent waives any defenses it might have as to jurisdiction and venue and consents

to the terms of this Consent Agreement and Final Order ("CAFO").

8. Respondent waives its rights to a judicial or administrative hearing on any issue of law or

fact set forth in the Complaint.

9. Respondent waives its rights to appeal any Final Order in this matter, and consent to the

issuance of a Final Order without further adjudication.

Consent Agreement and Final Order In re: George T. Taylor & Son, Inc

Docket Nos. CWA-01-2009-0002

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# **Penalty**

10. For the purpose of settlement of this action, Complainant proposes and Respondent consents to the assessment of a civil penalty of \$70,000.

### **Payment Terms**

- 11. Respondent shall pay a total penalty of \$70,000, plus interest (calculated at 5%) on any penalty payment amounts not paid within 30 days of the effective date of the CAFO, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. § 3717 and 31 C.F.R. § 901.9(b), according to the following schedule:
  - a. \$17,500 shall be due within 30 calendar days of the effective date of this CAFO;
  - b. \$18,813 (i.e. \$17,500 principle, plus \$1,313 in interest) shall be due within 6 months of the effective date of this CAFO;
  - c. \$18,375 (i.e. \$17,500 principle, plus \$875 in interest) shall be due within 1 year of the effective date of this CAFO;
  - d. \$17,937 (i.e. \$17,500 principle, plus \$437 in interest) shall be due within 18 months of the effective date of this CAFO;
  - e. Acceleration Clause: if Respondent fails to make any payment as described above, all remaining installments shall become immediately due and payable as of the missed payment date. Interest on such unpaid penalty amounts shall accrue from the missed payment date.
- 12. In agreeing to the penalty described in paragraph 10 above, EPA has taken into account the statutory penalty factors at Section 311(b)(8) of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 1321(b)(8), particularly the economic impact of the penalty upon the Respondent. Respondent shall pay a

Consent Agreement and Final Order In re: George T. Taylor & Son, Inc. Docket Nos. CWA-01-2009-0002

total penalty of \$70,000 plus interest which shall be due in accordance with the payment schedule described in paragraph 11.

13. Respondent shall make payment by cashier's or certified check, or check issued in the normal course of business operations, payable to "Environmental Protection Agency," and referencing the title and docket number of the action ("In the Matter George T. Taylor & Son Inc., CWA-01-2009-0002") and "Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund - 311." The payment shall be mailed to:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Fines and Penalties Cincinnati Finance Center PO Box 979077 St. Louis, MO 63197-9000

14. Respondent shall simultaneously submit a <u>copy</u> of the check referenced in paragraph 11 above to the following:

Regional Hearing Clerk
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 1
One Congress Street, Suite 1100 (RCA)
Boston, Massachusetts 02114-2023

and

Jeffrey Kopf
Senior Enforcement Counsel
Office of Environmental Stewardship
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 1
One Congress Street, Suite 1100 (SEL)
Boston, Massachusetts 02114-2023

15. Pursuant to Section 311(b)(6)(H) of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 1321(b)(6)(H), failure by the Respondent to pay the penalty amounts relating to the CWA violations assessed by this CAFO in full by the date required shall subject the Respondent to a civil action to collect the assessed

Consent Agreement and Final Order *In re: George T. Taylor & Son, Inc* Docket Nos. CWA-01-2009-0002

action, the validity, amount, and appropriateness of such penalty shall not be subject to review. Further, under Section 311(b)(6)(H) of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 1321(b)(6)(H), if Respondent fails to pay on a timely basis any CWA penalty payment assessed by this CAFO, Respondent shall be required to pay, in addition to such amount and interest, attorneys fees and costs for collection proceedings and a quarterly nonpayment penalty for each quarter during which such failure to

penalty, plus interest at the prevailing rates from the effective date of the CAFO. In such an

pay persists. Such nonpayment penalty shall be in an amount equal to twenty percent (20%) of

the aggregate amount of Respondent's penalties and nonpayment penalties which are unpaid as

of the beginning of such quarter. Interest will be assessed pursuant to 31 C.F.R. § 901.9(b),

promulgated pursuant to 31 U.S.C. § 3717.

16. The penalty provided for herein is a penalty within the meaning of 26 U.S.C. §162(f) and

is not tax deductible for purposes of federal, state, or local law.

17. The provisions of this CAFO shall be binding upon Respondent and Respondent's

officers, directors, agents, servants, employees, and successors or assigns.

18. Except as described in Paragraph 15 above, each party shall bear its own costs and

attorneys fees in this proceeding.

19. This CAFO shall not limit the authority of the United States to enforce the underlying

substantive legal requirements of this administrative penalty assessment, whether

administratively or judicially.

20. This CAFO does not constitute a waiver, suspension or modification of the requirements

of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. §§ 1251 et seq., or any regulations promulgated thereunder.

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21. This CAFO constitutes a settlement by EPA of all claims for civil penalties pursuant to Section 311(j) of the CWA, for the violations of the CWA specifically alleged in the Complaint. Compliance with this CAFO shall not be a defense to any actions subsequently commenced pursuant to federal laws and regulations administered by EPA, and it is the responsibility of Respondent to comply with such laws and regulations. This CAFO in no way relieves Respondent or its employees of any criminal liability. Nothing in this CAFO shall be construed to limit the authority of the United States to undertake any action against Respondent in response to conditions which may present an imminent and substantial endangerment to the public.

22. The undersigned representative of Respondent certifies that he or she is fully authorized by Respondent to enter into the terms and conditions of this CAFO and legally bind Respondent.

FOR RESPONDENT

Thomas A. Taylor, President

George T. Taylor & Son, Inc.

Date: 5/15/209

FOR U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Susan Studlien, Director

Office of Environmental Stewardship

U.S. EPA, Region 1

Date: 05/15/09

# **FINAL ORDER**

- 23. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 22.18(b), the forgoing Consent Agreement is hereby approved and incorporated by reference into this Final Order.
- 24. Respondent is ordered to comply with the terms of the referenced Consent Agreement. This Final Order shall become effective 30 days from today pursuant to Section 311(b)(6)(D) of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 1321(b)(6)(D).

Date:  $\frac{5}{27}/69$ 

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

LeAnn Jensen

Acting Regional Judicial Officer

U.S. EPA, Region 1

In the Matter of: George T. Taylor & Son, Inc. d/b/a "Taylor Energy", Docket No. CWA-01-2009-0002

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify that the foregoing Consent Agreement and Final Order (Docket No. CWA-01-2009-0002) was sent to the following persons, in the manner specified, on the date below:

Original and one copy

hand-delivered:

Wanda Santiago

Regional Hearing Clerk U.S. EPA, Region 1

One Congress Street (RAA) Boston, MA 02114-2023

Copy by certified mail return receipt requested:

Mark Taylor Taylor Energy 152 Broad Brook Rd. Broad Brook, CT 06016

Dated: June 1 2009

Jeffrey Kopf

Senior Enforcement Counsel

Office of Environmental Stewardship

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 1

One Congress Street, Suite 1100 (SEL)

Boston, MA 02114-2023 Tel: (617) 918-1796 Fax: (617) 918-0796

Email: Kopf.jeff@epa.gov