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EPA--REGION 10

BEFORE THE
UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

In the Matter of:)	DOCKET NO. FIFRA-10-2013-0136
)	
Skyline Chemical, LLC dba Hefty Seed)	CONSENT AGREEMENT AND
)	FINAL ORDER
Farmington, Washington)	
)	
Respondent.)	

I. STATUTORY AUTHORITY

1.1. This Consent Agreement and Final Order ("CAFO") is issued under the authority vested in the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") by Section 14(a) of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act ("FIFRA"), 7 U.S.C. § 136l(a).

1.2. The Administrator has delegated the authority to issue the Final Order contained in Part V of this CAFO to the Regional Administrator of EPA Region 10, who has redelegate this authority to the Regional Judicial Officer in EPA Region 10.

1.3. Pursuant to Section 14(a) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136l(a), and in accordance with the "Consolidated Rules of Practice Governing the Administrative Assessment of Civil Penalties," 40 C.F.R. Part 22, EPA issues, and Skyline Chemical, LLC dba Hefty Seed Company ("Respondent") agrees to issuance of the Final Order contained in Part V of this CAFO.

II. PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

2.1. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. §§ 22.13(b) and 22.18(b), issuance of this CAFO commences this proceeding, which will conclude when the Final Order contained in Part V of this CAFO becomes effective.

2.2. The Director of the Office of Compliance and Enforcement, EPA Region 10 ("Complainant") has been delegated the authority pursuant to FIFRA Section 14(a), 7 U.S.C. § 136l(a), to sign consent agreements between EPA and the party against whom an administrative penalty for violations of FIFRA is proposed to be assessed.

2.3. Part III of this CAFO contains a concise statement of the factual and legal basis for the alleged violations of FIFRA together with the specific provisions of FIFRA and the implementing regulations that Respondent is alleged to have violated.

III. ALLEGATIONS

3.1. FIFRA § 7(c), 7 U.S.C. § 136e(c), and 40 C.F.R. § 167.85(d) require pesticide-producing establishments to submit an Annual Report on or before March 1 of each year detailing the types and amounts of pesticides and, where applicable, active ingredients it is currently producing, even if the producer has produced no pesticide products for that reporting year.

3.2. Under FIFRA § 12(a)(2)(L), 7 U.S.C. § 136j(a)(2)(L), failure to comply with Section 7 is a violation of FIFRA.

3.3. Respondent owns and operates a facility located in Farmington, Washington, that is registered with EPA as a pesticide-producing establishment.

3.4. Respondent failed to submit the 2010 Annual Report by the March 1, 2011, deadline in violation of FIFRA § 12(a)(2)(L), 7 U.S.C. § 136j(a)(2)(L).

3.5. EPA notified Respondent of the 2010 violation in a Notice of Warning, which Respondent received on April 18, 2011. EPA received the 2010 Annual Report by April 27, 2012.

3.6. During the first week of February 2013, EPA sent an Important Reminder to all establishments to submit the 2012 Annual Report by March 1, 2013, and that failure to report on time could result in the assessment of civil penalties.

3.7. Respondent failed to submit the 2012 Annual Report by the March 1, 2013, deadline in violation of FIFRA § 12(a)(2)(L), 7 U.S.C. § 136j(a)(2)(L).

3.8. Pursuant to FIFRA Section 14(a)(1), 7 U.S.C. § 136(a), and 40 C.F.R. Part 19, EPA may assess a civil penalty of not more than \$7,500 for each offense against any registrant, commercial applicator, wholesaler, dealer, retailer, or other distributor who violates any provision of Section 12 of FIFRA.

IV. CONSENT AGREEMENT

4.1. Respondent admits the jurisdictional allegations of this CAFO.

4.2. Respondent neither admits nor denies the specific factual allegations contained in this CAFO.

4.3. Respondent agrees that this settlement will be considered prior history of noncompliance under FIFRA.

4.4. EPA has determined and Respondent agrees that an appropriate penalty to settle this action is TWO THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED FORTY DOLLARS (\$2,640).

4.5. Respondent agrees to pay the total civil penalty set forth in Paragraph 4.4 within 30 days of the effective date of the Final Order contained in Part V of this CAFO.

4.6. Payment under this CAFO must be made by a cashier's check or certified check payable to the order of "Treasurer, United States of America" and delivered to the following address:

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

Respondent must note on the check the title and docket number of this action.

4.7. Respondent must serve photocopies of the check described in Paragraph 4.6 on the Regional Hearing Clerk and EPA Region 10 at the following addresses:

Regional Hearing Clerk	Erin Williams
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region 10, Mail Stop ORC-158	Region 10, Mail Stop OCE-084
1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900	1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900
Seattle, Washington 98101	Seattle, Washington 98101

4.8. If Respondent fails to pay the penalty assessed by this CAFO in full by its due date, the entire unpaid balance of penalty and accrued interest shall become immediately due and owing. Such failure may also subject Respondent to a civil action to collect the assessed penalty under Section 14(a)(5) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 1361(a)(5), together with interest, fees, costs, and additional penalties described below. In any collection action, the validity, amount, and appropriateness of the penalty shall not be subject to review.

4.9. If Respondents fails to pay any portion of the penalty assessed by this CAFO in full by its due date, Respondent shall also be responsible for payment of the following amounts:

4.9.1. Interest. Any unpaid portion of the assessed penalty shall bear interest at the rate established by the Secretary of the Treasury pursuant to 31 U.S.C. § 3717(a)(1) from the effective date of the Final Order contained herein, provided, however, that no interest shall be payable on any portion of the assessed penalty that is paid within 30 days of the effective date of the Final Order contained herein.

4.9.2. Handling Charge. Pursuant to 31 U.S.C. § 3717(e)(1), a monthly handling charge of \$15 shall be paid if any portion of the assessed penalty is more than 30 days past due.

4.9.3. Nonpayment Penalty. Pursuant to 31 U.S.C. § 3717(e)(2), a nonpayment penalty of 6% per annum shall be paid on portion of the assessed penalty that is more than 90 days past due, which nonpayment shall be calculated as of the date the underlying penalty first becomes past due.

4.10. The penalty described in Paragraph 4.4, including any additional costs incurred under Paragraph 4.9, above, represents an administrative civil penalty assessed by EPA and shall not be deductible for purposes of federal taxes.

4.11. The undersigned representative of Respondent certifies that he or she is authorized to enter into the terms and conditions of this CAFO and to bind Respondent to this document.

4.12. The undersigned representative of Respondent also certifies that, as of the date of Respondent's signature of this CAFO, Respondent has corrected the violation(s) alleged in Part III above.

4.13. Each party shall bear its own costs and attorneys fees in bringing or defending this action.

4.14. Respondent expressly waives any right to contest the allegations and waives any right to appeal the Final Order set forth in Part V.

4.15. The provisions of this CAFO shall bind Respondent and its agents, servants, employees, successors, and assigns.

4.16. The above provisions are STIPULATED AND AGREED upon by Respondent and EPA Region 10.

DATED:

FOR RESPONDENT:

9/24/2013



JEFF BRUCE, Manager
Skyline Chemical, LLC dba Hefty Seed Company

DATED:

FOR COMPLAINANT:

9/25/2013



EDWARD J. KOWALSKI, Director
Office of Compliance and Enforcement
EPA Region 10

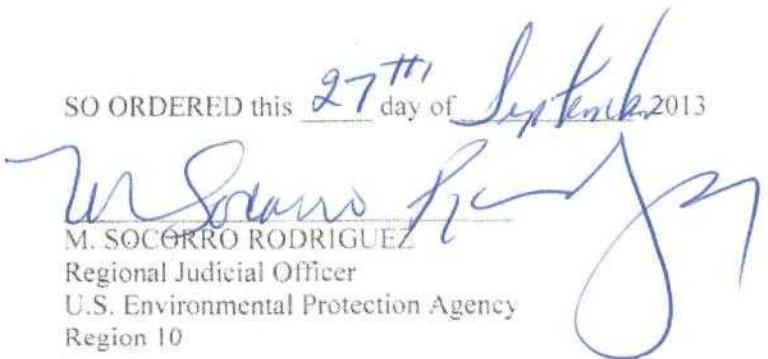
V. FINAL ORDER

5.1. The terms of the foregoing Parts I-IV are ratified and incorporated by reference into this Final Order. Respondent is ordered to comply with the terms of settlement.

5.2. This CAFO constitutes a settlement by EPA of all claims for civil penalties under FIFRA for the violations alleged in Part III. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 22.31(a), nothing in this CAFO shall affect the right of EPA or the United States to pursue appropriate injunctive or other equitable relief or criminal sanctions for any violations of law. This CAFO does not waive, extinguish, or otherwise affect Respondent's obligations to comply with all applicable provisions of FIFRA and regulations promulgated or permits issued thereunder.

5.3. This Final Order shall become effective upon filing.

SO ORDERED this 27th day of September 2013


M. SOCORRO RODRIGUEZ
Regional Judicial Officer
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region 10

Certificate of Service

The undersigned certifies that the original of the attached **CONSENT AGREEMENT AND FINAL ORDER**, In the Matter of: **Skyline Chemical, LLC dba Hefty Seed Company**, Docket No.: **FIFRA-10-2013-0136** was filed with the Regional Hearing Clerk and served on the addressees in the following manner on the date specified below:

The undersigned certifies that a true and correct copy of the document was delivered to:

Meg Silver, Esquire
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region 10, Mail Stop ORC-158
1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900
Seattle, Washington 98101

Further, the undersigned certifies that a true and correct copy of the aforementioned document was placed in the United States mail certified/return receipt to:

Jeff Bruce
Manager
Skyline Chemical, LLC
PO Box 36
Farmington, Washington 99128

Brian Hefty
President
Hefty Seed Company
48504 252nd Street
Baltic, South Dakota 57003

DATED this 27th day of Sept., 2013



Signature

Candace H. Smith
Regional Hearing Clerk
EPA Region 10