



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

SEP 24 2014

CERTIFIED MAIL 7011 3500 0003 2064 0413  
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. D. James Jordan  
City Attorney  
City of Milledgeville  
115 East McIntosh Street  
P.O. Box 1370  
Milledgeville, Georgia 31061

Re: Consent Agreement and Final Order  
Docket No.: CWA-04-2014-4505(b)  
National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit No.: GA0030775  
City of Milledgeville, Georgia

Dear Mr. Jordan:

Enclosed, please find a fully executed copy of the Consent Agreement and Final Order, finalized by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 4 and the Regional Judicial Officer. Please make note of the provisions under Paragraph IV. Payment.

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding this matter, please contact Ms. Laurie Jones of my staff at (404) 562-9201. Legal inquiries should be directed to Ms. Michele Wetherington, Associate Regional Counsel, at (404) 562-9613.

Sincerely,

Denisse D. Diaz, Chief  
Clean Water Enforcement Branch  
Water Protection Division

Enclosure

cc: Mr. Lewis Hays, Program Manager  
Georgia Department of Natural Resources

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 4

RECEIVED  
EPA REGION IV

2014 SEP 24 AM 8:38

HEARING CLERK

IN THE MATTER OF: )  
)  
THE CITY OF MILLEDGEVILLE, ) CONSENT AGREEMENT AND  
GEORGIA ) FINAL ORDER  
)  
)  
RESPONDENT. ) Docket No.: CWA-04-2014-4505(b)  
)

**CONSENT AGREEMENT**

**I. Statutory Authority**

1. This is a civil penalty proceeding pursuant to Section 309(g)(2)(A) of the Clean Water Act ("CWA"), 33 U.S.C. § 1319(g)(2)(A), and the *Consolidated Rules of Practice Governing the Administrative Assessment of Civil Penalties, Issuance of Compliance or Corrective Action Orders and the Revocation, Termination or Suspension of Permits*, including Subpart I, published at 64 *Fed. Reg.* 40176 (July 23, 1999), codified at 40 Code of Federal Regulations ("C.F.R.") Part 22 ("Part 22").

2. The authority to take action under Section 309(g)(2)(A) of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 1319(g)(2)(A), is vested in the Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA"). The Administrator has delegated this authority to the Regional Administrator, Region 4, who in turn has delegated this authority to the Director of the Water Protection Division, who in turn has delegated this authority to the Chief of the Clean Water Enforcement Branch of EPA Region 4 ("Complainant").

**II. Allegations**

3. To accomplish the objective of the CWA (defined in Section 101(a) of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 1251(a), as to restore and maintain the chemical, physical and biological integrity of the nation's waters), Section 301(a) of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 1311(a), prohibits the discharge of pollutants by any person into waters of the United States except as in compliance with an National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System ("NPDES") permit issued pursuant to Section 402 of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 1342.

4. At all times relevant to this action, the City of Milledgeville ("Respondent"), was a municipality and, therefore, a "person" within the meaning of Section 502(5) of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 1362(5).

5. At all times relevant to this action, Respondent owned and/or operated a Publicly Owned Treatment Works ("POTW") including a wastewater treatment plant ("WWTP"), located at 211 Highway Road, Milledgeville, Georgia, and its associated Wastewater Collection and Transmission System ("WCTS").

6. The State of Georgia, through the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Environmental Protection Division ("EPD"), issued NPDES Permit No. GA0030075 (the "Permit") to Respondent for the POTW for the discharge of treated domestic/sanitary and commercial wastewaters into navigable waters subject to specific terms and conditions. The WWTP discharges "pollutants" from a "point source" into the Oconee River, a "navigable water" as defined at Section 502(7) of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 1362(7).

7. The Permit became effective on October 15, 2012, and expires on October 14, 2017.

8. The Permit includes a requirement, Condition II.A.1., to properly operate and maintain all treatment or control facilities and related equipment installed or used by the permittee, which includes the WCTS which transports wastewater to the POTW.

9. On October 23, 2012, the EPA sent an Information Request Letter to the Respondent pursuant to Section 308 of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 1318, requesting information related to sanitary sewer overflows ("SSOs") in order to evaluate the performance of the POTW and to assess Respondent's compliance with the Permit and the CWA.

10. The Respondent submitted a response to the EPA on November 26, 2012. Based on its review of the information in the Respondent's response, the EPA found that the Respondent has had 42 total SSOs, including SSOs that reached navigable waters and SSOs that did not reach navigable waters, from September 28, 2009, to November 15, 2012.

11. On September 27, 2013, the EPA issued an Administrative Compliance Order on Consent ("AOC"), Docket No. CWA-04-2013-4776, pursuant to Section 309(a) of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 319(a), alleging that the Respondent was in violation of Section 301(a) of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 1311(a). The AOC alleged that the Respondent violated Section 301(a) of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 1311(a), by discharging untreated wastewater containing pollutants to navigable waters at locations not authorized by an NPDES permit; and Condition II.A.1. of the Permit by failing to properly operate and maintain its WCTS resulting in SSOs.

### **III. Stipulations and Findings**

12. 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 ("CA/FO") will simultaneously commence and conclude this matter.

13. For the purposes of this CA/FO, Respondent admits the jurisdictional allegations set out above and admits the factual allegations set out above.

14. Respondent hereby waives its right to contest the allegations set out above and its right to appeal the Final Order accompanying this Consent Agreement.

15. By signing this CA/FO, Respondent certifies that the information it has supplied concerning this matter was at the time of submission, and is, truthful, accurate, and complete for

each such submission, response and statement. Respondent realizes that there are significant penalties for submitting false or misleading information, including the possibility of fines and/or imprisonment for knowing submission of such information.

16. The EPA reserves the right to assess and collect any and all civil penalties for any violation described herein and in the AOC to the extent that any information or certification provided by Respondent was materially false or inaccurate at the time such information or certification was provided to the EPA.

17. Complainant and Respondent agree to settle this matter by their execution of this CA/FO. The parties agree that the settlement of this matter is in the public interest and that this CA/FO is consistent with the applicable requirements of the CWA.

#### **IV. Payment**

18. Pursuant to Section 309(g)(2)(A) of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 1319(g)(2)(A), and 40 C.F.R Part 19, and considering the nature of the violations and other relevant factors, the EPA has determined that **EIGHTEEN THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$18,000)** is an appropriate civil penalty to settle this action. Respondent consents to the assessment of and agrees to pay the civil penalty and consents to the other conditions set forth in this CA/FO.

19. Respondent shall submit payment of the penalty specified in the preceding paragraph within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this CA/FO via a cashier's or certified check, payable to the order of "Treasurer, United States of America." The check shall reference on its face the name of Respondent and the Docket Number of this CA/FO. Such payment shall be tendered to:

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

20. At the time of payment, Respondent shall send a separate copy of the check, and a written statement that payment has been made in accordance with this CA/FO, to the following persons at the following addresses:

Regional Hearing Clerk  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4  
Atlanta Federal Center  
61 Forsyth Street, S.W.  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-8960

and

Mary Mattox  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4  
Water Protection Division  
Clean Water Enforcement Branch  
Municipal and Industrial Enforcement Section  
Atlanta Federal Center  
61 Forsyth Street, S.W.  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-8960

21. The penalty amount specified in Paragraph 18 above shall represent civil penalties assessed by EPA and shall not be deductible for purposes of Federal taxes.

22. Pursuant to Section 309(g)(9) of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 1319(g)(9), failure by the Respondent to pay the penalty assessed by the CA/FO in full by its due date may subject the Respondent to a civil action to collect the assessed penalty plus interest (at currently prevailing rates from the effective date of this CA/FO), attorney's fees, costs for collection proceedings and a quarterly nonpayment penalty for each quarter during which such failure to pay persists. Such nonpayment penalty shall be in an amount equal to twenty percent (20%) of the aggregate amount of such penalty and nonpayment penalty which are unpaid as of the beginning of such quarter. In any such collection action, the validity, amount and appropriateness of the penalty and of this CA/FO shall not be subject to review.

**V. General Provisions**

23. This CA/FO shall not relieve Respondent of its obligation to comply with all applicable provisions of federal, state, or local law, nor shall it be construed to be a ruling on, or determination of, any issue related to any federal, state, or local permit. Other than as expressed herein, compliance with this CA/FO shall not be a defense to any actions subsequently commenced pursuant to federal laws and regulations administered by the EPA.

24. Nothing in this CA/FO shall be construed as prohibiting, altering, or in any way limiting the ability of United States to seek any other remedies or sanctions available by virtue of Respondent's violation of this CA/FO or of the statutes and regulations upon which this CA/FO is based, or for Respondent's violation of any federal or state statute, regulation or permit.

25. Except as otherwise set forth herein, this CA/FO constitutes a settlement by Complainant and Respondent of all claims for civil penalties pursuant to the CWA with respect to only those violations alleged in this CA/FO. Except as otherwise set forth herein, compliance with this CA/FO shall resolve the allegations of violations contained herein. Nothing in this CA/FO is intended to nor shall be construed to operate in any way to resolve any criminal liability of the Respondent, or other liability resulting from violations that were not alleged in this CA/FO. Other than as expressed herein, Complainant does not waive 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.

26. Each undersigned representative of the parties to this CA/FO certifies that he or she is fully authorized to enter into the terms and conditions of this CA/FO and to execute and legally bind that party to it.

27. This CA/FO applies to and is binding upon Respondent and its officers, directors, employees, agents, successors and assigns.

28. Any change in the legal status of Respondent including, but not limited to, any transfer of assets of real or personal property, shall not alter Respondent's responsibilities under this CA/FO.

29. Each party shall bear its own costs and attorneys fees in connection with the action resolved by this CA/FO.

30. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 22.5, the individuals below are authorized to receive service relating to this proceeding.

For Complainant:

Ms. Michele Wetherington  
Associate Regional Counsel  
Office of Environmental Accountability  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4  
Atlanta Federal Center  
61 Forsyth Street, S.W.  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-8960  
(404) 562-9613

For Respondent:

Mr. D. James Jordan  
City Attorney  
City of Milledgeville  
115 East McIntosh Street  
P.O. Box 1370  
Milledgeville, Georgia 31061  
(478) 453-3997

31. The parties acknowledge and agree that this CA/FO is subject to the requirements of 40 C.F.R. § 22.45(c)(4), which provides a right to petition to set aside a consent agreement and proposed final order based on comments received during the public comment period.

32. Pursuant to Section 309(g) of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 1319(g), and 40 C.F.R. § 22.38(b), Complainant represents that the State of Georgia was provided a prior opportunity to consult with Complainant regarding this matter.

33. Effective upon signature of this CA/FO by Respondent, Respondent agrees that the time period commencing on the date of its signature and ending on the date the EPA receives from Respondent the payment required by this CA/FO shall not be included in computing the running of any statute of limitations potentially applicable to any action brought by the EPA related to the matters addressed in this CA/FO and that, in any action brought by the EPA related to the matters addressed, Respondent will not assert, and may not maintain, any defense or claim based upon principles of statute of limitations, waiver, laches, estoppel, or other defense based on the passage of time during such period. If the EPA gives notice to Respondent that it will not

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 4

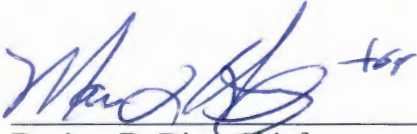
IN THE MATTER OF: )  
 )  
THE CITY OF MILLEDGEVILLE, ) CONSENT AGREEMENT AND  
GEORGIA ) FINAL ORDER  
 )  
RESPONDENT. ) Docket No.: CWA-04-2014-4505(b)  
 )

**CONSENT AGREEMENT MODIFICATION**

This Consent Agreement paragraph 11 is modified to read: On September 27, 2013, EPA issued an Administrative Compliance Order on Consent ("AOC"), Docket No. CWA-04-2013-4776, pursuant to Section 309(a) of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 319(a), alleging that the Respondent was in violation of Section 301(a) of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 1311(a). The Respondent violated Section 301(a) of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 1311(a), by discharging untreated wastewater containing pollutants to navigable waters at locations not authorized by an NPDES permit; and Condition II.A.1. of the Permit by failing to properly operate and maintain its WCTS resulting in SSOs.

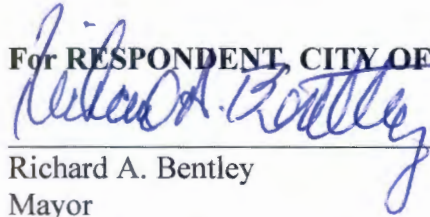
**AGREED AND CONSENTED TO:**

**For COMPLAINANT, U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Denisse D. Diaz, Chief  
Clean Water Enforcement Branch  
Water Protection Division  
U.S. EPA, Region 4

Date: 9-23-14

**For RESPONDENT, CITY OF MILLEDGEVILLE:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Richard A. Bentley  
Mayor  
City of Milledgeville, Georgia

Date: 9-16-2014

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 4

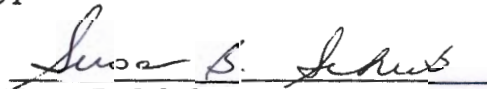
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 )  
RESPONDENT. ) Docket No.: CWA-04-2014-4505(b)

**FINAL ORDER**

In accordance with the *Consolidated Rules of Practice Governing the Administrative Assessment of Civil Penalties, Issuance of Compliance or Corrective Action Orders and the Revocation, Termination or Suspension of Permits*, including Subpart I, 40 C.F.R. Part 22, and authorities delegated to me, the forgoing Consent Agreement is hereby approved and incorporated by reference into this Final Order. Pursuant to Section 309(g)(2)(A) of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 1319(g)(2)(A), Respondent is hereby ordered to comply with the terms of the foregoing Consent Agreement.

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Date: Sept. 23 2014

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Susan B. Schub  
Regional Judicial Officer



**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned certifies that a true and correct copy of the attached **CONSENT AGREEMENT AND FINAL ORDER** in the matter of the City of Milledgeville, Georgia, Docket No. CWA-04-2014-4505(b) (filed with the Regional Hearing Clerk on 9-24, 2014) was served on 9-24, 2014, in the manner specified to each of the persons listed below.

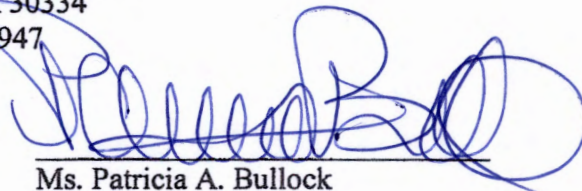
By hand-delivery:

Ms. Michele Wetherington  
Associate Regional Counsel  
Office of Environmental Accountability  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4  
Atlanta Federal Center  
61 Forsyth Street, S.W.  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-8960  
(404) 562-9613

By certified mail,  
return receipt requested:

Mr. D. James Jordan  
City Attorney  
City of Milledgeville  
115 East McIntosh Street  
P.O. Box 1370  
Milledgeville, Georgia 31061  
(478) 453-3997

Lewis Hays, Program Manager  
Watershed Compliance Program  
Georgia Department of Natural Resources  
Environmental Protection Division  
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive  
Suite 1456, East Tower  
Atlanta, GA 30334  
(404) 657-5947



Ms. Patricia A. Bullock  
Regional Hearing Clerk  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4  
Atlanta Federal Center  
61 Forsyth Street, S.W.

EPA ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE CONTROL NUMBER FORM

=====

TO BE COMPLETE BY ORIGINATING OFFICE:

(attach a copy of the final order and transmittal letter to Defendant/Respondent)

This form was originated by: Mary Mattox 7/29/14
[Name] [Date]
in the WPD/CWEB/Municipal and Industrial Section at 404-562-9733
[Office] [Telephone Number]

- Non-SF Judicial Order/Consent Decree. USAO COLLECTS.
SF Judicial Order/Consent Decree. FMS COLLECTS.
This is an original debt.
Administrative Order/Consent Agreement. FMS COLLECTS PAYMENT.
Other Receivables
This is a modification.

PAYEE: City of Milledgeville, GA
[Name of person and/or Company/Municipality making the Payment]

The Total Dollar Amount of Receivable: \$ 18,000
[If in installments, attach schedule of amounts and respective due dates]

The Case Docket Number: CWA-04-2014-4505 (b)

The Site-Specific Superfund (SF) Account Number:

The Designated Regional/Headquarters Program Office: Region 4 Water Protection Division

TO BE COMPLETED BY LOCAL FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT SECTION:

The IFMS Accounts Receivable Control Number is:
If you have any questions call: in the Financial Management Section,
Telephone Number:

DISTRIBUTION:

A. JUDICIAL ORDERS: Copies of this form with an attached copy of the front page of the FINAL JUDICIAL ORDER should be mailed to:

- 1. Debt Tracking Officer Environmental Enforcement Section Department of Justice/RH 1647 P.O. BOX 7611, Benjamin Franklin Station Washington, DC 20044
2. Originating Office (ORC)
3. Designated Program Office

B. ADMINISTRATIVE ORDERS: Copies of this form with an attached copy of the front page of the ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER should be sent to:

- 1. Originating Office
2. Designated Program Office
3. Regional Hearing Clerk
4. Regional Counsel

EPA ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE CONTROL NUMBER FORM  
PROGRAM SPECIFIC INFORMATION

Case Docket Control Number: CWA-04-2014-4505(b)

Total Amount Due: \$ 18,000

Full payment due within 30 days of the effective date of the CAFO.

           Installment payments to be paid:

Amount Due:                      Date Due:

\$ _____	_____
\$ _____	_____
\$ _____	_____
\$ _____	_____

1. Designated Program Office  
2. Regional Council

3. Regional Hearing Clerk  
4. Designated Office