



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 5
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

LC-8J

CERTIFIED MAIL

Receipt No.7009 1680 0000 7666 6671

Mr. Jonathan Mellard
Taminco, Inc.
3790 LA Hwy 30
St. Gabriel, LA 70776

Consent Agreement and Final Order FIFRA-05-2011-0014

Dear Mr.Mellard:

Enclosed please find a copy of a fully executed Consent Agreement and Final Order, in resolution of the above case. This document was filed on June 20, 2011 with the Regional Hearing Clerk.

The civil penalty in the amount of \$15,000.00 is to be paid in the manner described in paragraphs 38 and 39. Please be certain that the number **BD 2751145P014** and the docket number are written on both the transmittal letter and on the check. Payment is due by July 20, 2011 (within 30 calendar days of the filing date).

Thank you for your cooperation in resolving this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Claudia Niess".

for

Claudia Niess
Pesticides and Toxics Compliance Section

Enclosures

**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 5**

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U.S. EPA REGION 5
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In the Matter of:)	Docket No. FIFRA-05-2011-0014
)	
Taminco, Inc.,)	Proceeding to Assess a Civil Penalty
Allentown, Pennsylvania)	Under Section 14(a) of the Federal
)	Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide
Respondent.)	Act, 7 U.S.C. § 136l(a)
<hr style="width: 100%;"/>)	

Consent Agreement and Final Order
Commencing and Concluding a Proceeding

1. This is an administrative action commenced and concluded under Section 14(a) of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), 7 U.S.C. § 136l(a), and Sections 22.13(b) and 22.18(b)(2) and (3) of the *Consolidated Rules of Practice Governing the Administrative Assessment of Civil Penalties and the Revocation/Termination or Suspension of Permits* (Consolidated Rules) as codified at 40 C.F.R. Part 22.
2. The Complainant is the Director of the Land and Chemicals Division, United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region 5.
3. Respondent is Taminco, Inc. (Taminco), a partnership, association, corporation, or any organized group of persons whether incorporated or not, doing business in the State of Illinois and also at 7540 Windsor Drive, Allentown, Pennsylvania 18195.
4. Where the parties agree to settle one or more causes of action before the filing of a complaint, the administrative action may be commenced and concluded simultaneously by the issuance of a consent agreement and final order (CAFO). 40 C.F.R. § 22.13(b).
5. The parties agree that settling this action without the filing of a complaint or the adjudication of any issue of fact or law is in their interest and in the public interest.

6. Respondent consents to the assessment of the civil penalty specified in this CAFO, and to the terms of this CAFO.

Jurisdiction and Waiver of Right to Hearing

7. Respondent admits the jurisdictional allegations in this CAFO and neither admits nor denies the factual allegations in this CAFO.

8. Respondent waives its right to request a hearing as provided at 40 C.F.R. § 22.15(c), any right to contest the allegations in this CAFO, and its right to appeal this CAFO.

9. Respondent certifies that to the best of its knowledge, it is complying with FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. §§ 136 to 136y.

Statutory and Regulatory Background

10. The importation of pesticides into the United States is governed by Sections 17(c) and (e) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. §§ 136o(c) and 136o(e), and the regulations promulgated thereunder by the Secretary of the Treasury in consultation with the Administrator of EPA (the Administrator). These regulations are found at 19 C.F.R. Part 12.

11. 19 C.F.R. § 12.111 states in part that all imported pesticides are required to be registered under the provisions of Section 3 of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136a, and under the regulations promulgated thereunder by the Administrator (40 C.F.R. § 162.10) before being permitted entry into the United States.

12. 19 C.F.R. § 12.112 states in part that an importer desiring to import pesticides into the United States shall submit to the Administrator a Notice of Arrival of Pesticides or Devices (NOA) (EPA form 3540-1), prior to the arrival of the shipment to the United States. See also Section 17(c) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136o(c).

13. Section 12(a)(1)(B) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136j(a)(1)(B), states that it is unlawful for any person in any state to distribute or sell to any person any registered pesticide if any claims made for it as a part of its distribution or sale substantially differ from any claims made for it as a part of the statement required in connection with its registration under Section 3 of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136a.

14. Section 2(gg) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136(gg), defines the term “distribute or sell” to mean to distribute, sell, offer for sale, hold for distribution, hold for sale, hold for shipment, ship, deliver for shipment, release for shipment, or receive and (having so received) deliver or offer to deliver.

15. Section 2(t) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136(t), defines a “pest” as any insect, rodent, nematode, fungus, weed, or any other form of terrestrial or aquatic plant or animal life or virus, bacteria, or other microorganism (except viruses, bacteria, or other living microorganisms on or in living man or other living animals) which the Administrator declares to be a pest under Section 25(c)(1) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136 w(c)(1).

16. Section 2(u) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136(u), defines a “pesticide” as any substance or mixture of substances intended for preventing, destroying, repelling, or mitigating any pest.

17. Section 2(s) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136(s), defines a “person” as any individual, partnership, association, corporation, or any organized group of persons whether incorporated or not.

18. The Administrator of EPA may assess a civil penalty against any registrant who violates any provision of FIFRA of up to \$7,500 for each offense that occurred after January 12, 2009, pursuant to Section 14(a)(1) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136l(a)(1), and 40 C.F.R. Part 19.

Factual Allegations and Alleged Violations

19. At all times relevant to this CAFO, Respondent was a corporation or any organized group of persons and therefore was a “person” as that term is defined at Section 2(s) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136(s).

20. At all times material and relevant to this CAFO, DHL Global Forwarding, located at 2500-A Sullivan Road, College Park, Georgia 30337, was a broker/agent for Respondent.

21. On or about February 15, 2011, Respondent submitted NOAs under entry numbers 336-3232029-1 and 336-3252144-3, to EPA (February 15 NOAs). The February 15 NOAs stated that they were related to import shipments of the pesticide “Signet 480,” EPA Registration Number (EPA Reg. No.) 45728-26-55146.

22. The import shipment associated with entry number 336-3232029-1 entered the United States on or about February 18, 2011.

23. The import shipment associated with entry number 336-3252144-3, entered the United States on or about February 21, 2011.

24. The February 15 NOAs stated that Respondent was the importer of record.

25. Respondent, as the importer of record of “Signet 480,” EPA Reg. No. 45728-26-55146, and by doing business in the United States, is subject to the requirements of FIFRA and the regulations promulgated thereunder.

26. “Signet 480,” EPA Reg. No. 45728-26-55146, is a pesticide, as defined at Section 2(u) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136(u).

27. On or about May 19, 2010, the EPA Office of Pesticide Programs, Registration Division issued an “accepted label with comments” for the registered product for “Signet 480,” EPA Reg. No. 45728-26-55146.

28. The labeling accompanying the import shipments of “Signet 480,” EPA Reg. No. 45728-26-55416, associated with entry numbers 336-3232029-1 and 336-3252144-3 and the February 15 NOAs, made claims for “Signet 480,” EPA Reg. No. 45728-26-55146, as a part of that pesticide’s distribution or sale that substantially differed from any claims made for “Signet 480,” EPA Reg. No. 45728-26-55416, as a part of the statement required in connection with its registration under Section 3 of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136a.

29. On or about February 18 and 21, 2011, Respondent distributed or sold the pesticide “Signet 480,” EPA Reg. No. 45728-26-55146, as that term is defined at Section 2(gg) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136(gg).

Specific Allegations

Count 1

30. Complainant incorporates by reference the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 29 of this CAFO.

31. On or about February 18, 2011, in an import shipment associated with entry number 336-3232029-1, Respondent distributed or sold the registered pesticide “Signet 480,” EPA Reg. No. 45728-26-55146, with claims on its labeling that substantially differed from any claims made for it as a part of the statement required in connection with its registration under Section 3 of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136a, in violation of Section 12(a)(1)(B) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136j(a)(1)(B).

32. Respondent’s violation of Section 12(a)(1)(B) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136j(a)(1)(B), subjects Respondent to assessment of a civil penalty under Section 14(a) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136l(a).

Count 2

33. Complainant incorporates by reference the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 29 of this CAFO.

34. On or about February 21, 2011, in an import shipment associated with entry number 336-3252144-3, Respondent distributed or sold the registered pesticide "Signet 480," EPA Reg. No. 45728-26-55146, with claims on its labeling that substantially differed from any claims made for it as a part of the statement required in connection with its registration under Section 3 of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136a, in violation of Section 12(a)(1)(B) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136j(a)(1)(B).

35. Respondent's violation of Section 12(a)(1)(B) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136j(a)(1)(B), subjects Respondent to assessment of a civil penalty under Section 14(a) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136l(a).

Civil Penalty

36. Section 14(a)(4) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. §136l(4), requires the Administrator to consider the size of the business of the person charged, the effect on the person's ability to continue in business, and the gravity of the violation, when assessing an administrative penalty under FIFRA.

37. Based on an evaluation of the facts alleged in this CAFO and the factors in Section 14(a)(4) of FIFRA, Complainant calculated an initial civil penalty against Respondent in the amount of \$15,000. Complainant evaluated the facts and circumstances of this case with specific reference to EPA's Enforcement Response Policy for the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act, dated December 2009.

38. Within 30 days of the effective date of this CAFO, Respondent must pay a

\$15,000 civil penalty for the FIFRA violation. Respondent must pay the penalty by sending a cashier's or certified check, payable to the "Treasurer, United States of America," to:

U.S. EPA
Fines and Penalties
Cincinnati Finance Center
P.O. Box 979077
St. Louis, MO 63197-9000

39. A transmittal letter stating Respondent's name, complete address, the case title, the case docket number, and the billing document number must accompany the payment.

Respondent must send a copy of the check and transmittal letter to:

Regional Hearing Clerk (E-19J)
U.S. EPA, Region 5
77 West Jackson Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60604

Claudia Niess (LC-8J)
Pesticides and Toxics Compliance Section
U.S. EPA, Region 5
77 West Jackson Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60604

Kris Vezner (C-14J)
Office of Regional Counsel
U.S. EPA, Region 5
77 West Jackson Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60604

40. This civil penalty is not deductible for federal tax purposes.

41. If Respondent does not pay the civil penalty timely, EPA may refer the matter to the Attorney General who will recover such amount by action in the appropriate United States district court under Section 14(a)(5) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136l(a)(5). The validity, amount and appropriateness of the civil penalty are not reviewable in a collection action.

42. Pursuant to 31 C.F.R. § 901.9, Respondent must pay the following on any amount overdue under this CAFO. Interest will accrue on any amount overdue from the date payment

was due at a rate established by the Secretary of the Treasury. Respondent must pay a \$15 handling charge each month that any portion of the penalty is more than 30 days past due. In addition, Respondent must pay a 6 percent per year penalty on any principal amount 90 days past due.

General Provisions

43. This CAFO resolves only Respondent's liability for federal civil penalties for the violations and facts alleged in the CAFO.

44. This CAFO does not 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.

45. This CAFO does not affect Respondent's responsibility to comply with FIFRA and other applicable federal, state, and local laws.

46. This CAFO is a "final order" for purposes of EPA's Enforcement Response Policy for FIFRA.

47. The terms of this CAFO bind Respondent, its successors, and assigns.

48. Each person signing this agreement certifies that he or she has the authority to sign for the party whom he or she represents and to bind that party to its terms.

49. Each party agrees to bear its own costs and attorney fees in this action.

50. This CAFO constitutes the entire agreement between the parties.

51. The effective date of this CAFO is the date it is filed with the Regional Hearing Clerk, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5, Chicago, Illinois.

Respondent:
Taminco, Inc.
Allentown, Pennsylvania

May 10, 2011
Date

Jonathan Mellard
Jonathan Mellard
Regulatory Compliance Manager
Taminco, Inc.

Complainant:
Region 5
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

6/16/11
Date

Michael D. Harris *for M.G.*
Margaret M. Guerriero, Director
Land and Chemicals Division
United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region 5

MEMORANDUM
DATE: MAY 11 2011
OFFICE OF REGIONAL
COUNCIL

In the Matter of:
Taminco, Inc.
Docket No. FIFRA-05-2011-0014

Final Order

This Consent Agreement and Final Order, as agreed to by the parties, shall become effective immediately upon filing with the Regional Hearing Clerk. This Final Order concludes this proceeding pursuant to 40 C.F.R. §§ 22.18 and 22.31. IT IS SO ORDERED.

6-16-11

Date



Susan Hedman
Regional Administrator
United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region 5

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that the original signed copy of the Consent Agreement and Final Order in the resolution of the civil administrative action involving Taminco, Inc., was filed on June 20, 2011 with the Regional Hearing Clerk (E-19J), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5, 77 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois, 60604, and that I mailed by Certified Mail, Receipt No. 7009 1680 0000 7666 6671, a copy of the original to the Respondent:

Mr. Jonathan Mellard
Taminco, Inc.
3790 LA Hwy 30
St. Gabriel, LA 70776

and forwarded copies (intra-Agency) to:

Marcy Toney, Regional Judicial Officer, ORC/C-14J
Kris Vezner, Regional Judicial Officer, ORC/C-14J
Eric Volck, Cincinnati Finance/MWD



Frederick Brown
Pesticides and Toxics Compliance Section
U.S. EPA - Region 5
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, Illinois 60604

Docket No. FIFRA-05-2011-0014

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