

#### UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 4 ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER 61 FORSYTH STREET ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

AUG 2 8 2008

**4APT-AEEB** 

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Randy Nichols General Manager Belk Ford Mercury Toyota, Inc. 447 Highway 6 West Oxford, MS 38655-9068

Re: Consent Agreement and Final Order

Docket No. CAA-04-2008-1524(b)

Dear Mr. Nichols:

Enclosed please find an executed copy of the Consent Agreement and Final Order (CAFO) that resolves the Clean Air Act matter (Docket No. CAA-04-2008-1524(b)), involving Belk Ford Mercury Toyota, Inc. The CAFO was filed with the Regional Hearing Clerk, as required by 40 C.F.R. Part 22 and became effective when filed. Please note that the CAFO requires that payment be made within 30 days of receipt of this executed CAFO.

Also enclosed, please find a copy of the "Notice of Securities and Exchange Commission Registrants' Duty to Disclose Environmental Legal Proceedings." This document puts you on notice of your potential duty to disclose to the Security and Exchange Commission (SEC) any environmental enforcement actions taken by the EPA. If you have any questions with regard to the SEC's environmental disclosure requirements, you may refer to the contact phone number at the bottom of the SEC Notice.

If you have any other questions, please call Mr. Todd M. Groendyke at (404) 562-8262.

Sincerely,

Beverly A. Spagg

Chief

Air and EPCRA Enforcement Branch

**Enclosures** 

# UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 4

IN THE MATTER OF:		ت ب
Belk Ford Mercury Toyota, Inc. 447 Highway 6 West	)	Docket Number: CAA-04-2008-1524(b)
Oxford, MS 38655-9068	)	
	)	
Respondent	)	

### CONSENT AGREEMENT AND FINAL ORDER

### I. Nature of the Action/Jurisdictional Statements

- 1. This is a civil penalty proceeding pursuant to Section 113(d) of the Clean Air Act (CAA), 42 U.S.C. § 7413(d), and pursuant to the Consolidated Rules of Practice Governing Administrative Assessment of Civil Penalties and the Revocation/Termination or Suspension of Permits (Consolidated Rules), codified at 40 C.F.R. Part 22. Complainant is the Director of the Air, Pesticides and Toxics Management Division, Region 4, United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Respondent is Belk Ford Mercury Toyota, Inc. (hereinafter, "Respondent").
- 2. 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 (CAFO) will simultaneously commence and conclude this matter.
- 3. The authority to take action under Section 113(d) of CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7413(d), is vested in the Administrator of EPA. The Administrator of EPA has delegated this authority under the CAA to the Regional Administrators by EPA Delegation 7-6-A. The Regional Administrator, Region 4, has redelegated this authority to the Director, Air, Pesticides, and Toxics Management Division, by EPA Region 4 Delegation 7-6-A. Pursuant to that delegation, the Director of the Air, Pesticides and Toxics Management Division has the authority to commence an enforcement action as the Complainant in this matter.
  - 4. Respondent is a corporation doing business in the State of Mississippi.
  - 5. Respondent is a "person" as defined in CAA § 302(e), 42 U.S.C. § 7602(e).
- 6. Respondent performs "service involving refrigerant," as defined at 40 C.F.R. § 82.32(h), at its service facility located at 447 Highway 6 West, Oxford, MS 38655-9068.

- 7. Section 609(c) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7671h(c), and the regulations promulgated at 40 C.F.R. Part 82, Subpart B, establish that no person repairing or servicing motor vehicle air conditioners (MVACs) for consideration may perform any service on a MVAC involving the refrigerant for such air conditioner unless such person has been properly trained and certified.
- 8. Regulation 40 C.F.R. § 82.34(a) states that no person repairing or servicing MVACs for consideration, and no person repairing or servicing MVAC-like appliances, may perform any service involving the refrigerant for such MVAC or MVAC-like appliance unless any such person repairing or servicing an MVAC has been properly trained and certified by a technician certification program approved by the Administrator pursuant to § 82.40.
- 9. Section 609(d) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7671h(d), and the regulations promulgated at 40 C.F.R. Part 82, Subpart B, state that persons performing service on MVAC systems for consideration shall certify to the Administrator that such persons have acquired, and are properly using, approved equipment and that each individual authorized to use the equipment is properly trained and certified.
- 10. Regulation 40 C.F.R. § 82.42(a) states that persons performing service on MVAC systems for consideration shall certify to the Administrator no later than January 1, 1993, that such persons have acquired, and are properly using, approved equipment and that each individual authorized to use the equipment is properly trained and certified.
- 11. Pursuant to Section 113(d) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7413(d), and 40 C.F.R. Part 19, EPA may assess a penalty of not more than \$32,500 for each violation of Section 609 of CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7671h, that occurred after March 15, 2004.

### II. Factual Allegations

- 12. EPA alleges that, on more than one occasion from June 28, 2005, through September 17, 2007, at its service facility located at 447 Highway 6 West, Oxford, MS 38655-9068, Respondent performed service for consideration involving the refrigerant of MVAC systems without the use of properly trained and certified technicians. Respondent violated CAA § 609(c), 42 U.S.C. § 7671h(c), and 40 C.F.R. § 82.34(a) by failing to use properly trained and certified technicians while performing service for consideration involving the refrigerant of a MVAC system.
- 13. EPA alleges that, respondent failed to certify to EPA that persons performing service were using approved recycling equipment. Respondent violated CAA § 609(c), 42 U.S.C. § 7671h(d), and 40 C.F.R. § 82.42(a) by failing to certify that they have acquired and were properly using approved refrigerant recover/recycling equipment.

### III. Consent Agreement

- 14. For the purposes of this CAFO, Respondent admits the jurisdictional allegations set out in Paragraphs 1 through 11 above, but Respondent neither admits nor denies the factual allegations set out in paragraphs 12 through 13 above.
- 15. As provided in 40 C.F.R. § 22.18(b)(2), Respondent waives any right to contest the allegations listed above and its right to appeal the proposed final order accompanying this consent agreement.
- 16. Respondent consents to the assessment of and agrees to pay the civil penalty as set forth in this CAFO.
- 17. Respondent certifies that as of the date of its execution of this CAFO, it is in compliance at its automotive repair facility that performs MVAC work with all relevant MVAC requirements of the CAA at Section 609.
- 18. Compliance with this CAFO shall resolve the alleged violations contained herein, and EPA hereby releases Respondent from all liability for the violations of Section 609 alleged herein. This CAFO shall not otherwise affect any liability of Respondent, if any, to the United States. Other than as expressed herein, neither EPA nor Complainant waives 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.
- 19. Complainant and Respondent agree to settle this matter by their execution of this CAFO. The parties agree that the settlement of this matter is in the public interest and that this CAFO is consistent with the applicable requirements of the CAA.

#### IV. Final Order

- 20. Respondent is assessed a civil penalty of THREE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED AND TWENTY FIVE DOLLARS (\$3,925.00) which shall be paid within thirty (30) days after the date Belk Ford Mercury Toyota, Inc. receives a copy of the fully executed CAFO.
- 21. Respondent shall pay the penalty by forwarding a cashier's or certified check, payable to: "Treasurer, United States of America," to the following address:

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

# The check shall reference on its face the name of the Respondent and the Docket Number of the CAFO.

22. 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 CAFO, to the following persons at the following addresses:

Regional Hearing Clerk U.S. EPA - Region 4 61 Forsyth Street, S.W. Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Mr. Todd Groendyke Air, Pesticides and Toxics Management Division Air and EPCRA Enforcement Branch U.S. EPA - Region 4 61 Forsyth Street Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Ms. Saundi Wilson (OEA) U.S. EPA - Region 4 61 Forsyth Street Atlanta, Georgia 30303

- 23. For the purposes of state and federal income taxation, Respondent shall not be entitled, and agrees not to attempt, to claim a deduction for the civil penalty payment made pursuant to paragraph 17.
- 24. Pursuant to 31 U.S.C. § 3717, EPA is entitled to assess interest and penalties on debts owed to the United States and a charge to cover the cost of processing and handling a delinquent claim. Interest will therefore begin to accrue on the civil penalty from the date of entry of this CAFO, if the penalty is not paid by the date required. Interest will be assessed at the rate established by the Secretary of Treasury pursuant to 31 U.S.C. § 3717. A charge will be assessed to cover the costs of debt collection, including processing and handling costs and attorney fees. In addition, a penalty charge may be assessed on any portion of the debt that remains delinquent more than ninety (90) days after payment is due.
- 25. Complainant and Respondent shall bear their own costs and attorney fees in this matter.
  - 26. This CAFO shall be binding upon the Respondent, its successors and assigns.

27. The following individual represents EPA in this matter and is authorized to receive service for EPA in this proceeding:

Mr. Todd Groendyke Air, Pesticides and Toxics Management Division Air and EPCRA Enforcement Branch U.S. EPA - Region 4 61 Forsyth Street Atlanta, Georgia 30303 (404) 562-8262

28. Each undersigned representative of the parties to this CAFO certifies that he or she is fully authorized by the party represented to enter into this CAFO and legally bind that party to it.

## V. Effective Date

29. The effective date of this CAFO shall be the date on which the CAFO is filed with the Regional Hearing Clerk.

# AGREED AND CONSENTED TO:

Belk Ford Mercury Toyota, Inc.		
By: Range Mach	Date:_	8/18/08
Randy Nichols	_	,
General Manager		

## U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

By: Flow /4 A. Spring	Date: 8/14/08
Beverly H. Banister, Director	
Air, Pesticides and Toxics Man	agement Division,
Region 4	

APPROVED AND SO ORDERED this day of Quest 27, 2008.

Susan B. Schub

Regional Judicial Officer

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on the date set out below I filed the original and one copy of the foregoing Consent Agreement and Final Order and served a true and correct copy of the foregoing Consent Agreement and Final Order, in the Matter of: Belk Ford Mercury Toyota, Incorporated, Docket No. CAA-04-2008-1524(b), on the parties listed below in the manner indicated:

Randy Nichols Belk Ford Mercury Toyota, Inc. 447 Highway 6 West Oxford, MS 38655-9068 (Via Certified Mail)

Elizabeth O'Sullivan U.S. EPA Region 4 61 Forsyth Street Atlanta, GA 30303 (Via EPA's internal mail)

(Via EPA's internal mail)

Todd Groendyke (Via Air, Pesticides and Toxics Management Division Air and EPCRA Enforcement Branch U.S. EPA Region 4 61 Forsyth Street Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Date: 8-28-

Patricia A. Bullock, Regional

Hearing Clerk

United States Environmental

Protection

Agency, Region 4 Atlanta Federal Center 61 Forsyth Street, S.W. Atlanta, GA 30303

(404) 562-9511

### EPA ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE CONTROL NUMBER FORM

то ве	COMPLETED BY THE ORIGINATING	<u>G OFFICE</u> :	
(Atta	ach a copy of the final order and transmittal	etter to Defendant	t/Respondent)
This for	saundi Wilson		onon
		(Name)	(Date)
	Region 4, ORC, OEA		at (404) 562+ 9504
in the	(Office	e)	(Telephone Number)
	, -	_,	,
	Non-SF Judicial Order/Consent Decree USAO COLLECTS	$\Box$	Administrative Order/Consent Agreement FMO COLLECTS PAYMENT
<b></b>	SF Judicial Order/Consent Decree		Oversight Billing - Cost Package required: Sent with bill
لـــا	DOJ COLLECTS		Not sent with bill
	Other Receivable	[_	Oversight Billing - Cost Package not required
	This is an original debt		This is a modification
PAYEE	• _ <u>'\' \' \                            </u>		Toyota The
	(Name of person and/or	Company/Muhicip	sality making the payment)
<b>75.</b> - T.	al Dollar Amount of the Receivable: \$	925	
THE TOL		amounts and resp	ective due dates. See Other side of this (orm.)
The Cas	se Docket Number:	4.2008-	1524(4)
The Site	: Specific Superfund Account Number:		
The Des	signated Regional/Hendquarters Program Off	lce:	
<del></del>			
The IF	VIS Accounts Receivable Control Number is:		Date
	_		
If you b	ave any questions, please call:_	_ of the rinanc	ial Management Section at:
D. COPPOSIT	DI FITAN.		
	BUTION:		
	ICIAL ORDERS: Copies of this form with an atta- uld be mailed to:	ched copy of the from	nt page of the FINAL JUDICIAL ORDER
1.	Debt Tracking Officer		nating Office (EAD)
	Environmental Enforcement Section Department of Justice RM 1647	3. Design	nated Program Office
	P.O. Box 7611, Benjamin Franklin Station Washington, D.C. 20044		
B. AD	MINISTRATIVE ORDERS: Copies of this form w		of the front page of the Administrative Order should be to:
t.	Originating Office		pated Program Office
2	Regional Hearing Clerk	4. Regio	onal Counsel (EAD)

# EPA ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE CONTROL NUMBER FORM PROGRAM SPECIFIC INFORMATION PROGRAM: \_\_\_\_\_

Case Docket Control Number:			
Total Amount Due:			
<del></del>	Full payment due 30	days after issuance date of	
	Installment payments to be paid:		
	Amount Due:	Date Due:	
	\$		
	<b>\$</b>		
	\$		
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