

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 2

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION AGENCY-REG. II
2013 DEC 16 A 8:31
REGIONAL HEARING
CLERK

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In the Matter of :
 :
Slack Chemical Co., Inc. : **CONSENT AGREEMENT**
 : **AND FINAL ORDER**
 :
Respondent :
 : Docket No. FIFRA-02-2013-5206
 :
Proceeding under the Federal :
Insecticide, Fungicide, and :
Rodenticide Act, as amended :
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PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

This administrative proceeding for the assessment of a civil penalty was initiated pursuant to 7 U.S.C. 136 I(a) of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (“FIFRA”), as amended, 7 U.S.C. 136 et seq. Complainant in this proceeding, the Director of the Division of Enforcement and Compliance Assistance, United States Environmental Protection Agency (“EPA”), Region 2, issued a Complaint and Notice of Opportunity for Hearing to Respondent, Slack Chemical Co., Inc. located at 465 S. Clinton St., Carthage, NY 13619.

The Complainant charged Respondent with two violations of 7 U.S.C. 136e(c)(1) and 40 C.F.R. 167.85, the requirements under FIFRA governing the submission of annual Pesticide Reports for Pesticide-Producing Establishments. Said violations are unlawful under FIFRA Section 12(a)(2)(L), 7 U.S.C.136j (a)(2)(L).

FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Parties to this Consent Agreement agree that the title to this proceeding should properly read "In the Matter of Slack Chemical Co., Inc."
2. This Consent Agreement is being entered into by Respondent, Slack Chemical Co., Inc., and this Consent Agreement is binding on Slack Chemical Co., Inc.
3. Respondent's establishment is registered under Section 7 of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C.136e. Its assigned EPA Establishment Number is 59074-NY-002.
4. Pursuant to Section 7(c) of FIFRA and 40 C.F.R. 167.20(f), any producer operating an establishment registered under Section 7 shall submit annually to the EPA the types and amounts of pesticides and, if applicable, active ingredients used in producing pesticides, which the producer is currently producing, has produced during the past year, and has sold or distributed during the past year.
5. Title 40 C.F.R. 167.85 provides that a producer operating an establishment must submit an annual pesticide production report (the "report") on or before March 1 of each year, even if the producer has produced no pesticides for that reporting year.
6. Respondent submitted major incomplete reports with an unregistered establishment number for the calendar years 2010 and 2011.
7. Therefore, Respondent violated Section 7(c)(1) and Section 12(a)(2)(L) of FIFRA, and 40 C.F.R. 167.85.

CONSENT AGREEMENT

Based on the foregoing, and in accordance with federal laws and regulations, it is agreed that:

1. Respondent admits the jurisdictional allegations of the Complaint.

2. Respondent agrees to waive any jurisdictional objections, regarding proper service of the Complaint and/or any other questions concerning acquisition of the personal jurisdiction of Slack Chemical Co., Inc.

3. Respondent shall comply at all times with the requirements of Section 7 of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. 136e and the applicable regulations.

4. Respondent admits the specific factual allegations set forth in the "Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law" section in this Consent Agreement.

5. Respondent explicitly agrees to pay, by cashier's or certified check, a civil penalty in the total amount of Three Thousand Three Hundred Dollars (\$3,300) to the Treasurer, United States of America. The payment of Three Thousand Three Hundred Dollars (\$3,300) is due within forty-five (45) days after the date of signature of the Final Order at the end of this document (the date by which the payment must be received shall hereafter be referred to as the due date). Such check shall be identified with a notation of the name and docket number of this case, set forth in the caption of the first page of this document. Such check shall be mailed to:

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

If Respondent chooses to make payment by electronic fund transfer (EFT), then Respondent shall provide the following information to its remitter bank:

- 1) Amount of Payment
- 2) SWIFT address: FRNYUS33, 33 Liberty Street, New York, NY 10045
- 3) Account Code for Federal Reserve Bank of New York receiving payment: 68010727
- 4) Federal Reserve Bank of New York ABA routing number: 02130004
- 5) Field Tag 4200 of the Fedwire message should read D 68010727 Environmental Protection Agency
- 6) Name of Respondent: Slack Chemical Co., Inc.
- 7) Case Number: FIFRA-02-2013-5206

Respondent shall also send copies of this payment to each of the following:

Michael Kramer, FIFRA Section 7 Coordinator
Pesticides Team
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2
2890 Woodbridge Avenue (MS-500)
Edison, NJ 08837

and

Regional Hearing Clerk
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2
290 Broadway, 16th floor
New York, NY 10007

a. Failure to pay the above amount in full according to the above provisions will result in referral of this matter to the United States Department of Justice for collection.

b. Furthermore, if a payment is not received on or before its due date, interest will be assessed at the annual rate established by the Secretary of the Treasury, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 3717, on the overdue amount from the effective date of payment.

c. In addition, a late payment handling charge of Fifteen Dollars (\$15) for each thirty (30) day period (or any portion thereof) following the due date in which the balance remains unpaid will be assessed.

d. A 6% per annum penalty also will be applied on any principal amount not paid within ninety (90) days of its due date.

6. Nothing in this Consent Agreement and Final Order shall relieve Respondent of the duty to comply with all applicable provisions of FIFRA and other environmental laws.

7. Nothing in this Consent Agreement and Final Order shall preclude Complainant from further enforcement action, including the assessment of civil penalties, arising from the violation of any environmental laws.

8. This Consent Agreement is being entered into by the parties in full settlement of civil liabilities associated with pesticide production establishment reporting requirements under 7 U.S.C. 136(e) of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act, as amended, 7 U.S.C. 136 et seq. Respondent has read the Consent Agreement and Final Order, finds it reasonable, and consents to its issuance and its terms.

9. Respondent explicitly waives its right to request a hearing on the Complaint, this Agreement, or the attached Final Order.

10. Respondent waives any right it may have pursuant to 40 C.F.R. 22.08 to be present during discussions with or to be served with and to reply to any memorandum or communication addressed to the Regional Judicial Officer where the purpose of such discussion, memorandum, or communication is to recommend that such official accept this Consent Agreement and issue the attached Final Order.

11. This Consent Agreement shall be binding on both parties to this action, their officers, directors, employees, successors, and assigns.

12. The undersigned representative of each party to this Consent Agreement certifies that he or she is duly authorized by the party he or she represents to enter into the terms and conditions of this Agreement and bind that party to it.

13. Each party shall bear its own costs and attorneys fees in the action resolved by this Consent Agreement.

14. Respondent consents to service upon Respondent by a copy of this Consent Agreement and Final Order by an EPA employee other than the Regional Hearing Clerk.

RESPONDENT: Slack Chemical Co., Inc.

BY: 
Authorizing Signature

NAME: Robert R. Sturtz
(PLEASE PRINT)

TITLE: President

DATE: November 19, 2013

COMPLAINANT:



Dore LaPosta, Director
Division of Enforcement and Compliance Assistance
United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2
290 Broadway
New York, NY 10007

DATE: 12/5/13

In the Matter of Slack Chemical Co., Inc.
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FINAL ORDER

The Regional Judicial Officer of the United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2, ratifies the foregoing Consent Agreement. The Consent Agreement, entered into by the parties to this matter, is hereby approved, incorporated herein, and issued as an Order. The effective date of this Order shall be the date of filing with the Regional Hearing Clerk, United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2, New York, New York.



Helen Ferrara
Regional Judicial Officer
United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2
290 Broadway
New York, NY 10007

DATE: December 5, 2013

In the Matter of Slack Chemical Co., Inc.
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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that I have this day caused to be sent the foregoing Consent Agreement and Final Order for the above-referenced docket number, in the following manner to the respective addressees below:

Original and One Copy

by Interoffice Mail:

Office of Regional Hearing Clerk
United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2
290 Broadway, 16th floor
New York, NY 10007-1866

USPS First Class Mail

Kenneth Birchenough
Slack Chemical Co., Inc.
465 S. Clinton St.
Carthage, NY 13619

Dated: December 11, 2013
Edison, New Jersey

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "Kenneth Birchenough", written over a horizontal line.