

**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 2**

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In the Matter of

Plant Food Company, Inc.

Respondent.

Proceeding under Section 325(c) of Title III  
of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act :  
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**CONSENT AGREEMENT  
AND  
FINAL ORDER**

**DOCKET NUMBER  
EPCRA-02-2014-4104**

REGIONAL HEARING  
CLERK

2014 JUN 11 AM 9:52

U.S. Environmental  
Protection Agency-Reg 2

PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

This administrative proceeding for the assessment of a civil penalty was instituted pursuant to Section 325(c) of Title III of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act, 42 U.S.C. § 11001 et seq. [also known as the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act of 1986 (hereinafter, "EPCRA")].

Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 22.13(b) of the "Consolidated Rules of Practice Governing the Administrative Assessment of Civil Penalties and the Revocation/Termination or Suspension of Permits" (40 C.F.R. Part 22 (July 1, 2000)) where the parties agree to settlement of one or more causes of action before the filing of an Administrative Complaint, a proceeding may be simultaneously commenced and concluded by the issuance of a Consent Agreement and Final Order pursuant to 40 C.F.R. §§ 22.18(b)(2) and (3).

The Director of the Division of Enforcement and Compliance Assistance of the United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2, ("EPA" or "Complainant") alleges that Plant Food Company, Inc. ("Respondent") located at 38 Hightstown-Cranbury Station, Cranbury, New Jersey 08512 (hereinafter, "Respondent's facility"), violated the requirements of Section 313 of EPCRA (42 U.S.C. § 11023) and the regulations promulgated pursuant to that Section, codified at 40 C.F.R. Part 372.

Under Section 313 of EPCRA and 40 C.F.R. § 372.22, owners or operators of a facility subject to the requirements of Section 313(b) are required to submit annually, no later than July 1 of each year, a complete and correct Toxic Chemical Release Inventory Reporting Form R report, EPA Form 9350-1 (hereinafter, "TRI Form R report") for each toxic chemical listed under 40 C.F.R. § 372.65 and/or 40 C.F.R. § 372.28 that was manufactured, processed, or otherwise

used during the preceding calendar year in quantities exceeding the established toxic chemical thresholds. Each required TRI Form R report must be submitted to the Regional Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency and to the State in which the subject facility is located.

As an alternative to the requirements set forth above, pursuant to Section 313(f)(2) of EPCRA (42 U.S.C. § 11023(f)(2)), and 40 C.F.R. § 372.27, owners or operators of a facility subject to the requirements of Section 313(b) with respect to the "manufacture, processing or otherwise use" of a toxic chemical may apply an alternate threshold of one million (1,000,000) pounds per year to that chemical if the conditions set forth in 40 C.F.R. § 372.27(a) are met. If the aforementioned alternate threshold for a specific toxic chemical is applicable, such owners or operators, in lieu of filing a TRI Form R report, therefore, may submit an "Alternate Threshold Certification Statement" (TRI Form A report) pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 372.27(b). Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 372.27(e), EPA has excluded the Persistent Bioaccumulative Toxic Chemicals listed in 40 C.F.R. § 372.28 from eligibility for the Alternate Thresholds described in 40 C.F.R. § 372.27(a). [59 FR 61502, Nov. 30, 1994, as amended at 64 FR 58750, Oct. 29, 1999; as amended at 71 FR 76944, Dec. 22, 2006; as amended at 74 FR 19005, Apr. 27, 2009].

EPA and Plant Food Company, Inc. agree that settling this matter by entering into this Consent Agreement and Final Order ("CAFO"), pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 22.13(b) and 40 C.F.R. § 22.18(b)(2) and (3), is an appropriate means of resolving this case without further litigation. This CAFO is being issued pursuant to said provisions of 40 C.F.R. Part 22. No formal or adjudicated Findings of Fact or Conclusions of Law have been made. The following constitutes EPA's Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law based upon information EPA obtained through April 3, 2014 subsequent to an EPCRA Section 313 Data Quality Regulatory Compliance inspection conducted at the facility on September 24, 2013.

#### FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Respondent is Plant Food Company, Inc. (TRI Facility ID.: 08512PLNTFHIGHT)
2. At all times relevant hereto, Respondent has maintained a facility located at 38 Hightstown-Cranbury Station, Cranbury, New Jersey 08512 which is the subject of this Consent Agreement and Final Order.
3. Respondent is a "person" within the meaning of Section 329(7) of EPCRA (42 U.S.C. § 11049(7)).

