



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

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

EEB 16 2011

CERTIFIED MAIL  
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Klaas Armster  
President  
Armster Reclaimed Lumber Company  
P.O. Box 347  
Guilford, Connecticut

SUBJECT: Armster Reclaimed Lumber Company  
Consent Agreement and Final Order  
Docket No. EPCRA-04-2011-2018(b)

Dear Mr. Armster:

Enclosed please find an executed copy of the Consent Agreement and Final Order (CAFO) that resolves the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act of 1986 (EPCRA) matter (Docket No. EPCRA-04-2011-2018(b)) involving Armster Reclaimed Lumber Company. The CAFO was filed with the Regional Hearing Clerk, as required by 40 C.F.R. Part 22 and became effective on the date of the filing.

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 Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). If you have any questions with regards 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 questions, please call Mr. Jyoti Bhushan at (404) 562-9182.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Caron B. Falconer".

Caron B. Falconer, Chief  
EPCRA Enforcement Section

Enclosures

**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 4**

IN THE MATTER OF: )  
 )  
Armster Reclaimed Lumber )  
Company )  
 )  
Respondent. )  
\_\_\_\_\_ )

Docket Number: EPCRA-04-2011-2018(b)

RECEIVED  
2011 FEB 16 PM 4:17  
EPA REGION 4

CONSENT AGREEMENT AND FINAL ORDER

I. Nature of the Action

1. This is a civil penalty proceeding pursuant to Section 325 of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA), 42 U.S.C. § 11045 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 Armster Reclaimed Lumber Company.

2. Complainant and Respondent have conferred for the purpose of settlement pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 22.18(b) 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) and 22.18(b), this Consent Agreement and Final Order (CAFO) will simultaneously commence and conclude this matter.

II. Preliminary Statements

3. The authority to take action under Section 325 of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11045, is vested in the Administrator of EPA. The Administrator of EPA has delegated this authority under CERCLA and under EPCRA to the Regional Administrators by EPA Delegation 22-3-A, dated May 11, 1994. The Regional Administrator, Region 4, has redelegated to the Director, Air, Pesticides and Toxics Management Division, the authority under EPCRA by EPA Region 4 Delegation 22-3-A, dated November 8, 1994. Pursuant to these delegations, 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, Armster Reclaimed Lumber Company, is incorporated in the State of Connecticut.

5. Respondent is a "person" as defined in Section 329(7) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11049(7).

6. Respondent was the operator of a "facility" as that term is defined by Section 329(4) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11049(4), located at 1288 East Main Street, Horse Cave, Kentucky.

7. Respondent was an "owner or operator" of the facility as that term is defined by Section 101(20)(A) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9601(20)(A).

### III. EPA's Allegations of Violations

#### Violations of Section 304(a) of EPCRA

8. Section 304(a) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11004(a) and the regulations found at 40 C.F.R. § 355, Subpart C, require the owner or operator of a facility at which hazardous chemicals are produced, used or stored, to immediately notify the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) and Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) when there has been a release of a CERCLA hazardous substance or an EPCRA extremely hazardous substance in an amount equal to or greater than the reportable quantity.

9. Respondent was the owner or operator of the facility during the relevant period, described below.

10. At all times relevant to this matter, the facility produced, used, or stored "hazardous chemicals" as defined under Section 311(e) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11021(e) and under 29 C.F.R. § 1910.1200(c).

11. Asbestos (CASRN 1332-21-4) is a CERCLA hazardous substance as that term is defined by Section 101(14) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 9601(14), with a reportable quantity (RQ) of 1 pound, as specified in 40 C.F.R. Part 302.4.

12. On October 21, 2008, there was a release of asbestos above the RQ at the facility.

13. EPA alleges that Respondent violated the notification requirements of Section 304(a) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11004(a), by failing to immediately notify the SERC and LEPC as soon as Respondent had knowledge of the release of asbestos in an amount equal to or greater than the RQ at the facility referenced in paragraph 6, and is therefore subject to the assessment of penalties under Section 325 of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11045.

#### Violations of Section 304(c) of EPCRA

14. Section 304(c) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11004(c) and the regulations found at 40 C.F.R. § 355, Subpart C, require the owner or operator of a facility at which hazardous chemicals are produced, used or stored, to provide a written follow-up emergency notice to the SERC and LEPC when there has been a release of a CERCLA hazardous substance or an EPCRA extremely hazardous substance in an amount equal to or greater than the RQ.

15. Respondent was the owner or operator of the facility during the relevant period, described below.

16. At all times relevant to this matter, the facility produced, used, or stored "hazardous chemicals" as defined under Section 311(e) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11021(e) and under 29 C.F.R. § 1910.1200(c).

17. Asbestos is an "extremely hazardous substance" as that term is defined by Section 101(14) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 9601(14), with a reportable quantity (RQ) of 1 pound, as specified in 40 C.F.R. Part 302.4.

18. On October 21, 2008, Respondent had a release of asbestos above the RQ at the facility.

19. Respondent violated the notification requirements of Section 304(c) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11004(c), by failing to provide a written follow-up emergency notice to the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) when there had been a release of friable asbestos in an amount equal to or greater than the RQ at Respondent's facility, and is therefore subject to the assessment of penalties under Section 325 of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11045.

20. Pursuant to Section 325(b) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11045(b), and 40 C.F.R. Part 19, EPA may assess a penalty of not more than \$37,500 for each violation of Sections 304(a) and (c) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11004(a)(c), that occurred on or after January 12, 2009. Civil penalties under Section 325(b) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11045(b), may be assessed by Administrative Order.

#### IV. Consent Agreement

21. For the purposes of this CAFO, Respondent admits the jurisdictional allegations set out above but neither admits nor denies the factual allegations set out above.

22. Respondent waives any right to contest the allegations and its right to appeal the proposed Final Order accompanying the Consent Agreement.

23. Respondent consents to the assessment of and agrees to pay the civil penalty as set forth in this CAFO.

24. Respondent certifies that as of the date of its execution of this CAFO, it is in compliance with all requirements of EPCRA.

25. Compliance with the CAFO shall resolve the allegations of violations contained herein. This CAFO shall not otherwise affect any liability of Respondent 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.

26. 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 EPCRA.

V. Final Order

27. Respondent shall pay a civil penalty of ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$1,000) for the EPCRA violations which shall be paid within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this CAFO.

28. Respondent shall pay the penalty by forwarding a cashier's or certified check payable to "Treasurer, United States of America," to one of the following addresses:

BY MAIL

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

BY OVERNIGHT

U.S. Bank  
Attention: Natalie Pearson (314) 418-4087  
1005 Convention Plaza  
Mail Station SL-MO-C2GL  
St. Louis, Missouri 63101

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

29. At the time of payment, Respondent shall send a separate copy of each 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

Jyoti Bhushan  
U.S. EPA, Region 4  
Air, Pesticides & Toxics Management Division  
61 Forsyth Street, S.W.  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Saundi Wilson  
U.S. EPA, Region 4  
Office of Environmental Accountability  
61 Forsyth Street, S.W.  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

30. For the purposes of state and federal income taxes, Respondent shall not be entitled, and agrees not to attempt, to claim a deduction for any civil penalty payment made

pursuant to this CAFO. Any attempt by Respondent to deduct any such payments shall constitute a violation of this CAFO.

31. 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 effective date 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 will be assessed on any portion of the debt that remains delinquent more than ninety (90) days after payment is due.

32. Complainant and Respondent shall bear their own costs and attorney fees in this matter.

33. This CAFO shall be binding upon the Respondent, its successors, and assigns.

34. The following individual is authorized to receive service for EPA in this proceeding:

Caron B. Falconer  
U.S. EPA, Region 4  
Air, Pesticides & Toxics Management Division  
61 Forsyth Street, S.W.  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303  
(404) 562-8451

35. 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.

**THIS SECTION IS INTENTIONALLY  
LEFT BLANK**

VI. Effective Date

36. 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:

Armster Reclaimed Lumber Company

By: Klaus Arnster (Signature) Date: 1/23/11  
Name: Klaus Arnster (Typed or Printed)  
Title: President (Typed or Printed)

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

By: Carol G. Kamberfor Date: 1/19/11  
Beverly H. Bannister, Director  
Air, Pesticides & Toxics  
Management Division  
Region 4

APPROVED AND SO ORDERED this 16<sup>th</sup> day of Feb., 2011.

Susan B. Schub  
Susan B. Schub  
Regional Judicial Officer

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this day served a true and correct copy of the foregoing  
Consent Agreement and Final Order, In the Matter of Armster Reclaimed Lumber Company,  
Docket No. EPCRA 04-2011-2018(b), on the parties listed below in the manner indicated:

Caron B. Falconer (Via EPA's internal mail)  
U.S. EPA, Region 4  
Air, Pesticides & Toxics Management Division  
61 Forsyth Street  
Atlanta, GA 30303

Robert Caplan (Via EPA's internal mail)  
U.S. EPA, Region 4  
Office of Environmental Accountability  
61 Forsyth Street  
Atlanta, GA 30303

Mr. Klaas Armster (Certified Mail - Return Receipt Requested)  
President  
Armster Reclaimed Lumber Company  
P.O. Box 347  
Guilford, CT 06437

Date: 2-16-11



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**

**TO BE COMPLETED BY THE ORIGINATING OFFICE:**

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

This form was originated by: Saundi Wilson on 2/9/11  
(Name) (Date)

in the Region 4, ORC, OEA at (404) 562-9504  
(Office) (Telephone Number)

Non-SF Judicial Order/Consent Decree  
USAO COLLECTS

Administrative Order/Consent Agreement  
FMO COLLECTS PAYMENT

SF Judicial Order/Consent Decree  
DOJ COLLECTS

Oversight Billing - Cost Package required  
Sent with bill

Not sent with bill

Other Receivable

Oversight Billing - Cost Package not required

This is an original debt

This is a modification

PAYER: Armster Reclaimed Lumber Company  
(Name of person and/or Company/Municipality making the payment)

The Total Dollar Amount of the Receivable \$ 1,000  
(If installments, attach schedule of amounts and respective due dates. See Other side of this form.)

The Case Docket Number: EPCRA 04 2011 2018(b)

The Site Specific Superfund Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_

The Designated Regional/Headquarters Program Office: \_\_\_\_\_

The IFMS Accounts Receivable Control Number is: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

If you have any questions, please call: \_\_\_\_\_ of the Financial Management Section at: \_\_\_\_\_

**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<br>Environmental Enforcement Section<br>Department of Justice RM 1647<br>P.O. Box 7611, Benjamin Franklin Station<br>Washington, D.C. 20046 | 2. Originating Office (EAD)  |
|  | 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 to:

- |                           |                              |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Originating Office     | 3. Designated Program Office |
| 2. Regional Hearing Clerk | 4. Regional Counsel (EAD)    |