



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 4
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

NOV 29 2007

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Doug Ross
Operations Manager
Republic Plastics, L.P.
5316 South National Drive
Knoxville, Tennessee 37914

SUBJECT: Consent Agreement and Final Order
Republic Plastics, L.P.
Docket No. CAA-04-2008-1503(b)

Dear Mr. Ross:

Enclosed please find an executed copy of the Consent Agreement and Final Order (CAFO) that resolves the Clean Air Act (CAA) matter (Docket No. CAA-04-2008-1503(b)) involving Republic Plastics, L.P. The CAFO was filed with the Regional Hearing Clerk, as required by 40 C.F.R. Part 22 and became effective on today's date.

As required by the CAFO, within thirty days of receipt of this letter, a cashier's check or certified check in the amount of \$7,700, made out to the "Treasurer, United States of America," should be submitted to one of the following addresses:

For payment sent via U.S. Postal Service
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Fines and Penalties
Cincinnati Finance Center
PO Box 979077
St. Louis, MO 63197-9000; or

For payment sent via overnight mail service (FedEx, UPS)
U.S. Bank
1005 Convention Plaza
Mail Station SL-MO-C2GL
St. Louis, MO 63101
Contact: Natalie Pearson @ 314-418-4087

Internet Address (URL) • <http://www.epa.gov>

Recycled/Recyclable • Printed with Vegetable Oil Based Inks on Recycled Paper (Minimum 30% Postconsumer)

The Docket No. should be included on the check. Also, a separate copy of the check and a written statement that payment has been made in accordance with this CAFO should be sent to the following individuals:

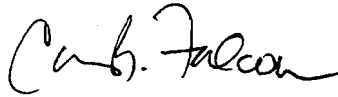
Saundi Wilson
U. S. EPA Region 4
Office of Environmental Accountability
61 Forsyth Street
Atlanta, Georgia 30303, and

Victor L. Weeks
U. S. EPA Region 4
EPCRA Enforcement Section
61 Forsyth Street
Atlanta, Georgia 30303.

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 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 Victor Weeks at (404) 562-9189.

Sincerely,



Caron B. Falconer
Chief, EPCRA Enforcement Section

Enclosures

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 4

RECEIVED
EPA REGION 4
2007 NOV 29 PM 3:57
NEWARK CLERK

IN THE MATTER OF:)

Republic Plastics, L.P.)

Respondent.)
_____)

Docket Number: CAA-04-2008-1503(b)

CONSENT AGREEMENT AND FINAL ORDER

I. Nature of the Action

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, Issuance of Compliance or Corrective Action Orders and the Revocation/Termination or Suspension of Permits (Consolidated Rules), published in 40 CFR Part 22. Complainant is the Director of the Air, Pesticides and Toxics Management Division, Region 4, United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Respondent is Republic Plastics, L.P. (hereinafter, "Respondent").

2. Complainant and Respondent have conferred for the purpose of settlement pursuant to 40 CFR § 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 CFR § 22.13(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 113(d) of the 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, last updated on August 4, 1994. The Regional Administrator, Region 4, has re-delegated this authority to the Director, Air, Pesticides and Toxics Management Division. 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, Republic Plastics, L.P., is a corporation doing business in the State of Tennessee.

5. Respondent is a “person” within the meaning of Section 302(e) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7602(e), and is therefore subject to the provisions of the CAA and regulations promulgated thereunder.

6. Respondent operates a “stationary source” as that term is defined by Section 302(z) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7602(z). The Respondent’s stationary source is located at 5316 South National Drive, Knoxville, Tennessee.

7. Section 112(r)(7) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7412(r)(7), addresses the prevention of releases of substances listed pursuant to Section 112(r)(3) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7412(r)(3). The purpose of this section is to prevent the accidental release of extremely hazardous substances and to minimize the consequences of such releases. Pursuant to Section 112(r)(7) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7412(r)(7), EPA is authorized to promulgate regulations for accidental release prevention.

8. Pursuant to Section 112(r)(3) and 112(r)(7) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 7412(r)(3) and 7412(r)(7), EPA promulgated rules codified at 40 CFR Part 68, Chemical Accident Prevention Provisions. These regulations are collectively referred to as the “Risk Management Program” (RMProgram) and apply to an owner or operator of a stationary source that has more than a threshold quantity of a regulated substance in a process. Pursuant to Sections 112(r)(3) and 112(r)(5) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 7412(r)(3) and 7412(r)(5), the list of regulated substances and threshold levels are codified at 40 CFR § 68.130.

9. The Respondent, at its stationary source identified in Paragraph 6 of this CAFO, has an RMProgram covered process which stores or otherwise uses a regulated substance in quantities exceeding the applicable RMProgram threshold (10,000 pounds for a flammable substance).

10. Pursuant to Section 112(r)(7)(B)(iii) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7412(r)(7)(B)(iii), and 40 CFR §§ 68.12 and 68.150, the owner or operator of a stationary source that has 10,000 pounds or more of a regulated flammable substance in a “process” as defined in 40 CFR § 68.3, must develop an RMProgram accidental release prevention program, and submit and register a single Risk Management Plan (RMPlan) to EPA.

11. Respondent has submitted and registered an RMPlan to EPA for the stationary source identified in Paragraph 6 of this CAFO. Respondent has developed an RMProgram accidental release prevention program for the stationary source identified in Paragraph 6 of this CAFO.

12. On April 18, 2007, an authorized representative of the EPA conducted a compliance monitoring inspection at the Respondent’s stationary source to determine compliance with the RMProgram regulations. At the time of inspection, EPA alleges that the Respondent was not compliant with the regulatory requirements of 40 CFR Part 68. The specific alleged violations cited below are relevant to the Respondent’s Polystyrene Foam Product Manufacturing process (RMProgram Process 62424):

Failure to provide evidence that the Respondent has documented other persons or positions responsible for implementing individual requirements of the RMProgram, and defined lines of authority as part of its RMProgram management system as required by 40 CFR § 68.15(b);

Failure to provide evidence that the Respondent has certified its operating procedures (i.e., that the procedures are current and accurate) on an annual basis as required by 40 CFR § 68.69(c); and

Failure to provide evidence that the Respondent, as part of its RMPlan submittal (postmark date of July 19, 2005), included a complete five year accident history as required by 40 CFR §§ 68.42 and 68.168.

III. Consent Agreement

13. 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.

14. Respondent waives any right to contest the allegations and its right to appeal the proposed final order accompanying the Consent Agreement.

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

16. Respondent certifies that as of the date of execution of this CAFO, to the best of the Respondent's knowledge, it is compliant with the applicable requirements of Section 112(r)(7) of the CAA.

17. Compliance with the CAFO shall resolve the allegation of violation 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.

18. 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 RMProgram.

IV. Final Order

19. Respondent shall pay a civil penalty of SEVEN THOUSAND AND SEVEN HUNDRED (\$7,700). Payment is to be paid within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this CAFO.

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

For payment sent via U.S. Postal Service
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Fines and Penalties
Cincinnati Finance Center
PO Box 979077
St. Louis, MO 63197-9000; or

For payment sent via overnight mail service (FedEx, UPS)
U.S. Bank
1005 Convention Plaza
Mail Station SL-MO-C2GL
St. Louis, MO 63101
Contact: Natalie Pearson @ 314-418-4087

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

21. 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
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

Victor L. Weeks
EPCRA Enforcement Section
U.S. EPA Region 4
61 Forsyth Street
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

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

22. For the purposes of state and federal income taxation, 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 payment shall constitute a violation of this CAFO.

23. 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 the 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 up to six percent per year compounded annually will be assessed on any portion of the debt that remains delinquent more than ninety (90) days after payment is due.

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

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

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

Caron B. Falconer
61 Forsyth Street
Atlanta, GA 30303
(404) 562-8451

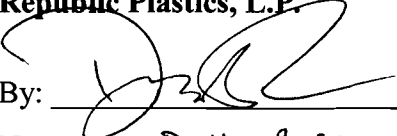
27. Each undersigned representative of the parties to this CAFO certifies that he or she is fully authorized by the party represented to enter into this CAFO and legally bind that party to it.

V. Effective Date

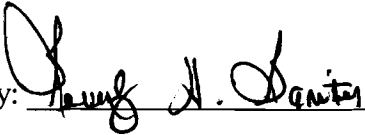
28. The effective date of this CAFO shall be the date on which the CAFO is filed with the Regional Hearing Clerk.

AGREED AND CONSENTED TO:


Republic Plastics, L.P.

By:  Date: 11/2/07
Name: Don Ross (Typed or Printed)
Title: VP of operations (Typed or Printed)

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

By:  Date: 11/27/07
Beverly H. Banister
Director
Air, Pesticides, and Toxics
Management Division
Region 4

APPROVED AND SO ORDERED this 29th day of November, 2007.


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 Republic Plastics, L.P., CAA-04-2008-1503(b), on the parties listed below in the manner indicated:

Caron B. Falconer
U. S. EPA - Region 4
Air, Pesticides and Toxics
Management Division
61 Forsyth Street
Atlanta, GA 30303

(Via EPA's internal mail)

Jennifer Lewis
U. S. EPA - Region 4
Office of Environmental Accountability
61 Forsyth Street
Atlanta, GA 30303

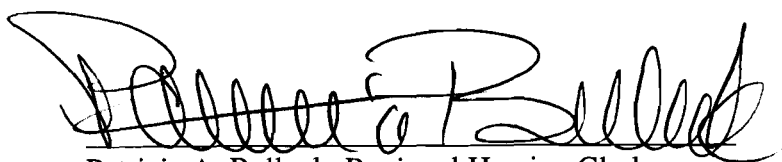
(Via EPA's internal mail)

Mr. Doug Ross
Operations Manager
Republic Plastics, L.P.
5316 South National Drive
Knoxville, Tennessee 37914

(Via Certified Mail -
Return Receipt Requested)

Date:

11-29-07



Patricia A. Bullock, Regional Hearing Clerk
United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region 4
Sam Nunn Atlanta Federal Center
61 Forsyth Street
Atlanta, Georgia 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 J Wilson on 11/26/07
(Name) (Date)

in the OEH 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

PAYEE: Republic Plastics LP
(Name of person and/or Company/Municipality making the payment)

The Total Dollar Amount of the Receivable: \$ 7,700
(If installments, attach schedule of amounts and respective due dates. See Other side of this form.)

The Case Docket Number: CAA 04 2008 1503(b)

The Site Specific Superfund Account Number: _____

The Designated Regional/Headquarters Program Office: _____

TO BE COMPLETED BY LOCAL FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT 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
Environmental Enforcement Section
Department of Justice RM 1647
P.O. Box 7611, Benjamin Franklin Station
Washington, D.C. 20044 | 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) |