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BEFORE THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

In the Matter of:

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NORTHWEST AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS, INC.

DOCKET NO. FIFRA-10-2010-004

CONSENT AGREEMENT AND FINAL ORDER

Respondent

I. STATUTORY AUTHORITY

1.1. This Consent Agreement and Final Order ("CAFO") is issued under the authority vested in the Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") by Section 14(a) of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act ("FIFRA"), 7 U.S.C. § 136*l*(a).

1.2. The Administrator has delegated the authority to issue the Final Order contained in Part V of this CAFO to the Regional Administrator of EPA Region 10, who in turn has redelegated this authority to the Regional Judicial Officer.

1.3. Pursuant to Section 14(a) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136l(a), and in accordance with the "Consolidated Rules of Practice Governing the Administrative Assessment of Civil Penalties," 40 C.F.R. Part 22, EPA hereby issues, and Northwest Agricultural Products, Inc. ("Respondent") hereby agrees to issuance of, the Final Order contained in Part V of this CAFO.

CONSENT AGREEMENT AND FINAL ORDER - 1 DOCKET NO. FIFRA-10-2010-0004

H. PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

2.1. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 22.13(b) and 22.45(b), issuance of this CAFO commences this proceeding which will conclude when the Final Order contained in Part V of this CAFO becomes effective.

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2.2. Part III of this CAFO contains a concise statement of the statutory and factual basis for the alleged violations of FIFRA.

III. ALLEGATIONS

3.1. Respondent owns and operates a business facility located at 8 821 South Chestnut Avenue in Pasco, Washington. This facility has been registered with EPA as Q a pesticide producing establishment since December 7, 1998. The registration number for this 10 establishment is 071975-WA-001. Among other responsibilities. Respondent is required by H 40 C.F.R. § 167.85(d) to provide EPA, on an annual basis, a written report which documents the 12 13 type(s) and amount(s) of pesticides produced and distributed during the past calendar year, alone 14 with the type(s) and amount(s) of pesticides currently produced at the establishment. Respondent is further required to submit the written annual report, covering the prior calendar 15 16 year, by no later than March 1st. Respondent submitted the annual written report for calendar 17 years 2006 on March 6, 2007. Additionally, Respondent submitted the annual written report for calendar year 2008 on July 17, 2009. These failures to file timely written reports constitute a 18 19 violation of 40 C.F.R. § 167.85(d), and Section 12(a)(2)(L) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136i(a)(2)(L).

3.2. Pursuant to FIFRA Section 14(a), 7 U.S.C. § 136/(a), and 40 C.F.R. Part 19, EPA may assess a civil penalty of not more than \$6,500 for each offense against any registrant, commercial applicator, wholesaler, dealer, retailer, or other distributor who violates any provision of Section 12 of FIFRA.

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For the purpose of this proceeding, Respondent admits the jurisdictional allegations contained herein, but neither admits nor denies the specific factual allegations put forth by EPA. Respondent waives any right to contest these allegations as well as the right to appeal the accompanying Final Order. Respondent also consents to payment of the penalty as Respondent consents to the assessment of a civil penalty in the amount of

CONSENT AGREEMENT

IV.

4.2. ONE-THOUSAND, TWO-HUNDRED EIGHTY DOLLARS and no cents (\$1,280.00). Respondent consents to issuance of the Final Order set forth in Part V, below, and agrees to pay the total civil penalty set forth in this paragraph within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this Final Order.

Payment under this CAFO shall be made by cashier's check or certified check, 4.3. payable to the order of "Treasurer, United States of America" and delivered to the following address:

> US Bank - US EPA - Region 10 Fines and Penalties Cincinnati Finance Center PO Box 979077 St. Louis, MO 63197-9000

Respondent shall note on the check the title and docket number of this action.

4.4. Respondent shall serve photocopies of the check described in Paragraph 4.3,

above, on the Regional Hearing Clerk and the EPA Region 10 Office of Compliance and

Enforcement at the following addresses:

Regional Hearing Clerk U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 10, Office of Regional Counsel 1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900, ORC-158 Seattle, WA 98101

CONSENT AGREEMENT AND FINAL ORDER - 3 DOCKET NO. FIFRA-10-2010-0004

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 1200 Sixth Avenue Seattle, Washington 98101 (206) 553-1037

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4.1.

stated below.

Attn: Erin Halbert U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 10, Pesticides and Toxics Unit 1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900, OCE-084 Seattle, WA 98101

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4.5. Should Respondent fail to pay the penalty assessed herein in full by its due date, the entire unpaid balance of penalty and accrued interest shall become immediately due and owing. Should such a failure to pay occur, Respondent may be subject to a civil action under Section 14(a)(5) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 1361(a)(5), to collect any unpaid penalties, together with interest, handling charges, and nonpayment penalties, as set forth below.

4.6. Should Respondent fail to pay any portion of the penalty assessed herein in full by its due date, Respondent shall also be responsible for payment of the following amounts:

- a. <u>Interest</u>: Any unpaid portion of the assessed penalty shall bear interest at the rate established by the Secretary of the Treasury pursuant to 31 U.S.C. § 3717(a)(1) from the effective date of the accompanying Final Order, provided, however, that no interest shall be payable on any portion of the assessed penalty that is paid within 30 days of the effective date of the Final Order.
- <u>Handling Charge</u>: Pursuant to 31 U.S.C. § 3717(e)(1), a monthly handling charge of \$15 shall be paid if any portion of the assessed penalty is more than 30 days past due.

c. <u>Nonpayment Penalty</u>: Pursuant to 31 U.S.C. § 3717(e)(2), a nonpayment penalty of 6% per annum shall be paid on any portion of the assessed penalty that is more than 90 days past due, which nonpayment penalty shall be calculated as of the date the underlying penalty first becomes past due.

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4.7. The penalty described in Paragraph 4.2, above, including any additional costs incurred under Paragraph 4.6, above, represents an administrative civil penalty assessed by EPA and shall not be deductible for purposes of federal taxes.

4.8. The undersigned representative of Respondent certifies that he is fully authorized to enter into the terms and conditions of this CAFO and to bind Respondent to this document.

4.9. Respondent shall bear its own costs and attorneys fees in connection with this matter.

4.10. The provisions of this CAFO shall bind Respondent and its agents, servants, employees, successors, and assigns.

4.11. The above provisions are STIPULATED AND AGREED upon by Respondent and EPA.

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DATED:

10/28/09

NORTHWEST AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS, INC .:

KYLE HARTMEIER Vice President of Operations For Respondent

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY:

EDWARD J. KOWALSKI Director, Office of Compliance and Enforcement For Complainant

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V. FINAL ORDER

5.1. The terms of the foregoing Parts I-IV are hereby ratified and incorporated by reference into this Final Order. Respondent is hereby ordered to comply with the foregoing terms of the settlement.

5.2. This CAFO shall constitute a settlement by EPA of all claims for civil penalties pursuant to FIFRA for the violations alleged above. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 22.31(a), nothing in this CAFO shall affect the right of EPA or the United States to pursue appropriate injunctive or other equitable relief or criminal sanctions for any violations of law. This CAFO does not waive, extinguish, or otherwise affect Respondent's obligations to comply with all applicable provisions of FIFRA and regulations promulgated thereunder.

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5.3. This Final Order shall become effective upon filing.

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SO ORDERED this 30 day of Oclober 2009.

THOMAS M. JAHNKE Regional Judicial Officer U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 10

CONSENT AGREEMENT AND FINAL ORDER - 6 DOCKET NO. FIFRA-10-2010-0004

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned certifies that the original of the attached CONSENT AGREEMENT AND FINAL ORDER in In the Matter of: NORTHWEST AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS, INC., DOCKET NO.: FIFRA-10-2010-0004 was filed with the Regional Hearing Clerk on October 30, 2009.

On October 30, 2009 the undersigned certifies that a true and correct copy of the document was delivered to:

Mercer St. Peter, Esquire US Environmental Protection Agency 1200 Sixth Avenue, ORC-158 Suite 900 Seattle, WA 98101

Further, the undersigned certifies that a true and correct copy of the aforementioned document was placed in the United States mail certified/return receipt on October 30, 2009, to:

Kyle Hartmeier Vice President of Operations Northwest Agricultural Products 821 South Chestnut Pasco, Washington 99301

DATED this 30th day of October 2009.

and I

Carol Kennedy Regional Hearing Clerk EPA Region 10



Better Science. Better Solutions.

October 23, 2009

US EPA Region 10 Attn: Mercer St. Peter, ORC-158 1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900 Seattle, WA 98101-3140

Ref: Administrative Consent Agreement for Violation of Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA)

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OFFICE OF REGION TO REGIONAL COUNSEL

Docket Number FIFRA-10-2010-0004

Dear Mercer:

Per our conversation on Thursday I have done as you instructed as outlined on page 3 I did forward the check to St. Louis, MO and enclosed a copy of the check for your convenience. However I am sending you the original agreement in order to complete and file copies as directed in 4.4. Please forward a copy when all signatures are received and document is filed.

appreciate your time and consideration in this matter and look forward to receiving final documentation showing this agreement has been satisfied and case closed.

Thanks again for the helpful hints in your cover letter to avoid future penalties.

Sincerely,

Herrit chel

Michelle Stewart Regulatory Coordinator Northwest Agricultural Products

821 SOUTH CHESTNUT PASCO, WA 99301 509-547-8234 887-357-4461 WWW.NAP-CHEM.COM

Evin Halbert