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U. S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY BEFORE THE ADMINSTRATOR



REGION 7 11201 RENNER BOULEVARD LENEXA, KANSAS 66219

REGION 5 77 W. JACKSON BOULEVARD CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60604

In the Matter of:

Quality Refrigerated Services, Inc.,

3301 G Street Omaha, Nebraska 68107

and

2626 Polar Road Worthington, Minnesota 56187

Respondent

Docket No. CAA-07-2019-0203

CAA-05-2020-0002

Proceedings Pursuant to Sections 112(r) and 113 of the Clean Air Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 7412(r) and 7413

CONSENT AGREEMENT AND FINAL ORDER

Preliminary Statement

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Regions 5 and 7 (EPA or Complainant), and Quality Refrigerated Services (Respondent) have agreed to a settlement of this action before the filing of a complaint, and thus this action is simultaneously commenced and concluded pursuant to Rules 22.13(b) and 22.18(b)(2) 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. §§ 22.13(b) and 22.18(b)(2).

Jurisdiction

1. This proceeding is an administrative action for the assessment of civil penalties instituted pursuant to Section 113(d) of the Clean Air Act (CAA), 42 U.S.C. § 7413(d). Pursuant to Section 113(d) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7413(d), the Administrator and the Attorney General jointly determined that this matter, in which the first date of alleged violation occurred more than twelve months prior to the initiation of the administrative action, was appropriate for administrative penalty action.

2. This Consent Agreement and Final Order serves as notice that the EPA has reason to believe that Respondent has violated the Chemical Accident Prevention Provisions in 40 C.F.R. Part 68, promulgated pursuant to Section 112(r) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7412(r), and that Respondent is therefore in violation of Section 112(r) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7412(r). Furthermore, this Consent Agreement and Final Order serves as notice pursuant to

Section 113(d)(2)(A) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7413(d)(2)(A), of the EPA's intent to issue an order assessing penalties for these violations.

Parties

3. Complainant, by delegation from the Administrator of the EPA and the Regional Administrators of the EPA, Regions 5 and 7, is collectively the Director of the Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division, EPA, Region 5, Chicago, Illinois, and the Director of the Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division, EPA, Region 7, Lenexa, Kansas.

4. Respondent is Quality Refrigerated Services, Inc., a business incorporated in Nebraska and doing business in the states of Nebraska, Iowa, and Minnesota. Respondent owns and operates refrigerated warehouse and storage facilities located at 3301 G Street in Omaha, Nebraska (Nebraska facility) and 2626 Polar Road in Worthington, Minnesota (Minnesota facility). The Nebraska facility is located in EPA Region 7 and the Minnesota facility is located in EPA Region 5.

Statutory and Regulatory Background

5. On November 15, 1990, the President signed into law the CAA Amendments of 1990. The Amendments added Section 112(r) to Title I of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7412(r), which requires the Administrator of the EPA to, among other things, promulgate regulations in order to prevent accidental releases of certain regulated substances. Section 112(r)(3), 42 U.S.C. § 7412(r)(3), mandates that the Administrator promulgate a list of regulated substances, with threshold quantities, and defines the stationary sources that will be subject to the chemical accident prevention regulations mandated by Section 112(r)(7). Specifically, Section 112(r)(7), 42 U.S.C. § 7412(r)(7), requires the Administrator to promulgate regulations that address release prevention, detection, and correction requirements for these listed regulated substances.

6. On June 20, 1996, the EPA promulgated a final rule known as the Risk Management Program, 40 C.F.R. Part 68, which implements Section 112(r)(7) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7412(r)(7). This rule requires owners and operators of stationary sources to develop and implement a risk management program that includes a hazard assessment, a prevention program and an emergency response program.

7. The regulations at 40 C.F.R. Part 68 set forth the requirements of a risk management program that must be established at each stationary source. The risk management program is described in a Risk Management Plan ("RMP") that must be submitted to the EPA.

8. Pursuant to Section 112(r)(7) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7412(r)(7), and 40 C.F.R. § 68.150, an RMP must be submitted for all covered processes by the owner or operator of a stationary source that has more than a threshold quantity of a regulated substance in a process no later than the latter of June 21, 1999, or the date on which a regulated substance is first present above the threshold quantity in a process.

9. The regulations at 40 C.F.R. § 68.10 set forth how the Chemical Accident Prevention Provisions apply to covered processes. Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 68.10(d), a covered

process is subject to Program 3 requirements if the process does not meet the eligibility requirements of Program 1, as described in 40 C.F.R. § 68.10(b), and it either falls under a specified North American Industry Classification System code or is subject to the OSHA process safety management standard, 29 C.F.R. § 1910.119.

10. Section 113(d) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7413(d), states that the Administrator may issue an administrative order against any person assessing a civil administrative penalty of up to \$25,000 per day of violation whenever, on the basis of any available information, the Administrator finds that such person has violated or is violating any requirement or prohibition of Section 112(r) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7412(r), and its implementing regulations. The Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996, 31 U.S.C. § 3701, as amended, and the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act Improvements Act of 2015, 28 U.S.C. § 2461, and implementing regulations at 40 C.F.R. Part 19, increased these statutory maximum penalties to \$37,500 for violations that occurred before November 2, 2015, and to \$47,357 for violations that occur after November 2, 2015, and are assessed after February 6, 2019.

Definitions

11. Section 302(e) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7602(e), defines “person” to include any individual, corporation, partnership, association, State, municipality, political subdivision of a State, and any agency department, or instrumentality of the United States and any officer, agent, or employee thereof.

12. Section 112(r)(2)(A) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7412(r)(2)(A), defines “accidental release” as an unanticipated emission of a regulated substance or other extremely hazardous substance into the ambient air from a stationary source.

13. Section 112(r)(2)(C) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7412(r)(2)(c), and the regulations at 40 C.F.R. § 68.3 define “stationary source,” in part, as any buildings, structures, equipment, installations or substance-emitting stationary activities which belong to the same industrial group, which are located on one or more contiguous properties, which are under the control of the same person (or persons under common control), and from which an accidental release may occur.

14. The regulations at 40 C.F.R. § 68.3 define “regulated substance” as any substance listed pursuant to Section 112(r)(3) of the CAA, as amended, in 40 C.F.R. § 68.130.

15. The regulations at 40 C.F.R. § 68.3 define “threshold quantity” as the quantity specified for regulated substances pursuant to Section 112(r)(5) of the CAA, as amended, listed in 40 C.F.R. § 68.130 and determined to be present at a stationary source as specified in 40 C.F.R. § 68.115.

16. The regulations at 40 C.F.R. § 68.3 define “process” as any activity involving a regulated substance including any use, storage, manufacturing, handling or on-site movement of such substances, or combination of these activities. For the purposes of this definition, any group of vessels that are interconnected, or separate vessels that are located such that a regulated substance could be involved in a potential release, shall be considered a single process.

General Factual Allegations

17. Respondent is, and at all times referred to herein was, a “person” as defined by Section 302(e) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7602(e).
18. Respondent is the owner and operator of two facilities that are “stationary source[s]” pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 68.3.
19. Anhydrous ammonia is a “regulated substance” pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 68.3. The threshold quantity for anhydrous ammonia, as listed in 40 C.F.R. § 68.130, is 10,000 pounds.
20. On or about April 18-19, 2017, representatives of the EPA conducted an inspection of Respondent’s Nebraska facility to determine compliance with Section 112(r) of the CAA and 40 C.F.R. Part 68.
21. Information gathered during the EPA inspection revealed that Respondent had greater than 10,000 pounds of anhydrous ammonia in a process at its Nebraska facility.
22. Subsequent to the EPA inspection, representatives of the EPA initiated an investigation of Respondent’s Minnesota facility to determine compliance with Section 112(r) of the CAA and 40 C.F.R. Part 68.
23. On or about October 10, 2017, prior to the initiation of EPA’s investigation into Respondent’s Minnesota facility, Respondent filed an RMP for the Minnesota facility.
24. Information gathered during the EPA investigation revealed that Respondent had greater than 10,000 pounds of anhydrous ammonia in a process at its Minnesota facility, prior to the filing of the RMP for the Minnesota facility.
25. From the time Respondent first had onsite greater than 10,000 pounds of anhydrous ammonia in a process at the Nebraska facility and the Minnesota facility, Respondent was subject to the requirements of Section 112(r) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7412(r), and 40 C.F.R. Part 68 at each facility, because it was an owner and operator of stationary sources that had more than a threshold quantity of a regulated substance in a process.
26. From the time Respondent first had onsite greater than 10,000 pounds of anhydrous ammonia in a process at the Nebraska facility and the Minnesota facility, Respondent was subject to Program 3 prevention program requirements at each facility because, pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 68.10(d), the covered process at both facilities did not meet the eligibility requirements of Program 1 and were subject to the OSHA process safety management standard, 29 C.F.R. § 1910.119.
27. From the time Respondent first had onsite greater than 10,000 pounds of anhydrous ammonia in a process at the Nebraska facility and the Minnesota facility, Respondent was required under Section 112(r)(7) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7412(r)(7), to submit an RMP for each facility pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 68.12(a) and comply with the Program 3 requirements

provided at 40 C.F.R. § 68.12(d) at each facility.

Allegations of Violation

28. Complainant hereby states and alleges that Respondent has violated the CAA and federal regulations promulgated thereunder as follows:

Count 1

29. The facts stated above are herein incorporated.

30. The regulation at 40 C.F.R. § 68.12(a) requires the owner or operator of a stationary source subject to the Risk Management Program, 40 C.F.R. Part 68, to submit a single RMP as provided in 40 C.F.R. §§ 68.150 to 68.185. Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 68.160, the owner or operator shall complete a single registration form that provides, *inter alia*, the Program level of each covered process and whether the stationary source is subject to 29 C.F.R. § 1910.119. Additionally, pursuant 40 C.F.R. § 68.175(a), the owner or operator is required to provide the information identified at 40 C.F.R. § 68.175(b) through (p) for each Program 3 process.

31. The EPA inspection revealed that Respondent failed to submit an RMP for the Nebraska facility pursuant to the requirements of 40 C.F.R. §§ 68.150 to 68.185, as required by 40 C.F.R. § 68.12(a).

32. Respondent's failure to submit an RMP for the Nebraska facility pursuant to the requirements of 40 C.F.R. §§ 68.150 to 68.185, as required by 40 C.F.R. § 68.12(a), is a violation of Section 112(r)(7) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7412(r)(7).

Count 2

33. The facts stated above are herein incorporated.

34. The regulation at 40 C.F.R. § 68.12(a) requires the owner or operator of a stationary source subject to the Risk Management Program, 40 C.F.R. Part 68, to submit a single RMP as provided in 40 C.F.R. §§ 68.150 to 68.185. Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 68.160, the owner or operator shall complete a single registration form that provides, *inter alia*, the Program level of each covered process and whether the stationary source is subject to 29 C.F.R. § 1910.119. Additionally, pursuant 40 C.F.R. § 68.175(a), the owner or operator is required to provide the information identified at 40 C.F.R. § 68.175(b) through (p) for each Program 3 process.

35. The EPA's investigation revealed that Respondent failed to timely submit an RMP for the Minnesota facility pursuant to the requirements of 40 C.F.R. §§ 68.150 to 68.185, as required by 40 C.F.R. § 68.12(a).

36. Respondent's failure to timely submit an RMP for the Minnesota facility pursuant to the requirements of 40 C.F.R. §§ 68.150 to 68.185, as required by 40 C.F.R. § 68.12(a), is a violation of Section 112(r)(7) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7412(r)(7).

Count 3

37. The facts stated above are herein incorporated.

38. The regulation at 40 C.F.R. § 68.12(d)(1) requires the owner or operator of a stationary source with a process subject to Program 3 to develop and implement a management system as provided in 40 C.F.R. § 68.15. 40 C.F.R. § 68.15 requires the owner or operator of a stationary source with a process subject to Program 3 to develop a management system to oversee the implementation of the risk management program elements and to assign a qualified person or position that has the overall responsibility for the development, implementation, and integration of the risk management program elements.

39. The EPA inspection revealed that Respondent failed to assign a qualified person or position that has the overall responsibility for the development, implementation, and integration of the risk management program elements at the Nebraska facility and the organization chart did not clearly indicate responsibility for the risk management program elements.

40. Respondent's failure to assign a qualified person or position that has the overall responsibility for the development, implementation, and integration of the risk management program elements at the Nebraska facility pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 68.15, as required by 40 C.F.R. § 68.12(d)(1), is a violation of Section 112(r)(7) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7412(r)(7).

Count 4

41. The facts stated above are herein incorporated.

42. The regulation at 40 C.F.R. § 68.12(d)(2) requires the owner or operator of a stationary source with a process subject to Program 3 to conduct a hazard assessment as provided in 40 C.F.R. §§ 68.20 through 68.42.

43. The EPA inspection revealed that Respondent failed to conduct a hazard assessment as provided in 40 C.F.R. §§ 68.20 through 68.42 at the Nebraska facility, as required by 40 C.F.R. § 68.12(d)(2). Specifically, Respondent failed to comply with 40 C.F.R. §§ 68.22, 68.25, 68.28, 68.30, 68.33, and 68.39.

44. Respondent's failure to conduct a hazard assessment as provided in 40 C.F.R. §§ 68.20 through 68.42 at the Nebraska facility, as required by 40 C.F.R. § 68.12(d)(2), violate Section 112(r)(7) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7412(r)(7).

Count 5

45. The facts stated above are herein incorporated.

46. The regulation at 40 C.F.R. § 68.12(d)(3) requires the owner or operator of a stationary source with a process subject to Program 3 to implement the Program 3 prevention requirements of 40 C.F.R. §§ 68.65 through 68.87.

47. The EPA inspection revealed that Respondent failed to implement the Program 3 prevention requirements of 40 C.F.R. §§ 68.65 through 68.87 at the Nebraska facility, as required by 40 C.F.R. § 68.12(d)(3). Specifically, Respondent failed to comply with 40 C.F.R. §§ 68.65(c), 68.65(d)(1) and (2), 68.67, 68.69, 68.71(a), 68.73(b)-(c), 68.73(d)(2)-(3), 68.75, 68.77, 68.83(a), and 68.87(b).

48. Respondent's failure to comply with Program 3 prevention requirements of 40 C.F.R. §§ 68.65 through 68.87 at the Nebraska facility, as required by 40 C.F.R. § 68.12(d)(3), violate Section 112(r)(7) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7412(r)(7).

CONSENT AGREEMENT

49. For the purpose of this proceeding, as required by 40 C.F.R. § 22.18(b)(2), Respondent:

- (a) admits the jurisdictional allegations set forth herein;
- (b) neither admits nor denies the specific factual allegations stated herein;
- (c) consents to the assessment of a civil penalty, as stated herein;
- (d) consents to the issuance of any specified compliance or corrective action order;
- (e) consents to any conditions specified herein;
- (f) consents to any stated Permit Action;
- (g) waives any right to contest the allegations set forth herein; and
- (h) waives its rights to appeal the Final Order accompanying this Consent Agreement.

50. Respondent consents to the issuance of this Consent Agreement and Final Order and consents for the purposes of settlement to the payment of the civil penalty specified herein and to completion of the SEP described below.

51. Respondent and EPA agree to conciliate this matter without the necessity of a formal hearing and to bear their respective costs and attorneys' fees.

Penalty Payment

52. Respondent agrees that, in settlement of the claims alleged herein, Respondent shall pay a civil penalty of Fifty-Three Thousand Nine Hundred Seventy-Nine Dollars (\$53,979), as set forth below, and shall perform a Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP) as set forth in this Consent Agreement and Final Order. The projected cost of the SEP is One Hundred Twelve Thousand Nine Hundred Forty-Eight Dollars (\$112,948). The SEP is further described below.

53. Respondent shall pay the penalty within thirty (30) days of the effective date of the Final Order. Such payment shall identify Respondent by name and docket number and shall be by certified or cashier's check made payable to the "United States Treasury" and sent to:

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

or by alternate payment method described at <http://www.epa.gov/financial/makepayment>.

54. A copy of the check or other information confirming payment shall simultaneously be sent to the following:

Regional Hearing Clerk
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 7
11201 Renner Boulevard
Lenexa, Kansas 66219; and

Britt Bieri, Attorney
Office of Regional Counsel
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 7
11201 Renner Boulevard
Lenexa, Kansas 66219.

55. Respondent understands that its failure to timely pay any portion of the civil penalty may result in the commencement of a civil action in Federal District Court to recover the full remaining balance, along with penalties and accumulated interest. In such case, interest shall begin to accrue on a civil or stipulated penalty from the date of delinquency until such civil or stipulated penalty and any accrued interest are paid in full. 31 C.F.R. § 901.9(b)(1). Interest will be assessed at a rate of the United States Treasury Tax and loan rates in accordance with 31 U.S.C. § 3717. Additionally, a charge will be assessed to cover the costs of debt collection including processing and handling costs, and a non-payment penalty charge of six (6) percent per

year compounded annually will be assessed on any portion of the debt which remains delinquent more than ninety (90) days after payment is due. 31 U.S.C. § 3717(e)(2).

Supplemental Environmental Project

56. In response to the violations of the CAA alleged in this Consent Agreement and Final Order and in settlement of this matter, although not required by the CAA or any other federal, state, or local law, Respondent shall complete the SEP described in this Consent Agreement and Final Order, which the parties agree is intended to secure significant environmental or public health protection and improvement.

57. Respondent shall complete the following SEP at the Nebraska and Minnesota facilities, which is designed to assist in preventing an accidental release of anhydrous ammonia from the facility along with mitigating and minimizing the consequence of such accidental release and the attendant benefits to emergency planning, preparedness, and response:

At the Nebraska facility, Respondent will remove the two Cornell pumps currently installed on the existing recirculators and replace them with two “seal-less” Teikoku Pumps sized to provide the maximum capacity of the recirculators at design conditions.

At the Minnesota facility, Respondent will remove the four Cornell Pumps currently installed on the existing recirculators and replace them with four “seal-less” Teikoku Pumps sized to provide the maximum capacity of the recirculators at design conditions.

58. Respondent represents that the equipment upgrades described above exceed the requirements of the most current industry standards and that, with routine maintenance and upkeep, the equipment being replaced has a useful life of at least 10 years.

59. The proposal and description for the SEP is attached hereto as Appendix A and incorporated herein in its entirety. The SEP shall cost at least One Hundred Twelve Thousand Nine Hundred Forty-Eight Dollars (\$112,948). Respondent agrees that the SEP shall be completed within six (6) months of the Effective Date of this Consent Agreement and Final Order.

60. This SEP shall be performed in accordance with the requirements of this Consent Agreement and Final Order.

61. Within seven (7) months of the Effective Date of this Consent Agreement and Final Order, Respondent shall submit a SEP Completion Report to the EPA contact identified in Paragraph 64 below. The SEP Completion Report shall be subject to EPA review and approval as provided in Paragraph 65 below. The SEP Completion Report shall contain the following information:

- (a) Detailed description of the SEP as implemented.

- (b) Description of any problems encountered in implementation of the projects and the solution thereto;
- (c) Description of the specific environmental and/or public health benefits resulting from implementation of the SEP and, to the extent feasible, quantification of the benefits associated with the project and a description setting forth how the benefits were measured or estimated;
- (d) Certification that the SEP has been fully implemented pursuant to the provisions of this Consent Agreement and Final Order.

62. In itemizing its costs in the SEP Completion Report, Respondent shall clearly identify and provide acceptable documentation for all SEP costs. For purposes of this paragraph, "acceptable documentation" includes invoices, purchase orders, or other documentation that specifically identifies and itemizes the individual costs of the goods and/or services for which payment is being made. Cancelled drafts do not constitute acceptable documentation unless such drafts specifically identify and itemize the individual costs of the goods and/or services for which payment is being made.

63. The SEP Completion Report shall include the statement of Respondent, through an officer, signed and certifying under penalty of law the following:

I certify under penalty of law that I have examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this document and all attachments and that, based on my inquiry of those individuals immediately responsible for obtaining the information, I believe that the information is true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fines and imprisonment.

64. The SEP Completion Report shall be submitted on or before the due date specified above to:

Krystal Stotts, ECAD/CB
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 7
11201 Renner Boulevard
Lenexa, Kansas 66219.

65. SEP Completion Report Approval: The SEP Completion Report shall be reviewed in accordance with the procedures outlined in this paragraph. EPA will review the SEP Completion Report and may approve, approve with modifications, or disapprove and provide comments to Respondent. If the SEP Completion Report is disapproved with comments, Respondent shall incorporate EPA's comments and resubmit the SEP Completion Report within thirty (30) days of receipt of EPA's comments. If Respondent fails to revise the SEP Completion Report in accordance with EPA's comments, Respondent shall be subject to the stipulated penalties as set forth below.

66. Any public statement, oral or written, in print, film, internet, or other media, made by Respondent making reference to the SEP under this Consent Agreement and Final Order from the date of its execution of this Consent Agreement and Final Order shall include the following language:

This project was undertaken in connection with the settlement of an enforcement action taken by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to enforce federal laws.

67. With regard to the SEP, Respondent certifies the truth and accuracy of each of the following:

- (a) That all cost information provided to the EPA in connection with the EPA's approval of the SEP is complete and accurate and that Respondent in good faith estimates that the cost to implement the SEP is \$112,948;
- (b) That, as of the date of executing this Consent Agreement and Final Order, Respondent is not required to perform or develop the SEP by any federal, state, or local law or regulation and is not required to perform or develop the SEP by agreement, grant, or as injunctive relief awarded in any other action in any forum;
- (c) That the SEP is not a project that Respondent was planning or intending to construct, perform, or implement other than in settlement of the claims resolved in this Consent Agreement and Final Order;
- (d) That Respondent has not received and will not receive credit for the SEP in any other enforcement action;
- (e) That Respondent will not receive reimbursement for any portion of the SEP from another person or entity;
- (f) That for federal income tax purposes, Respondent agrees that it will neither capitalize into inventory or basis nor deduct any costs or expenditures incurred in performing the SEP; and
- (g) Respondent is not a party to any open federal financial assistance transaction that is funding or could fund the same activity as the SEP described in Paragraph 57.

68. Stipulated penalties for failure to complete SEP/Failure to spend agreed-on amount.

- (a) In the event Respondent fails to comply with any of the terms or provisions of this Agreement relating to the performance of the SEP, above, and/or to the extent that the actual expenditures for the SEP do not equal or exceed the cost of the SEP described in this Consent Agreement

and Final Order, Respondent shall be liable for stipulated penalties according to the provisions set forth below:

- i. If the SEP has not been completed satisfactorily and timely pursuant to this Consent Agreement and Final Order, Respondent shall pay a stipulated penalty to the United States in the amount of \$90,358, minus any documented expenditures determined by EPA to be acceptable for the SEP.
 - ii. If the SEP is satisfactorily completed in accordance with this Consent Agreement and Final Order, but Respondent spent less than \$112,948 on the SEP, Respondent shall pay a stipulated penalty to the United States which equals the difference between \$112,948 and the actual cost of the SEP.
 - iii. For failure to submit the SEP Completion Report, Respondent shall pay a stipulated penalty in the amount of \$250 for each day after the report was originally due until the report is submitted.
- (b) The determinations of whether the SEP has been satisfactorily completed and whether the Respondent has made a good faith, timely effort to implement the SEP shall be in the sole discretion of EPA.
 - (c) Stipulated penalties shall begin to accrue on the day after performance is due, and shall continue to accrue through the final day of the completion of the activity or other resolution under this Consent Agreement and Final Order.
 - (d) Respondent shall pay stipulated penalties not more than fifteen (15) days after receipt of written demand by EPA for such penalties. Method of payment shall be in accordance with the provisions of the Penalty Payment section above. Interest and late charges shall be paid as stated in Paragraph 55 herein.
 - (e) Nothing in this agreement shall be construed as prohibiting, altering or in any way limiting the ability of EPA to seek any other remedies or sanctions available by virtue of Respondent's violation of this agreement or of the statutes and regulations upon which this agreement is based, or for Respondent's violation of any applicable provision of law.
 - (f) The United States may, in the unreviewable exercise of its discretion, reduce or waive stipulated penalties otherwise due under this Consent Agreement and Final Order.

Effect of Settlement and Reservation of Rights

69. Full payment of the penalty proposed in this Consent Agreement shall only resolve Respondent's liability for federal civil penalties for the violations alleged herein. Complainant reserves the right to take any enforcement action with respect to any other violations of the CAA or any other applicable law.

70. The effect of settlement described in the immediately preceding paragraph is conditioned upon the accuracy of Respondent's representations to the EPA, as memorialized in the paragraph directly below.

71. Respondent certifies by the signing of this Consent Agreement that it is presently in compliance with all requirements of the CAA and its implementing regulations.

72. Full payment of the penalty proposed in this Consent Agreement shall not in any case affect the right of the Agency or the United States to pursue appropriate injunctive or other equitable relief or criminal sanctions for any violations of law. This Consent Agreement and Final Order does not waive, extinguish or otherwise affect Respondent's obligation to comply with all applicable provisions of the CAA and regulations promulgated thereunder.

73. Complainant reserves the right to enforce the terms and conditions of this Consent Agreement and Final Order.

General Provisions

74. By signing this Consent Agreement, the undersigned representative of Respondent certifies that he or she is fully authorized to execute and enter into the terms and conditions of this Consent Agreement and has the legal capacity to bind the party he or she represents to this Consent Agreement.

75. This Consent Agreement shall not dispose of the proceeding without a final order from each Regional Judicial Officer ratifying the terms of this Consent Agreement. This Consent Agreement and Final Orders shall be effective upon the filing of the Final Orders by the Regional Hearing Clerks for EPA in Region 5 and Region 7. Unless otherwise stated, all time periods stated herein shall be calculated in calendar days from such date.

76. The penalty specified herein shall represent civil penalties assessed by EPA and shall not be deductible for purposes of Federal, State and local taxes.

77. This Consent Agreement and Final Order shall apply to and be binding upon Respondent and Respondent's agents, successors and/or assigns. Respondent shall ensure that all contractors, employees, consultants, firms, or other persons or entities acting for Respondent with respect to matters included herein comply with the terms of this Consent Agreement and Final Order.

RESPONDENT:
QUALITY REFRIGERATED SERVICES, INC.

Date: 12-19-19



Signature

Michael Amundson

Name

President

Title

COMPLAINANT:
U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, REGION 5

Date: 01/23/2020

Michael D. Harris
Michael D. Harris, Director
Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5


COMPLAINANT:
U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, REGION 7

Date: 2/3/2020



David Cozad, Director
Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 7

Date: 2/3/2020



Britt Bieri
Office of Regional Counsel
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 7

FINAL ORDER

Pursuant to Section 113(d) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7413(d), and 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, the foregoing Consent Agreement resolving this matter is hereby ratified and incorporated by reference into this Final Order.

Respondent is ORDERED to comply with all of the terms of the Consent Agreement. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 22.31(b), the effective date of the foregoing Consent Agreement and this Final Order is the date on which this Final Order is filed with the Regional Hearing Clerk.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Karina Borromeo

Karina Borromeo
Regional Judicial Officer, Region 7

Feb. 6, 2020

Date

Ann L. Coyle

Ann L. Coyle
Regional Judicial Officer, Region 5

1/29/2020

Date

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Consent Agreement and Final Order was sent this day in the following manner to the addressees:

Copy via Email to Complainant:

Britt Bieri
William Wagner

AND

Copy via Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested to Respondent:

Mike Amundson, President
Quality Refrigerated Services, Inc.
3301 G Street
Omaha, Nebraska 68107

Dated this 6th day of February, 2020.

Eddie Stein Beck
Signed
for Lisa Hansen
Region 7
Hearing Clerk

APPENDIX A

SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECT – SCOPE OF WORK

REMOVAL OF EXISTING CORNELL PUMPS AND REPLACEMENT WITH “SEAL-LESS” TEIKOKU PUMPS

In satisfaction of its obligations under this Consent Agreement and Final Order (CAFO), Quality Refrigerated Services, Inc. (Respondent) will complete the following supplemental environmental project (SEP) at its facilities in Omaha, Nebraska (Nebraska facility) and Worthington, Minnesota (Minnesota facility). A SEP is a beneficial environmental project that Respondent has voluntarily agreed to undertake as part of the resolution and settlement of this matter, but one which the Respondent is not otherwise legally required to perform and that primarily benefits public health or the environment. EPA has approved the following SEP, in addition to the civil penalty set forth in this CAFO, for the settlement of this matter.

1. The SEP described in this Scope of Work is designed to assist in preventing an accidental release of anhydrous ammonia from the facility along with mitigating and minimizing the consequence of such accidental release and the attendant benefits to emergency planning, preparedness, and response.
2. The SEP will involve the following:
 - a. At the Nebraska facility, Respondent will remove the two Cornell pumps currently installed on the existing recirculators and the replace them with two “seal-less” Teikoku Pumps sized to provide the maximum capacity of the recirculators at design conditions.
 - b. At the Minnesota facility, Respondent will remove the four Cornell Pumps currently installed on the existing recirculators and the replace them with four “seal-less” Teikoku Pumps sized to provide the maximum capacity of the recirculators at design conditions.
3. In particular, the work will involve the following:
 - a. **Nebraska facility**
 - i. Removal of the two Cornell Pumps currently installed on the existing recirculators.
 - ii. Provision and installation of two “seal-less” Teikoku Pumps sized to provide the maximum capacity of the recirculators at design conditions.
 - iii. The scope of work includes the new equipment, the installation of the new equipment, removal of existing equipment, materials, labor, insulation, piping, freight, rental and crane, and pressure testing.

b. **Minnesota facility**

- i. Removal of the four Cornell Pumps currently installed on the existing recirculators.
 - ii. The installation of four “seal-less” Teikoku Pumps sized to provide the maximum capacity of the recirculators at design conditions.
 - iii. The scope of work includes the new equipment, the installation of the new equipment, removal of existing equipment, materials, labor, insulation, piping, freight, rental and crane, and pressure testing.
4. Within six (6) months from the effective date of this CAFO, Respondent agrees that it will have completed installation of the SEP at both the Nebraska facility and the Minnesota facility.
 5. Within seven (7) months from the effective date of this CAFO, Respondent agrees that it will submit to EPA a SEP Completion Report, which includes all elements required by the CAFO.