



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 5  
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD  
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590  
May 20, 2021

**ELECTRONIC MAIL  
DELIVERY RECEIPT REQUESTED**

Mr. Jason Lowry  
Vice President of Operations  
Michigan Sugar Company  
2600 South Euclid Avenue  
Bay City, Michigan 48706  
[Jason.Lowry@Michigansugar.com](mailto:Jason.Lowry@Michigansugar.com)

Re: Consent Agreement and Final Order  
Michigan Sugar Company (EPA I.D. No.: MID005355607)  
Docket No: **RCRA-05-2021-0030**

Dear Mr. Lowry:

Attached please find a copy of the signed, fully executed Consent Agreement and Final Order (CAFO) in resolution of the above case. The original was filed on May 20, 2021, with the Regional Hearing Clerk (RHC).

Please pay the civil penalty in the amount of \$22,942 in the manner prescribed in paragraph 35 of the CAFO and reference all checks with the docket number RCRA-05-2021-0030.

Your payment is due within 30 calendar days of the effective date of the CAFO. Thank you for your cooperation in resolving this matter.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Todd Brown, of my staff, at [brown.todd@epa.gov](mailto:brown.todd@epa.gov) or (312) 886-6091.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL  
CUNNINGHAM

Digitally signed by  
MICHAEL CUNNINGHAM  
Date: 2021.05.10 13:03:10  
-05'00'

Michael Cunningham, Chief  
RCRA Compliance Section 1

Attachment

cc: Alexandra Clark, Michigan EGLE ([clarka37@michigan.gov](mailto:clarka37@michigan.gov))  
Lonnie Lee, Michigan EGLE ([leel@michigan.gov](mailto:leel@michigan.gov))  
Liz Browne, Michigan EGLE ([brownee@michigan.gov](mailto:brownee@michigan.gov))  
Matthew Eugster, Varnum LLP ([mbeugster@varnumlaw.com](mailto:mbeugster@varnumlaw.com))

**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 5**

|                               |   |  |
|-------------------------------|---|--|
| <b>In the Matter of:</b>      | ) | <b>Docket No. RCRA-05-2021-0030</b>          |
|                               | ) |  |
| Michigan Sugar Company        | ) | <b>Consent Agreement and Final Order</b>     |
| Bay City, Michigan            | ) | <b>Under Section 3008(a) of the Resource</b> |
|                               | ) | <b>Conservation and Recovery Act,</b>        |
| U.S. EPA ID No.: MID005355607 | ) | <b>42 U.S.C. § 6928(a)</b>                   |
|                               | ) |  |
| <b>Respondent.</b>            | ) |  |
| <hr style="width: 100%;"/>    | ) |  |

**Consent Agreement and Final Order**

**Preliminary Statement**

1. This is an administrative action commenced and concluded under Section 3008(a) of the Solid Waste Disposal Act, as amended, also known as the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), 42 U.S.C. § 6928(a), and Sections 22.13(b) and 22.18(b)(2) and (3) of the Consolidated Rules of Practice Governing the Administrative Assessment of Civil Penalties and the Revocation/Termination or Suspension of Permits (Consolidated Rules) as codified at 40 C.F.R. Part 22.

2. The Complainant is the Director of the Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division, United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA), Region 5.

3. Respondent is Michigan Sugar Company, a corporation doing business in the State of Michigan.

4. U.S. EPA provided notice of this action to the State of Michigan pursuant to Section 3008(a)(2) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6928(a)(2).

5. Where the parties agree to settle one or more causes of action before the filing of a complaint, the administrative action may be commenced and concluded simultaneously by the

issuance of a consent agreement and final order (CAFO). 40 C.F.R. § 22.13(b).

6. The parties agree that settling this action without the filing of a complaint or the adjudication of any issue of fact or law is in their interest and in the public interest.

**Jurisdiction and Waiver of Right to Hearing**

7. Jurisdiction for this action is conferred upon U.S. EPA by Sections 3006 and 3008 of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 6926 and 6928.

8. Respondent admits the jurisdictional allegations in this CAFO and neither admits nor denies the factual allegations in this CAFO.

9. Respondent waives its right to request a hearing as provided at 40 C.F.R. § 22.15(c), any right to contest the allegations in this CAFO, and its right to appeal this CAFO.

**Statutory and Regulatory Background**

10. Pursuant to Sections 3002-3005 of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 6922-6925, U.S. EPA promulgated regulations codified at 40 C.F.R. Parts 260 through 279, governing generators and transporters of hazardous waste and facilities that treat, store, and dispose of hazardous waste.

11. Pursuant to Section 3006 of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6926, U.S. EPA may authorize a state to administer the RCRA hazardous waste program in lieu of the federal program when the Administrator finds that the state program meets certain conditions.

12. Any violation of regulations promulgated pursuant to Subtitle C or any state provision authorized pursuant to Section 3006 of RCRA constitutes a violation of RCRA, subject to the assessment of civil penalties and issuance of compliance orders as provided in Section 3008 of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6928.

13. Pursuant to Section 3006(b) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6926(b), the Administrator of U.S. EPA granted the State of Michigan final authorization to administer a state hazardous waste program in lieu of the federal government's base RCRA program effective October 30, 1986. 51 Fed. Reg. 36804 (October 16, 1986).

14. Under Section 3008(a) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6928(a), U.S. EPA may issue an order assessing a civil penalty for any past or current violation, requiring compliance immediately or within a specified period, or both.

#### **Factual Allegations**

15. Respondent was and is a "person" as defined by Mich. Admin. Code r. 299.9106(i), and Section 1004(15) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6903(15).

16. Respondent is an "owner" or "operator," as those terms are defined under Mich. Admin. Code. r. 299.9106(f) and (g) of a facility located at 2600 S Euclid Avenue, Bay City, Michigan, 48706 (Facility).

17. At all times relevant to this Complaint, Respondent's Facility consisted of land and structures, other appurtenances, and improvements on the land, used for treating, storing, or disposing of hazardous waste.

18. Respondent's Facility is a "facility," as that term is defined under Mich. Admin. Code r. 299.9203.

19. Respondent's actions and processes at the facility cause the production of "hazardous waste," as that term is defined under Mich. Admin. Code r. 299.9203.

20. Respondent is a "generator" of hazardous waste, as that term is defined under Mich. Admin. Code r. 299.9104(b).

21. Since at least 2017, Respondent generated 1000 kilograms or greater of hazardous

waste in some calendar months (qualifying it as a “Large Quantity Generator”), which it shipped off-site to a treatment, storage or disposal facility within the United States.

22. On April 7, 2021, U.S. EPA sent to Respondent a Notice of Potential RCRA Violations and Opportunity for Settlement.

23. The Notice letter identified potential RCRA violations, and an option and timeline for resolution of the matter through a streamlined settlement process.

24. The goal of the streamlined settlement process is to quickly and efficiently assess and resolve the matter, bring the facility into compliance, and enter into an agreed upon CAFO.

25. Thereafter, Respondent engaged with U.S. EPA to expeditiously assess the matter agree to the entry of this CAFO.

### **Alleged Violations**

#### **Count I: Biennial Reporting**

26. Complainant incorporates paragraphs 1 through 25 of this CAFO as though set forth in this paragraph.

27. Pursuant to Mich. Admin. Code r. 299.9308(1), a generator of more than 1,000 kilograms of hazardous waste must provide to the director or the director’s designee the data necessary for the department to prepare and submit Michigan’s hazardous waste report as required. A Biennial Report is due by March 1 of each numbered year.

28. In 2018 and 2020, Respondent did not prepare and submit a biennial report to the State of Michigan by March 1 for the preceding calendar year, in violation of Mich. Admin. Code r. 299.9308(1).

### **Compliance Order**

29. Pursuant to Section 3008(a)(3) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6928(a)(3), Respondent is

hereby ordered to comply with the following requirements as expeditiously as possible and no later than 30 days from the effective date of this CAFO.

30. Respondent shall file with Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) Biennial Hazardous Waste Reports covering the years 2017 and 2019.

31. Respondent shall submit the following certification to U.S. EPA that is has complied with the requirements in paragraphs 29 and 30, above:

I certify under the penalty of law that based on my review of all relevant information and documents, and inquiring of those individuals immediately responsible for providing all relevant information and documents, Michigan Sugar Company is in compliance with the requirements of this Compliance Order. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment.

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature and Title \_\_\_\_\_

32. If unable to certify compliance in paragraph 31, Respondent shall submit notification explaining why it is unable to comply, the actions it is taking to comply, and a proposed date that it will comply.

33. Respondent shall submit all certifications and notifications required under the Compliance Order to:

Land Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Branch  
Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division  
U.S. EPA, Region 5  
R5lecab@epa.gov

And  
Todd Brown  
Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division  
U.S. EPA, Region 5  
brown.todd@epa.gov

**Civil Penalty Order**

34. Pursuant to Section 3008(a)(3) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6928(a)(3), Complainant determined that an appropriate civil penalty to settle this action is \$22,942. In determining the penalty amount, Complainant took into account the above Factual Allegations, the seriousness of the violations, any good faith efforts to comply with the applicable requirements, and other factors as justice may require. Complainant also considered U.S. EPA's RCRA Civil Penalty Policy, dated June 23, 2003.

35. Within 30 days after the effective date of this CAFO, Respondent must pay a \$22,942 civil penalty for the RCRA violations by:

*For checks sent by regular U.S. Postal Service mail*, sending a cashier's or certified check, payable to "Treasurer, United States of America," to:

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

The check must state Respondent's name and the docket number of this CAFO.

*For checks sent by express mail*, sending a cashier's or certified check, payable to "Treasurer, United States of America," to:

U.S. Bank  
Government Lockbox 979077  
U.S. EPA Fines and Penalties  
1005 Convention Plaza  
Mail Station SL-MO-C2-GL  
St. Louis, Missouri 63101

The check must state Respondent's name and the docket number of this CAFO.

*For electronic funds transfer*, sending funds electronically, payable to "Treasurer, United States of America," and to:

Federal Reserve Bank of New York  
ABA No. 021030004  
Account No. 68010727  
33 Liberty Street  
New York, New York 10045  
Field Tag 4200 of the Fedwire message should read:  
“D 68010727 Environmental Protection Agency”

In the comment or description field of the electronic funds transfer, state Respondent’s name and the docket number of this CAFO.

36. Respondent must send a notice of payment that states Respondent’s name and the case docket number to EPA at the following addresses when it pays the penalty:

Regional Hearing Clerk (E-19J)  
U.S. EPA, Region 5  
77 West Jackson Boulevard  
Chicago, Illinois 60604  
Or via email at [Whitehead.ladawn@epa.gov](mailto:Whitehead.ladawn@epa.gov)

Land Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Branch  
Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division  
U.S. EPA, Region 5  
[R5lecab@epa.gov](mailto:R5lecab@epa.gov)

Todd Brown  
Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division  
U.S. EPA, Region 5  
[Brown.todd@epa.gov](mailto:Brown.todd@epa.gov)

Eaton Weiler  
Office of Regional Counsel  
U.S. EPA, Region 5  
[weiler.eaton@epa.gov](mailto:weiler.eaton@epa.gov)

37. This civil penalty is not deductible for federal tax purposes.

38. If Respondent does not timely pay the civil penalty, U.S. EPA may bring an action to collect any unpaid portion of the penalty with interest, handling charges, nonpayment penalties, and the United States enforcement expenses for the collection action. The validity, amount, and appropriateness of the civil penalty are not reviewable in a collection action.



39. Pursuant to 31 C.F.R. § 901.9, Respondent must pay the following on any amount overdue under this CAFO. Interest will accrue on any amount overdue from the date payment was due at a rate established by the Secretary of the Treasury pursuant to 31 U.S.C. § 3717(a)(1). Respondent must pay a \$15 handling charge each month that any portion of the penalty is more than 30 days past due. In addition, Respondent must pay a 6 percent per year penalty on any principal amount 90 days past due.

### **General Provisions**

40. Respondent certifies that it is complying fully with the statutory and regulatory provisions alleged violated in this CAFO.

41. The parties consent to service of this CAFO by e-mail at the following valid e-mail addresses: weiler.eaton@epa.gov (for Complainant), and Jason.Lowry@Michigansugar.com (for Respondent).

42. This CAFO resolves only Respondent's liability for federal civil penalties for the violations alleged in the CAFO.

43. This CAFO does not affect the right of U.S. EPA or the United States to pursue appropriate injunctive or other equitable relief or criminal sanctions for any violations of law.

44. Payment of the civil penalty does not affect Respondent's continuing obligation to comply with RCRA and other applicable federal, state, local laws or permits.

45. This CAFO is a "final order" for purposes of 40 C.F.R. § 22.31, U.S. EPA's RCRA Civil Penalty Policy, and U.S. EPA's Hazardous Waste Civil Enforcement Response Policy (December 2003).

46. The terms of this CAFO bind Respondent, its successors, and assigns.

47. Each person signing this agreement certifies that he or she has the authority to sign

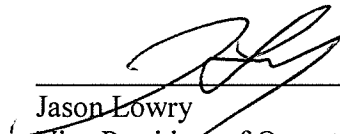
for the party whom he or she represents and to bind that party to its terms.

48. Each party agrees to bear its own costs and attorney's fees in this action.

49. This CAFO constitutes the entire agreement between the parties.


**Michigan Sugar Company, Respondent**

5/6/2021  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jason Lowry  
Vice President of Operations  
Michigan Sugar Company

**United States Environmental Protection Agency, Complainant**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**MICHAEL  
HARRIS**  Digitally signed by  
MICHAEL HARRIS  
Date: 2021.05.18  
09:50:35 -05'00'

\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael D. Harris  
Division Director  
Enforcement and Compliance Assurance  
Division

**In the Matter of:**  
**Michigan Sugar Company**  
**Docket No. RCRA-05-2021-0030**

**Final Order**

This Consent Agreement and Final Order, as agreed to by the parties, shall become effective immediately upon filing with the Regional Hearing Clerk. This Final Order concludes this proceeding pursuant to 40 C.F.R. §§ 22.18 and 22.31. IT IS SO ORDERED.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**ANN COYLE** Digitally signed by ANN  
COYLE  
Date: 2021.05.18  
15:59:03 -05'00'

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ann L. Coyle  
Regional Judicial Officer  
United States Environmental Protection Agency  
Region 5

**CONSENT AGREEMENT AND FINAL ORDER**  
**In the matter of Michigan Sugar Company, Bay City Michigan.**  
**Docket Number:** RCRA-05-2021-0030

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify that I served a true and correct copy of the foregoing **Consent Agreement and Final Order**, docket number RCRA-05-2021-0030, which was filed on May 20, 2021 in the following manner to the following addresses:

Copy by E-mail to  
Respondent:

Mr. Jason Lowry, Vice President of Operations  
[Jason.Lowry@Michigansugar.com](mailto:Jason.Lowry@Michigansugar.com)

Copy by E-mail to  
Attorney for Complainant:

Eaton Weiler  
[Weiler.Eaton@epa.gov](mailto:Weiler.Eaton@epa.gov)

Copy by E-mail to  
Attorney for Respondent:

Matthew B. Eugster  
[mbeugster@varnumlaw.com](mailto:mbeugster@varnumlaw.com)

Copy by E-mail to  
RCRA CS1 Contact:

Todd Brown  
[brown.todd@epa.gov](mailto:brown.todd@epa.gov)

Copy by E-mail to  
Regional Judicial Officer:

Ann Coyle  
[coyle.ann@epa.gov](mailto:coyle.ann@epa.gov)

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
LaDawn Whitehead  
Regional Hearing Clerk  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Region 5