UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY BEFORE THE ADMINISTRATOR

Lowell Vos d/b/a Lowell Vos Feedlot))) Docket No. CWA-07-2007-0078
) Docket No. CWA-07-2007-0078
Respondent)

PREHEARING ORDER

As you have been previously notified, I have been designated to preside in the above captioned matter. This proceeding arises under the authority of Section 309(g) of the Clean Water Act ("Act"), 33 U.S.C. § 1319(g). The Environmental Protection Agency ("Agency" or "EPA") Consolidated Rules of Practice ("Rules"), applicable in this administrative enforcement proceeding, are found in 40 C.F.R. Part 22.

As provided in the Rules, § 22.18(a), it is the Agency's policy to encourage settlement of proceedings without the necessity of a formal hearing. However, the continuation of settlement negotiations will not provide good cause for not meeting the following schedule set in this Prehearing Order.

The schedule can now be set for the filing of prehearing exchanges under 40 C.F.R. § 22.19 in accord with the following procedure:

- 1. Each Party shall submit a list of all expert and other witnesses it intends to call with a brief narrative summary of their expected testimony; and copies of all documents and exhibits it intends to introduce into evidence. The exhibits should include a resume for each proposed expert witness.
- 2. The Complainant shall submit a statement explaining in detail how the proposed penalty amount was determined, including a description of how the specific provisions of any EPA penalty or enforcement policies or guidelines were applied in calculating the penalty.
- 3. The Respondent is directed to clarify whether its defense admits liability but challenges the appropriateness of the penalty sought by EPA.
- 4. If the Respondent intends to take the position that it is unable to pay the proposed penalty, or that payment will have an adverse effect on Respondents' ability to continue in business, Respondent shall furnish supporting documentation such as financial statements or tax returns.

- 5. The Complainant shall submit a statement on the applicability of the Paperwork Reduction Act ("PRA"), 44 U.S.C. § 3501 et seq., to this proceeding, including whether there is a current Office of Management and Budget control number involved and whether the provisions of Section 3512 of the PRA may apply to this case.
- 6. Each party shall submit its views on the place for the hearing pursuant to § 22.21(d) and 22.19(d) of the Rules. Each party should also indicate when they would be available for the hearing, and give an estimate of the time needed to present its direct case.

The Parties must simultaneously make their initial prehearing exchanges by Monday, April 7, 2008 If Respondent does not intend to present a direct case, but does wish to cross-examine Complainant's witnesses, it must submit a statement to that effect instead of a prehearing exchange. After the initial exchanges, the parties may file supplements to their prehearing exchanges (including any reply or rebuttal material), without motion, until 30 days before the date scheduled for the hearing. For all motions and post-hearing briefs, in addition to the paper filings required under the Rules, the parties are also to submit such filings on a CD so that the court may efficiently copy relevant portions from those documents into any orders and decisions it may issue. CD versions should not have commands in documents which hinder the ability to cut and past from them.

Upon completion of the prehearing exchanges, the parties are directed to confer with one another in order to determine those issues which remain genuinely in dispute, so that the hearing may be focused on such matters. The parties shall then submit a statement to me identifying those issues.

The original and one copy of all filings, with attachments, shall be sent to the Regional Hearing Clerk, and copies sent to the opposing party and the Administrative Law Judge.

William B. Moran

U.S. Administrative Law Judge

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Dated: February 6, 2008 Washington, D.C.

If sending by:

Fed Ex, UPS or any type of Courier service

Judge William B. Moran
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Administrative Law Judges
Franklin Court Building
1099 14th Street N.W. Suite 350
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In the Matter of <u>Lowell Vos d/b/a Lowell Vos Feedlot</u> Docket No. CWA-07-2007-0078

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that the foregoing **Prehearing Order**, dated February 6, 2008 was sent in the following manner to the addressees listed below.

Knolyn R. Jones

Legal Staff Assistant

Dated: February 6, 2008

Original and One Copy by Pouch Mail to:

Kathy Robinson Regional Hearing Clerk U.S. EPA 901 North 5th Street Kansas City, KS 66101

Copy by Facsimile and Pouch Mail to:

J. Daniel Breedlove, Esq. Assistant Regional Counsel U.S. EPA 901 North 5th Street Kansas City, KS 66101

Copy by Facsimile and Regular Mail to:

Eldon McAfee, Esq. Beving, Swanson & Forrest, P.C. 321 E. Walnut St., Suite 200 Des Moines, IA 50309