

FILED

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

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REGION 6

**REGIONAL HEARING CLERK
EPA REGION 6**

DALLAS, TEXAS 75270

In the Matter of

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Cooper Consolidated, LLC

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Docket No. RCRA-06-2025-0976

§

§

Respondent

§

EXPEDITED SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT AND FINAL ORDER

1. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6 ("EPA") is authorized to enter into this Expedited Settlement Agreement ("Agreement") pursuant to Section 3008 of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act ("RCRA"), 42 U.S.C. § 6928 and 40 C.F.R. § 22.13(b).

2. By copy of this letter, EPA is providing the state of Louisiana with notice of the referenced violations of Subtitle C of RCRA as required by Section 3008(a)(2), 42 U.S.C. § 6928(a)(2).

3. Cooper Consolidated, LLC ("Cooper" or "Respondent") is the owner or operator of the facility at 5619 665-LA-628, LaPlace, LA 70068 (the "Facility"). EPA conducted a Compliance Inspection at the Facility on April 23, 2025. EPA alleges that Respondent violated the following requirements of the RCRA and the EPA approved and authorized Louisiana hazardous waste management programs:

I. Failure to Meet Standards for Used Oil Storage

- a. Pursuant to LAC.ADMIN.CODE 33:V.4013.C.1, [40 C.F.R. § 279.22(b)(1)],
containers used to store used oil at generator facilities must be in good

condition without severe rusting, apparent structural defects or deterioration. On April 23, 2025, a 55-gallon drum of used oil was observed inside the facility that had visible structural damage, in violation of 40 C.F.R. § 279.22(b)(1).

II. Failure to Meet Standards for Universal Waste Management

- a. Pursuant to LAC.ADMIN.CODE 33: V.3823, [40 C.F.R. § 273.14(e)], requires that each universal waste lamp or a container or package in which such lamps are contained must be labeled or marked clearly with one of the following phrases: "Universal Waste—Lamp(s)," or "Waste Lamp(s)," or "Used Lamp(s)." On April 23, 2025, a bundle of universal waste lamps was observed inside the facility and were not labeled or clearly marked, in violation of 40 C.F.R. § 273.14(e).
- b. Pursuant to LAC.ADMIN.CODE 33: V.3821(D)(1), [40 C.F.R. § 273.13(d)(1)], requires small quantity handlers to contain any lamps in containers or packages that are structurally sound to prevent breakage. The containers must remain close and must lack evidence of leakage, spillage or damage that could cause leakage. On April 23, 2025, an open box of universal waste lamps was observed inside the facility, in violation of 40 C.F.R. § 273.13(d)(1).
- c. Pursuant to LAC.ADMIN.CODE 33: V.3825.C, [40 C.F.R. § 273.15(c)], requires small quantity handlers to demonstrate the length of time that the universal waste has been accumulated from the date it becomes waste or received. On April 23, 2025, Cooper failed to provide an accumulation start date for the

universal waste lamps observed inside the facility, in violation of 40 C.F.R. § 273.15(c)].

4. EPA and Respondent agree that settlement of this matter for a civil penalty of \$2,500 is in the public interest.

5. In signing this Agreement, Respondent: (1) admits that Respondent is subject to RCRA and its implementing regulations; (2) admits that EPA has jurisdiction over Respondent and Respondent's conduct as alleged herein; (3) neither admits nor denies the factual allegations contained herein; (4) consents to the assessment of this penalty; (5) waives the opportunity for a hearing to contest any issue of fact or law set forth herein; (6) waives its right to appeal the Final Order accompanying this Agreement pursuant to Section 3008(b) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6928(b); and (7) consents to electronic service of the filed ESA.

6. Within thirty (30) calendar days of the effective date of this Agreement, Respondent must pay the civil penalty of \$2,500 using any method provided on the following website: <https://www.epa.gov/financial/makepayment>. Such payment shall identify Respondent by name and include the docket number assigned to this Agreement by the Regional Hearing Clerk.

7. Within 24 hours of payment, email proof of payment (e.g., a copy of the check, confirmation of credit card or debit card payment, or confirmation of wire or automated clearinghouse transfer, and any other information required to demonstrate that payment has been made according to EPA requirements), including Respondent's name, complete address, and docket number to the following:

Sandesh Thapa
U.S. EPA, Region 6
thapa.sandesh@epa.gov

U.S. EPA, Region 6 Hearing Clerk
vaughn.loreana@epa.gov

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Cincinnati Finance Center
CINWD_AcctsReceivable@epa.gov

8. No portion of the civil penalty or interest paid by Respondent pursuant to the requirements of this Expedited Settlement and Final Order shall be claimed by Respondent as a deduction for federal, state or local income tax purposes.

9. By signing this Agreement, Respondent waives any rights or defenses that Respondent has or may have for this matter to be resolved in federal court, including but not limited to any right to a jury trial, and waives any right to challenge the lawfulness of the final order accompanying the Agreement.

10. By its signature below Respondent certifies, subject to civil and criminal penalties for making a false submission to the United States Government, that the alleged violations have been corrected and Respondent has submitted true and accurate documentation of such correction.

11. The undersigned representative of Respondent certifies that he or she is fully authorized to enter the terms and conditions of this Expedited Settlement Agreement and Final Order and to execute and legally bind Respondent to it. Upon the effective date of this Agreement, payment of the civil penalty shall constitute full settlement of the civil claims alleged herein.

12. Full payment of the civil penalty shall only resolve Respondent's liability for federal civil penalties for the violations alleged herein. EPA reserves all of its rights to take an enforcement action for any other past, present, or future violations by Respondent of RCRA, any other

federal statute or regulation, or this Agreement.

13. Each party shall bear its own costs and fees, if any.

14. This Agreement is binding on the parties signing below, and in accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 22.31(b), is effective upon filing.

15. This Agreement authorized by EPA's execution of the Final Order attached hereto constitutes a final order under 40 C.F.R. Part 22.

16. EPA and Respondent agree to the use of electronic signatures for this matter pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 22.6. The EPA and Respondent further agree to electronic service of this Agreement by email to the following:

To EPA: murdock.russell@epa.gov and thapa.sandesh@epa.gov

To Respondent: blaine.petite@cooperconsolidated.com

RESPONDENT:
Cooper Consolidated, LLC

Date: 9/10/25

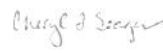

Signature

BLAINE PETTÉ
Name

ENVIRONMENTAL DIRECTOR
Title

COMPLAINANT:
U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Date: September 23, 2025


Digitally signed by CHERYL
SEAGER
Date: 2025.09.23 09:20:31
-05'00'
Cheryl T. Seager
Director
Enforcement
and Compliance Assurance Division
U.S. EPA, Region 6

FINAL ORDER

Pursuant to the authority of Section 3008(a) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. §6928(a), 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 Expedited Settlement 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 Expedited Settlement Agreement. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 22.31(b), the effective date of the foregoing Expedited Settlement Agreement and this Final Order is the date on which this Final Order is filed with the Regional Hearing Clerk.

This Final Order shall resolve only those causes of action alleged in the Expedited Settlement Agreement. Nothing in this Final Order shall be construed to waive, extinguish, or otherwise affect Respondents' (or its officers, agents, servants, employees, successors, or assigns) obligation to comply with all applicable federal, state, and local statutes and regulations, including the regulations that were the subject of this action.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

THOMAS
RUCKI

Digitally signed by
THOMAS RUCKI
Date: 2025.09.24
08:09:33 -04'00'

Thomas Rucki
Regional Judicial Officer, Region 6

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Expedited Settlement Agreement and Final Order was filed with me, the Regional Hearing Clerk, U.S. EPA - Region 6, 1201 Elm Street, Suite 500, Dallas, Texas 75270-2102, and that I sent a true and correct copy on this day in the following manner to the email addresses below:

Copy via Email to Complainant:

Russell Murdock
U.S. EPA, Region 6
murdock.russell@epa.gov

Sandesh Thapa
U.S. EPA, Region 6
thapa.sandesh@epa.gov

Copy via Email to Respondent:

Blaine Petite
blaine.petite@cooperconsolidated.com
Cooper Consolidated, LLC
5619 665-LA-628
LaPlace, LA 70068



U.S. EPA, Region 6
Regional Hearing Clerk