

**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 1**

IN THE MATTER OF:)	
)	
Howard Gross)	Order Granting Fourth Extension
466 Central Avenue, Suite 9)	of Time to File Answer to
Dover, New Hampshire,)	the Complaint
)	
Respondent.)	EPA Docket No.
)	TSCA-01-2019-0050
)	
)	

ORDER

In accordance with 40 C.F.R. §§ 22.7(b) and 22.16(c), for good cause shown, Respondent is granted a fourth, 60-day extension of time to file an answer to the complaint. Respondent represents that Complainant has assented to this request.

Pursuant to the Consolidated Rules of Practice at 40 C.F.R. Part 22, the original deadline for the submission of an answer has been delayed by approximately five months. See 40 C.F.R. § 22.15(a). As stated in my previous order granting a third extension, absent extraordinary circumstances, I would not grant any additional extensions of time for the submission of an answer. Since granting the third extension, however, governmental, academic, private non-profit and commercial activities have been extremely curtailed as the result of the pandemic caused by the COVID-19 virus. Respondent states that because his ability to earn income has been “almost entirely cut-off” by the response to this pandemic, he requires additional time to determine his financial ability to pay the penalty that will be imposed by the settlement of this matter.

Accordingly, because the requested 60-day extension would end on Saturday, May 30th, the deadline for Respondent to file an answer to the complaint is extended until the close of business on Monday, June 1, 2020.

SO ORDERED:

LeAnn Jensen
Regional Judicial Officer, U.S. EPA Region 1