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#### BEFORE THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

In the Matter of:

**Black Butte Construction, Inc.** 

Emmett, Idaho

Respondent.

# DOCKET NO. TSCA-10-2017-0158

**CONSENT AGREEMENT** 

### I. STATUTORY AUTHORITY

1.1. This Consent Agreement is issued under the authority vested in the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") by Section 16(a) of the Toxic Substances Control Act ("TSCA"), 15 U.S.C. § 2615(a).

1.2. Pursuant to Section 16(a) of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2615(a), and in accordance with the "Consolidated Rules of Practice Governing the Administrative Assessment of Civil Penalties," 40 C.F.R. Part 22, EPA issues, and Black Butte Construction, Inc. ("Respondent") agrees to issuance of, the Final Order attached to this Consent Agreement ("Final Order").

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## II. PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

2.1. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. §§ 22.13(b) and 22.18(b), issuance of this Consent Agreement commences this proceeding, which will conclude when the Final Order becomes effective.

2.2. The Director of the Office of Compliance and Enforcement, EPA Region 10
("Complainant") has been delegated the authority pursuant to Section 16(a) of TSCA, 15 U.S.C.
§ 2615(a), to sign consent agreements between EPA and the party against whom an administrative penalty for violations of TSCA is proposed to be assessed.

2.3. Part III of this Consent Agreement contains a concise statement of the factual and legal basis for the alleged violations of TSCA together with the specific provisions of TSCA and the implementing regulations that Respondent is alleged to have violated.

#### III. <u>ALLEGATIONS</u>

3.1. Section 409 of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2689, makes it unlawful for any person to fail to comply with, among other things, any rule promulgated pursuant to Section 402 of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2682. Pursuant to Section 402 of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2682, EPA has promulgated rules governing lead-based paint activities, including certification of individuals and firms for renovation and work practice standards for renovations. These rules are codified at 40 C.F.R. Part 745, Subpart E, Residential Property Renovation.

3.2. 40 C.F.R. Part 745, subpart E applies to all renovations performed for compensation in target housing.

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3.3. "Target housing" is defined at Section 401(17) of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2681(17), and 40 C.F.R. §§ 745.83 and 745.103, to mean "any housing constructed prior to 1978, except housing for the elderly or persons with disabilities . . . ."

3.4. "Person" is defined at 40 C.F.R. § 745.83 to mean "any natural or judicial person including any individual, corporation, partnership, or association . . . ."

3.5. "Firm" is defined at 40 C.F.R. § 745.83, to mean a "company, partnership, corporation, sole proprietorship or individual doing business, association, or other business entity . . . ."

3.6. "Renovation" is defined at 40 C.F.R. § 745.83 to mean "the modification of any existing structure, or portion thereof, that results in the disturbance of painted surfaces," including "scraping."

3.7. "Renovator" is defined at 40 C.F.R. § 745.83 to mean "an individual who either performs or directs workers to perform renovations. A certified renovator is a renovator who has successfully completed a renovator course accredited by EPA or an EPA authorized State or Tribal program."

3.8. Respondent is a corporation organized in the State of Idaho.

3.9. On September 22nd and 23rd, 2015, Respondent performed work for compensation at a house located at 805 North 17<sup>th</sup> Street, Boise, Idaho, which was built in 1910 (Black Butte Construction, Inc. Renovation).

3.10. The Black Butte Construction, Inc. Renovation included scraping paint which resulted in the disturbance of painted surfaces and paint chips falling to the ground.

3.11. Therefore, Respondent is a "renovator" who performed a "renovation" on "target housing," as these terms are as defined at 40 C.F.R. §§ 745.83 and 745.103. Respondent is also a "corporation," and therefore a "firm," as defined at 40 C.F.R. § 745.83.

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3.12. Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 745.89(d)(1) each firm performing renovations must ensure that all individuals performing renovation activities on behalf of the firm are either certified renovators or have been trained by a certified renovator.

3.13. Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 86(b)(6)(i) firms must retain documentation that a certified renovator provided on-the-job training to non-certified workers prior to the start of the renovation.

3.14. Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 745.85(a)(1) each firm must post signs clearly defining the work area and warning occupants and other persons not involved in renovation activities to remain outside of the work area.

3.15. Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 745.85(a)(2)(ii)(C) a firm conducting exterior renovations must "cover the ground with plastic sheeting or other disposable impermeable material extending ten feet beyond the perimeter of surfaces undergoing renovation or a sufficient distance to collect falling paint debris, whichever is greater."

3.16. Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 745.85(a)(4)(i) the renovation firm conducting the exterior renovation must contain waste from renovation activities to prevent releases of dust and debris before the waste is removed from the work area for storage or disposal.

# Violations at the Black Butte Construction, Inc.

#### Renovation

3.17. Respondent failed to ensure all individuals performing renovation activities on behalf of Respondent are either certified renovators or have been trained by a certified renovator, in violation of 40 C.F.R. § 745.89(d)(1).

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3.18. Respondent failed to retain documentation that on-the-job training was provided to non-certified renovators used on the renovation by the certified renovator assigned to the project, in violation of 40 C.F.R. § 745.86(b)(6)(i).

3.19. Respondent failed to post signs clearly defining the work area and warning occupants and other persons not involved in renovation activities to remain outside of the work area, in violation of 40 C.F.R. § 745.85(a)(1).

3.20. Respondent failed to cover the ground with plastic sheeting or other disposable impermeable material extending ten feet beyond the perimeter of surfaces undergoing renovation or a sufficient distance to collect falling paint debris, in violation of 40 C.F.R.

§ 745.85(a)(2)(ii)(C).

3.21. Respondent failed to contain waste from renovation activities to prevent releases of dust and debris before the waste is removed from the work area for storage or disposal, in violation of 40 C.F.R. §7 45.85(a)(4)(i).

### IV. TERMS OF SETTLEMENT

4.1. Respondent admits the jurisdictional allegations of this Consent Agreement.

4.2. Respondent neither admits nor denies the specific factual allegations contained in this Consent Agreement.

4.3. As required by Section 16(a)(2)(B) of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2615(a)(2)(B), EPA has taken into account the nature, circumstances, extent, and gravity of the violations, and with respect to Respondent, ability to pay, effect on ability to continue to do business, any history of prior such violations, the degree of culpability, and such other matters as justice may require.

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After considering these factors, EPA has determined and Respondent agrees that an appropriate penalty to settle this action is **\$5,418.** (the "Assessed Penalty").

4.4. Respondent agrees to pay the Assessed Penalty and interest according to the payment schedule in Attachment A to this Consent Agreement and Final Order.

4.5. Payments under this Consent Agreement and Final Order may be paid by check (mail or overnight delivery), wire transfer, ACH, or online payment. Payment instructions are available at: <u>http://www2.epa.gov/financial/makepayment</u>. Payments made by a cashier's check or certified check must be payable to the order of "Treasurer, United States of America" and delivered to the following address:

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

Respondent must note on the check the title and docket number of this action.

4.6. Concurrently with payment, Respondent must serve photocopies of each check, or proof of other payment method, described in Paragraph 4.5 on the Regional Hearing Clerk and EPA Region 10 at the following addresses:

Regional Hearing Clerk U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 10, Mail Stop ORC-113 1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900 Seattle, Washington 98101 Young.Teresa@epa.gov Kim Farnham U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 10, Mail Stop OCE-101 1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900 Seattle, Washington 98101 Farnham.Kim@epa.gov

4.7. If Respondent fails to pay any portion of the Assessed Penalty or interest by this

Consent Agreement and the Final Order in full by its due dates, the entire unpaid balance of

penalty and accrued interest shall become immediately due and owing. If such a failure to pay

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occurs, Respondent may be subject to a civil action to collect the Assessed Penalty under Section 16(a)(4) of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2615(a)(4). In any collection action, the validity, amount, and appropriateness of the Assessed Penalty are not subject to review.

4.8. If Respondent fails to pay any portion of the Assessed Penalty or interest in full by its due dates, Respondent shall be responsible for payment of interest on any unpaid portion of the Assessed Penalty at the rate established by the Secretary of the Treasury pursuant to 31 U.S.C. § 3717(a)(1) from the effective date of the Final Order contained herein, provided, however, that no interest shall be payable on any portion of the Assessed Penalty that is paid within 30 days of the effective date of the Final Order contained herein.

4.9. The Assessed Penalty and interest, including any additional costs incurred under Paragraph 4.8, represents an administrative civil penalty assessed by EPA and shall not be deductible for purposes of federal taxes.

4.10. The undersigned representative of Respondent certifies that he or she is authorized to enter into the terms and conditions of this Consent Agreement and to bind Respondent to this document.

4.11. The undersigned representative of Respondent also certifies that, as of the date of Respondent's signature of this Consent Agreement, Respondent has corrected the violation(s) alleged in Part III.

4.12. Except as described in Paragraph 4.8, each party shall bear its own costs and attorneys' fees in bringing or defending this action.

4.13. For the purposes of this proceeding, Respondent expressly waives any right to contest the allegations contained in this Consent Agreement and to appeal the Final Order.

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Respondent expressly waives the notice requirement and its opportunity to request a hearing on the Final Order pursuant to Section 16(a)(2) of TSCA, 15 U.S.C. § 2615(a)(2).

4.14. The provisions of this Consent Agreement and the Final Order shall bind Respondent and its agents, servants, employees, successors, and assigns.

4.15. The above provisions in Part IV are STIPULATED AND AGREED upon by Respondent and EPA Region 10.

DATED:

DATED:

9/7/2017

FOR RESPONDENT:

Barrie Mackinnon, Owner Black Butte Construction, Inc.

FOR COMPLAINANT:

EDWARD J. KOWALSKI, Director Office of Compliance and Enforcement EPA Region 10

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## BEFORE THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

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In the Matter of:		
Black Butte Cons	struction, Inc.	
Emmett, Idaho		
	Respondent.	

# DOCKET NO. TSCA-10-2017-0158

FINAL ORDER

1.1. The Administrator has delegated the authority to issue this Final Order to the Regional Administrator of EPA Region 10, who has redelegated this authority to the Regional Judicial Officer in EPA Region 10.

1.2. The terms of the foregoing Consent Agreement are ratified and incorporated by reference into this Final Order. Respondent is ordered to comply with the terms of settlement.

1.3. The Consent Agreement and this Final Order constitute a settlement by EPA of all claims for civil penalties under TSCA for the violations alleged in Part III of the Consent Agreement. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 22.31(a), nothing in this Final Order shall affect the right of EPA or the United States to pursue appropriate injunctive or other equitable relief or criminal sanctions for any violations of law. This Final Order does not waive, extinguish, or otherwise affect Respondent's obligations to comply with all applicable provisions of TSCA and regulations promulgated or permits issued thereunder.

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### ATTACHMENT A

# PAYMENT SCHEDULE FOR BLACK BUTTE CONSTRUCTION, INC.

Payment Due Date	Total Payment Due
1st Payment within 30 days of the Settlement:	\$1,000
2nd Payment - within 60 days after Settlement	\$885.81
3rd Payment - within 90 days after Settlement	\$885.81
4th Payment - within 120 days after Settlement	\$885.81
5th Payment - within 150 days after Settlement	\$885.81
6 <sup>th</sup> Payment - within 180 days after Settlement_	\$885.81
Total	\$5,429.05

The payment includes \$11.05 of interest. The current interest rate is the treasury current value of funds rate of 1%.

In the Matter of: Black Butte Construction, Inc. Consent Agreement and Final Order Docket No. EPCRA-10-2017-0158 1.4. This Final Order shall become effective upon filing with the Regional Hearing

Clerk.

day of eptember, 2017. SO ORDERED this 13'

M. SOCORRO RODRIGUEZ Regional Judicial Officer EPA Region 10

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#### Certificate of Service

The undersigned certifies that the original of the attached **CONSENT AGREEMENT AND FINAL ORDER, In the Matter of: Black Butte Construction, Inc., Docket No.: TSCA-10-2017-0158** was filed with the Regional Hearing Clerk and served on the addressees in the following manner on the date specified below:

The undersigned certifies that a true and correct copy of the document was delivered to:

Robert Hartman U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 10, Mail Stop OCE-113 1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900 Seattle, Washington 98101

Further, the undersigned certifies that a true and correct copy of the aforementioned document was placed in the United States mail certified/return receipt to:

Barrie Mackinnon Black Butte Construction Inc. P.O. Box 308 Horseshoe Bend, ID 83629

DATED this 13 day of September 2017.

TERESA YOUNG

Regional Hearing Clerk EPA Region 10