# BEFORE THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY **REGION III**

**CONSENT AGREEMENT** 

In Re:

Docket No. RCRA-03-2016-0225 Tanay, LLC. :

:

:

1243 Norview Avenue :

Norfolk, Virginia 23513

Swami, LLC. :

407 Lorton Court

Chesapeake, Virginia 23323

RESPONDENTS,

Proceeding under 9006 of

the Resource Conservation and Recovery **CITGO Norview Gas Station** : Act, as amended, 42 U.S.C. §§ 6991e 1243 Norview Avenue

Norfolk, Virginia 23513

FACILITY.

#### **CONSENT AGREEMENT**

This Consent Agreement ("CA") is entered into by the Director, Land and Chemicals Division, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III ("Complainant"), Tanay, LLC., and Swami, LLC. (collectively referred to as "Respondents") pursuant to Sections 9006 of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act ("RCRA"), as amended, 42 U.S.C. §§ 6991e, and the Consolidated Rules of Practice Governing the Administrative Assessment of Civil Penalties and the Revocation/Termination or Suspension of Permits ("Consolidated Rules"), 40 C.F.R. Part 22, including, specifically 40 C.F.R. §§ 22.18(b)(2) and (3).

This CA and the Final Order (collectively "CAFO"), resolve violations of RCRA Subtitle I, 42 U.S.C. §§ 6991-6991m, and the Commonwealth of Virgina's federally authorized underground storage tank program by Respondent in connection with its underground storage tanks at Respondents' facility located at 1243 Norview Avenue, Norfolk, Virginia (the "Facility").

Effective October 28, 1998, pursuant to Section 9004 of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6991c, and 40 C.F.R. Part 281, Subpart A, the Commonwealth of Virginia was granted final authorization to administer a state UST management program in lieu of the Federal underground storage tank management program established under Subtitle I of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 6991-6991m. The provisions of the Virginia UST management program, through these final authorizations, have become requirements of Subtitle I of RCRA and are, accordingly, enforceable by EPA pursuant to Section 9006 of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6991e. Virginia's authorized UST program regulations are

set forth in the Virginia Administrative Code as Underground Storage Tanks: Technical Standards and Corrective Action Requirements ("VA UST Regulations"), 9 VAC § 25-580-10 et seq.

## **GENERAL PROVISIONS**

- 1. For purposes of this proceeding only, Respondents admit to the jurisdictional allegations set forth in this CAFO.
- 2. Respondents neither admit nor deny the specific factual allegations, the alleged violations, and conclusions of law set forth in the Administrative Complaint, and Notice of Right to Request Hearing ("Complaint") filed against Respondents by Complainant on September 26, 2016, except as provided in Paragraph 1, above.
- 3. Respondents agree not to contest EPA's jurisdiction with respect to the execution of this Consent Agreement ("CA"), the issuance of the attached Final Order ("FO"), or the enforcement thereof.
- 4. For the purposes of this proceeding only, Respondents hereby expressly waive their right to a hearing on any issue of law or fact set forth in this CA and any right to appeal the accompanying FO.
- 5. Respondents consent to the issuance of this CAFO, and agree to comply with its terms and conditions set forth therein. The settlement agreed to by the parties in this CAFO reflects the desire of the parties to resolve this matter without litigation. This CAFO resolves whatever liability for civil penalties Respondents may have for the violations alleged in the factual allegations and conclusions of law set forth in the Complaint.
- 6. Respondents shall bear their own costs and attorney's fees.
- 7. The provisions of this CAFO shall be binding upon EPA, Respondents, and Respondents' officers, directors, employees, successors and assigns.
- 8. This CAFO shall not relieve Respondents of their obligation to comply with all applicable provisions of federal, state or local law, nor shall it be construed to be a ruling on, or determination of, any issue related to any federal, state or local permit, nor does this CAFO constitute a waiver, suspension or modification of the requirements of RCRA Subtitle I, 42 U.S.C. §§ 6991-6991m, or any regulations promulgated thereunder.
- 9. Complainant shall have the right to institute further actions to recover appropriate relief if Complainant obtains evidence that the information provided and/or representations made by Respondents to EPA regarding matters at issue in this CAFO are false or, in any material respect, inaccurate. Respondents are aware that the submission of false or misleading information to the United States government may subject Respondents to separate civil and/or criminal liability. Respondents reserves all available rights and defenses it may have, consistent with the terms of this CAFO, to defend itself in any such action.

10. EPA has given the Commonwealth of Virginia prior notice of the issuance of this CAFO in accordance with Section 9006(a)(2) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6991e(a)(2).

## FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

11. Complainant incorporates by reference the specific factual allegations, findings of fact and conclusions of law, set forth in the Complaint.

## **CIVIL PENALTY**

- 12. In settlement of Complainant's claims for civil penalties for the violations alleged in this CA, Respondents agree to pay a civil penalty in the amount of Forty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$45,000.00) which Respondents shall be liable to pay in accordance with the terms set forth below. Such civil penalty amount shall become due and payable immediately upon Respondents' receipt of a true and correct copy of this CAFO. If Respondents pay the entire penalty of \$45,000.00 within thirty (30) calendar days of the date on which this CAFO is mailed or hand-delivered to Respondents, no interest will be assessed against the Respondents pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 13.11(a)(1).
  - 13. The aforesaid settlement amount was based upon Complainant's consideration of a number of factors, including, but not limited to, the statutory factors of the seriousness of Respondents' violations and any good faith efforts by Respondents to comply with all applicable requirements as provided in RCRA Section 9006(c) and (e), 42 U.S.C. § 6991e(c) and (e), with specific reference to EPA's Penalty Guidance for Violations of UST Regulations ("UST Guidance") dated November 4, 1990. Complainant has also considered the appropriate Adjustment of Civil Monetary Penalties for Inflation, pursuant to 40 C.F.R. Part 19, and the July 27, 2016 memorandum by EPA Assistant Administrator Cynthia Giles, entitled Amendments to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Civil Penalty Policies to Account for Inflation (Effective August 1, 2016), including the Transmittal of the 2017 Annual Civil Monetary Penalty Inflation Adjustment Rule dated January 1, 2017 from Susan Shinkman, Director, Office of Civil Enforcement.
- 14. Respondents have asserted that it will not be able to pay the civil penalty amount in full within thirty (30) calendar days of the date on which this CAFO is mailed or hand-delivered. As a result, the Respondent has agreed to pay the civil penalty in the amount of Forty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$45,000.00) in twelve (12) equal monthly installments with interest at the rate of 1% per annum on the outstanding principal balance according to the following schedule:

1<sup>st</sup> payment is due within 30 days of the date on which the CAFO is mailed or hand-delivered to the Respondents = \$3,786.98;

2<sup>nd</sup> payment is due within 60 days of the date on which the CAFO is mailed or hand-delivered to the Respondents = \$3,783.90;

- 3<sup>rd</sup> payment is due within 90 days of the date on which the CAFO is mailed or hand-delivered to the Respondents = \$3,780.82;
- 4<sup>th</sup> payment is due within 120 days of the date on which the CAFO is mailed or hand-delivered to the Respondents = \$3,777.74;
- 5<sup>th</sup> payment is due within 150 days of the date on which the CAFO is mailed or hand-delivered to the Respondents = \$3,774.86;
- 6<sup>th</sup> payment is due within 180 days of the date on which the CAFO is mailed or hand-delivered to the Respondents = \$3,771.58;
- 7<sup>th</sup> payment is due within 210 days of the date on which the CAFO is mailed or hand-delivered to the Respondents = \$3,768.49;
- 8<sup>th</sup> payment is due within 240 days of the date on which the CAFO is mailed or hand-delivered to the Respondents = \$3,765.41;
- 9<sup>th</sup> payment is due within 270 days of the date on which the CAFO is mailed or hand-delivered to the Respondents = \$3,762.33;
- 10<sup>th</sup> payment is due within 300 days of the date on which the CAFO is mailed or hand-delivered to the Respondents = \$3,759.25;
- 11<sup>th</sup> payment is due within 330 days of the date on which the CAFO is mailed or hand-delivered to the Respondents = \$3,756.16; and
- 12<sup>th</sup> payment is due within 360 days of the date on which the CAFO is mailed or hand-delivered to the Respondents = \$3,753.08.
- 15. Under this proposed repayment schedule, the Respondents will pay the civil penalty of \$45,000.00 plus interest of \$240.60 as further outlined in the chart below:

Payment	Principal	Interest	Payment Amount Due
1	\$ 3,750.00	\$36.98	\$ 3,786.98
2	\$3,750.00	\$33.90	\$ 3,783.90
3	\$3,750.00	\$30.82	\$ 3,780.82
4	\$3,750.00	\$27.74	\$ 3,777.74

TOTAL:	\$45,000.00	\$240.60	\$45,240.60
12.	\$3,750.00	\$3.08	\$3,753.08
11	\$3,750.00	\$6.16	\$3,756.16
10	\$3,750.00	\$9.25	\$3,759.25
9	\$3,750.00	\$12.33	\$3,762.33
8	\$3,750.00	\$15.41	\$3,765.41
7	\$3,750.00	\$18.49	\$3,768.49
6	\$3,750.00	\$21.58	\$3,771.58
5	\$3,750.00	\$24.86	\$3,774.86

- 16. Respondents shall pay the civil penalty monthly installments set forth in Paragraph 14, above, by sending either a cashier's check, certified check, or electronic wire transfer, in the following manner:
  - A. All payments by Respondents shall reference Respondents' name and address, and the Docket Number of this action, *i.e.*, RCRA-03-2016-0225;
  - B. All checks shall be made payable to "United States Treasury";
  - C. All payments made by check and sent by regular mail shall be addressed to:

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

Contact: Craig Steffen 513-487-2091

D. All payments made by check and sent by overnight delivery service shall be addressed for delivery to:

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

Contact: 314-418-1028

E. All payments made by check in any currency drawn on banks with no USA branches shall be addressed for delivery to:

Cincinnati Finance US EPA, MS-NWD 26 W. M.L. King Drive Cincinnati, OH 45268-0001

F. All payments made by electronic wire transfer shall be directed to:

Federal Reserve Bank of New York ABA = 021030004 Account No. = 68010727 SWIFT address = FRNYUS33 33 Liberty Street New York, NY 10045

Field Tag 4200 of the Fedwire message should read: D 68010727 Environmental Protection Agency

G. All electronic payments made through the Automated Clearinghouse (ACH), also known as Remittance Express (REX), shall be directed to:

US Treasury REX / Cashlink ACH Receiver
ABA = 051036706
Account No.: 310006, Environmental Protection Agency
CTX Format Transaction Code 22 - Checking

Physical location of U.S. Treasury facility: 5700 Rivertech Court Riverdale, MD 20737

Contact: John Schmid (202) 874-7026 or REX, 1-866-234-5681

## H. On-Line Payment Option:

#### WWW.PAY.GOV/PAYGOV

Enter sfo 1.1 in the search field. Open and complete the form.

I. Additional payment guidance is available at:

http://www.epa.gov/ocfo/finservices/make a payment.htm

A copy of Respondent's check or a copy of Respondent's electronic transfer shall be sent simultaneously to:

Regional Hearing Clerk (3RC00) EPA Region III 1650 Arch Street Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103 - 2029, and

Louis F. Ramalho Senior Assistant Regional Counsel U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Region III 1650 Arch Street Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029.

- 17. Pursuant to 31 U.S.C. § 3717 and 40 C.F.R. § 13.11, EPA is entitled to assess interest, administrative costs and late payment penalties on outstanding debts owed to the United States and a charge to cover the costs of processing and handling a delinquent claim, as more fully described below. Accordingly, Respondents' failure to make timely payment or to comply with the conditions in this CAFO shall result in the assessment of late payment charges including interest, penalties, and/or administrative costs of handling delinquent debts.
- 18. Interest on the civil penalty assessed in this CAFO will begin to accrue on the date that a true and correct copy of this CAFO is mailed or hand-delivered to Respondents. However, EPA will not seek to recover interest on any amount of the civil penalty that is paid within thirty (30) calendar days after the date on which such interest begins to accrue. Interest will be assessed at the rate of the United States Treasury tax and loan rate in accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 13.11(a).
- 19. The costs of the Agency's administrative handling of overdue debts will be charged and assessed monthly throughout the period a debt is overdue. 40 C.F.R. § 13.11(b). Pursuant to Appendix 2 of EPA's Resources Management Directives Cash Management, Chapter 9, EPA will assess a \$15.00 administrative handling charge for administrative costs on unpaid penalties for the first thirty (30) day period after the

- payment is due and an additional \$15.00 for each subsequent thirty (30) days the penalty remains unpaid.
- 20. A late payment penalty of six percent (6%) per year will be assessed monthly on any portion of the civil penalty that remains delinquent more than ninety (90) calendar days. 40 C.F.R. § 13.11(c). The late payment penalty on any portion of the civil penalty that remains delinquent more than ninety days shall accrue from the first day payment is delinquent. 31 C.F.R. § 901.9(d).
- 21. The Respondents agree not to deduct for federal tax purposes the civil monetary penalty specified in this Consent Agreement and the accompanying Final Order.

## **FULL AND FINAL SATISFACTION**

22. This CAFO constitutes a settlement by EPA of its claims for civil penalties pursuant to 9006(a) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6991e(a), for the violations alleged in this Complaint.

## RESERVATION OF RIGHTS

23. EPA reserves the right to commence action against any person, including Respondents, in response to any condition which EPA determines may present an imminent and substantial endangerment to the public health, public welfare, or the environment. In addition, this settlement is subject to all limitations on the scope of resolution and to the reservation of rights set forth in Section 22.18(c) of the Consolidated Rules of Practice. Further, EPA reserves any rights and remedies available to it under RCRA, the regulations promulgated thereunder, and any other federal laws or regulations for which EPA has jurisdiction, to enforce the provisions of this CAFO, following its filing with the Regional Hearing Clerk. Respondents reserve all available rights and defenses it may have, consistent with the terms of this CAFO, to defend itself in any such action. This CAFO and any provision herein shall not be construed as an admission of liability in any criminal or civil action or other administrative proceeding, except in an action of proceeding to enforce or seek compliance with this CA and accompanying FO.

#### OTHER APPLICABLE LAWS

24. Nothing in this CAFO shall relieve Respondents of the obligation to comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations.

## **CERTIFICATION**

25. The person signing this CA on behalf of each Respondent certifies to EPA by his or her signature herein that such Respondent, as of the date of execution of this CA, is in compliance with the provisions of RCRA, Subtitle I, 42 U.S.C. §§ 6991-6991m, and the Commonwealth of Virginia's federally authorized underground storage tank program set

forth at 9 VAC § 25-580-10 et seq. at the Facility referenced herein. This certification is based on the personal knowledge of the signer or based on an inquiry of the person or persons responsible for the Facility's compliance with Subtitle I of RCRA.

#### **AUTHORITY TO BIND THE PARTIES**

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

## **ENTIRE AGREEMENT**

27. This Consent Agreement and the attached Final Order constitute the entire agreement and understanding of the parties concerning settlement of the above-captioned action and there are no representations, warranties, covenants, terms or conditions agreed upon between the parties other than those expressed in this Consent Agreement and the attached Final Order.

#### **EFFECTIVE DATE**

28. This CAFO shall become effective upon filing with the Regional Hearing Clerk.

For the Respondent:

Tanay, LLC.

Date: 3 7 17

Rudrax Patel Manager

For the Respondent:

Swami, LLC.

Date: 3/7/17

Rudrax Patel Manager

E.	C	-1-:-	+-
ror	Com	Diain	ant:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency,

Region III

Date: 3 4 17

Louis F. Ramalho

Senior Assistant Regional Counsel

The Land and Chemicals Division, United States Environmental Protection Agency - Region III, recommend that the Regional Administrator of the U.S. EPA Region III or the Regional Judicial Officer issue the accompanying Final Order.

Date: 3-20-17

Catherine A. Libertz, Acting Director

Land and Chemicals Division

U.S. EPA - Region III

# BEFORE THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION III

In the Matter of:

Tanay, LLC. 1243 Norview Avenue Norfolk, Virginia 23513

Swami, LLC. 407 Lorton Court Chesapeake, Virginia 23323

RESPONDENTS,

CITGO Norview Gas Station 1243 Norview Avenue Norfolk, Virginia 23513

FACILITY.

Docket No.: RCRA-03-2016-0225

Proceeding Under Section 9006 of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, as amended, 42 U.S.C. Section 6991e

RECEIVED

2017 MAR 21 PM 3: 47

#### FINAL ORDER

Complainant, the Director, Land and Chemicals Division, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency–Region III, and Tanay, LLC., and Swami, LLC., (collectively "Respondents"), have executed a document entitled "Consent Agreement" which I hereby ratify as a Consent Agreement in accordance with the Consolidated Rules of Practice Governing the Administrative Assessment of Civil Penalties and the Revocation/Termination or Suspension of Permits ("Consolidated Rules of Practice"), 40 C.F.R. Part 22 (with specific reference to Section 22.18(b)(2) and (3)). The terms of the foregoing Consent Agreement are acceptable to the undersigned and incorporated into this Final Order as if fully set forth at length herein.

Based upon the representations of the parties in the attached Consent Agreement, the penalty agreed to therein is based upon the consideration of a number of factors, including, but not limited to, the statutory factors of the seriousness of Respondents' violations and any good faith efforts by Respondents to comply with all applicable requirements as provided in Section 9006(c) and (e) of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act ("RCRA"), 42 U.S.C. § 6991e(c) and (e), with specific reference to EPA's Penalty Guidance for Violations of UST Regulations ("UST Guidance") dated November 4, 1990.

NOW, THEREFORE, PURSUANT TO Section 9006(c) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6991e(c), and Section 22.18(b)(3) of the Consolidated Rules of Practice, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Respondents pay a civil penalty of FORTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS

## Docket No.: RCRA-03-2016-0225

(\$45,000) in accordance with the payment provisions set forth in the Consent Agreement, and comply with the terms and conditions of the Consent Agreement.

The effective date of the attached Consent Agreement and this Final Order is the date on which this Final Order is filed with the Regional Hearing Clerk.

March 21, 2017
Date

Joseph J. Lisa
Regional Judicial and Presiding Officer

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that on the date listed below, a true and correct copy of the attached Consent Agreement and Final Order, Docket No. RCRA-03-2016-0225, was sent by electronic e-mail and a hard copy mailed overnight via UPS, confirmation of receipt requested to:

Rudrax Patel 407 Lorton Court Chesapeake, VA 23323

Email: <a href="mailto:rudrax@gmail.com">rudrax@gmail.com</a>]

Date 3/2/17

Louis F. Ramalho

Sr. Assistant Regional Counsel

U.S. EPA - Region III

1650 Arch Street

Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029