UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region 2

X
In the Matter of:

Niagara Ceramics Corporation,

Respondent.

Honorable William B. Moran,

Proceeding Under Section 3008 of the
Solid Waste Disposal Act, as amended.

MOTION TO EXTEND TIME FOR FINALIZING CONSENT AGREEMENT

Complainant in this proceeding, the Director of the Division of Enforcement and Compliance Assistance, EPA, Region 2 (EPA), through her attorney, requests this Court grant an extension of time for the parties to obtain the signatures necessary to execute the consent agreement. For the reasons set forth below, EPA submits that good cause exists for granting this motion.

The Court's April 23, 2008 order codified what the Court had directed earlier that day during a settlement conference – "that a copy of the fully executed CAFO be delivered within six weeks from [April 23, 2008]," *i.e.* June 4, 2008. Shortly afterward, in early May a consent agreement was drafted and circulated for Regional concurrence (the undersigned was on vacation through Monday, April 28th). Regional concurrence was secured in the middle of May and a draft was sent to Respondent's counsel for review. The parties discussed the document and a final agreement (including the document's wording) between counsel was obtained. A copy of the document formally approved through the office of Complainant was sent via overnight mail

to Respondent's counsel on May 20th for his client's signature. To date the document has not been returned, and counsel spoke today. Respondent's counsel noted that there have been logistical problems in securing his client's signature. It appears likely that this will occur shortly.

Thus the parties will in all likelihood be unable to comply with the directive set forth in the Court's April 23rd order. During the conference that day, the Court stated that, if the parties do not submit such a copy by the designated day, the Court will set the matter down for an expedited hearing. Neither party wishes that to occur, and, in fact, there is no need for such action, as this case will be concluded. Thus, because of circumstances beyond the control of either counsel, the parties seek an additional increment of time for the performance of essentially ministerial functions – to allow for the requisite signatures to be obtained where the relevant parties (or their designated representatives) have already indicated their assent to the settlement and the document memorializing it.

Counsel for Respondent has indicated to the undersigned that he supports the relief herein sought.

Therefore, EPA respectfully moves this Court, pursuant to 40 C.F.R. §§ 22.4(c)(10), 22.7(b) and 22.16(a), for an order: a) vacating the April 23, 2008 order and b) directing the parties file a copy of the fully executed consent agreement and final order by no later than June 18, 2008 (or, in the alternative, if the Court is unable to grant two weeks, then an extension of one week, until June 11, 2008).

Dated: May 29, 2008

New York, New York

Respectfully submitted

Lee A. Spielmann

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TO: Honorable William B. Moran
Administrative Law Judge
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
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Mail Code 1900L
Washington, DC 20005

Office of Regional Hearing Clerk U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2 290 Broadway, 16th floor New York, New York 10007-1866

Michael C. Murphy, Esq. Phillips Lytle LLP 3400 HSBC Center Buffalo, New York 14203

In re Niagara Ceramics Corporation Docket No. RCRA-02-2007-7114

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that I have this day caused to be sent the foregoing Motion To Extend Time for Finalizing Consent Agreement, dated May 29, 2008, in the following manner to the respective addressees listed below:

Original and One Copy By Inter-Office Mail:

Office of Regional Hearing Clerk U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Region 2 290 Broadway, 16th floor New York, New York 10007-1866

Copy by FAX transmission, 202-565-0044, and Pouch Mail:

Honorable William B. Moran Administrative Law Judge U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Mail Code 1900 L Washington, DC 20005

Copy by FAX transmission, 716-852-6100, and First Class Mail:

Michael C. Murphy, Esq. Phillips Lytle LLP 3400 HSBC Center Buffalo, New York 14203-2887

Dated: May 29, 2008

New York, New York