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Fax Transmission Coversheet

Date: January 16, 2015 **Pages:** 6 (including this cover sheet)
To: Ms. Lorena Vaughn **Fax #:** 214-665-2182
Regional Hearing Clerk
(6RC-D)
From: Scotty Holloman
Subject: In the Matter of Nova Mud, Inc., Hobbs, NM
No. FIFRA-06-2015-0301

Comments:

Dear Ms. Vaughn:
Please file the attached *Answer to Complaint and Notice of Opportunity for Hearing* in the above-referenced matter. We are also mailing you the original and one copy of this Answer today.

Yours very truly,
Scotty Holloman

If transmission problems occur, please contact Cheryl Dudley at (575) 393-0505.

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UNITED STATES
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 6
DALLAS, TEXAS

FILED
2015 JAN 20 AM 9:56
REGIONAL HEARING CLERK
EPA REGION VI

IN THE MATTER OF:)
)
NOVA MUD, INC.)
HOBBS, NEW MEXICO)
)
RESPONDENT)
_____)

DOCKET NO. FIFRA-06-2015-0301

**RESPONDENT NOVA MUD, INC.'S ANSWER TO COMPLAINT
AND NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING**

COMES NOW Nova Mud, Inc., by and through its attorneys, Maddox, Holloman & Moran, P.C., and for its response to the Complaint and Notice of Opportunity for Hearing states as follows:

1. Respondent admits Paragraph 1.
2. Respondent admits Paragraph 2.
3. Respondent denies Paragraph 3.
4. Paragraph 4 is a legal conclusion, not a statement of fact, and therefore, does not require a response.
5. Paragraph 5 is a legal conclusion, not a statement of fact, and therefore, does not require a response.
6. Paragraph 6 is a legal conclusion, not a statement of fact, and therefore, does not require a response.

7. Paragraph 7 is a legal conclusion, not a statement of fact, and therefore, does not require a response.

8. Paragraph 8 is a legal conclusion, not a statement of fact, and therefore, does not require a response.

9. Respondent is without information or knowledge sufficient to form a belief as to the validity of Paragraph 9 of the Complaint, therefore, the same is denied.

10. Respondent denies Paragraph 10, and as explanation states that Ray D. Hardin may have met with an EPA inspector at some point in 2013, but that Respondent does not have operations as to pesticides.

11. Respondent is without information or knowledge sufficient to form a belief as to the validity of Paragraph 11 of the Complaint, therefore, the same is denied.

12. Respondent is without information or knowledge sufficient to form a belief as to the validity of Paragraph 12 of the Complaint, therefore, the same is denied.

13. Respondent is without information or knowledge sufficient to form a belief as to the validity of Paragraph 13 of the Complaint, therefore, the same is denied.

14. Respondent is without information or knowledge sufficient to form a belief as to the validity of Paragraph 14 of Plaintiff's Complaint, therefore, the same is denied.

15. Respondent incorporates and restates its responses to Paragraphs 1 through 14 the same as if each were fully set forth herein.

16. Paragraph 16 is a legal conclusion, not a statement of fact, and therefore, does not require a response.

17. Paragraph 17 is a legal conclusion, not a statement of fact, and therefore, does not require a response.

18. Paragraph 18 is a legal conclusion, not a statement of fact, and therefore, does not require a response.

19. Respondent is without information or knowledge sufficient to form a belief as to the validity of Paragraph 19 of Plaintiff's Complaint, therefore, the same is denied.

20. Paragraph 20 is a legal conclusion, not a statement of fact, and therefore, does not require a response.

21. Respondent is without information or knowledge sufficient to form a belief as to the validity of Paragraph 21 of Plaintiff's Complaint, therefore, the same is denied.

22. Paragraph 22 is a legal conclusion, not a statement of fact, and therefore, does not require a response.

23. Paragraph 23 is a legal conclusion, not a statement of fact, and therefore, does not require a response.

24. Respondent is without information or knowledge sufficient to form a belief as to the validity of Paragraph 24 of Plaintiff's Complaint, therefore, the same is denied.

25. Respondent is without information or knowledge sufficient to form a belief as to the validity of Paragraph 25 of Plaintiff's Complaint, therefore, the same is denied.

26. Respondent denies Paragraph 26.

27. Respondents incorporate and restate their responses to Paragraph 1 through 26 the same as if each were fully set forth herein.

28. Paragraph 28 is a legal conclusion, not a statement of fact, and therefore, does not

require a response.

29. Paragraph 29 is a legal conclusion, not a statement of fact, and therefore, does not require a response.

30. Paragraph 30 is a legal conclusion, not a statement of fact, and therefore, does not require a response.

31. Paragraph 31 is a legal conclusion, not a statement of fact, and therefore, does not require a response.

32. Respondent is without information or knowledge sufficient to form a belief as to the validity of Paragraph 32 of Plaintiff's Complaint, therefore, the same is denied.

33. Respondent is without information or knowledge sufficient to form a belief as to the validity of Paragraph 33 of Plaintiff's Complaint, therefore, the same is denied.

34. Respondent admits that it has not registered with the Administrator, but denies the remainder of Paragraph 34.

35. Respondent denies Paragraph 35.

36. Respondent denies Paragraph 36. Respondent contends that the proposed penalty of \$40,300 is inappropriate in this situation. When Respondent met with an EPA inspector sometime in 2013, in response to the inspector's statement that the EPA would only issue a warning to Respondent, Respondent cooperated with the EPA.

37. Respondent hereby requests a hearing on this matter.

WHEREFORE, Respondent prays that a hearing be held on this matter, that this matter be dismissed, and for such other and further relief as may be deemed equitable and just.

Maddox, Holloman & Moran, P.C.

By: Scotty Holloman

Scotty Holloman
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Attorneys for Respondent

Certificate of Service

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Answer to Complaint and Notice of Opportunity for Hearing was served on the following this 16th day of January, 2015:

Mailed and faxed:

Ms. Lorena Vaughn
Regional Hearing Clerk (6RC-D)
U.S. EPA - Region 6
1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200
Dallas, Texas 75202-2733
Fax: 214-665-2182

Mailed and emailed:

Jay Przyborski
Assistant Regional Counsel (6RC-ER)
U.S. EPA - Region 6
1445 Ross Avenue, Suite 1200
Dallas, Texas 75202-2733
Email: przyborski.jay@epa.gov

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