BEFORE THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION III

Four Penn Center – 1600 John F Kennedy Blvd Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2852

IN THE MATTER OF:) DOCKET NO.: CAA-03-2023-0018
P1 PERFORMANCE, INC. JE IMPORT PERFORMANCE, INC. 6600 Moravia Park Dr., Baltimore, Maryland 21237) EXPEDITED SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT)

Respondents.

EXPEDITED SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

- 1. This Expedited Settlement Agreement (or "Agreement") is entered into by the Director, Enforcement & Compliance Assurance Division, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III ("Complainant"), and P1 Performance, Inc. and JE Import Performance, Inc. ("Respondents"), pursuant to Section 205(c)(1) of the Clean Air Act ("CAA"), as amended, 42 U.S.C § 7524(c)(1), and 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 40 C.F.R. §§ 22.13(b), 22.18(b)(2), and (3)). The Administrator has delegated this authority to the Regional Administrator who, in turn, has delegated it to the Complainant.
- 2. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") has jurisdiction over the above-captioned matter pursuant to Section 205(c)(1) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C § 7524(c)(1), and 40 C.F.R. §§ 22.1(a)(2) and 22.4 of the Consolidated Rules of Practice.
- 3. At all times relevant to this Agreement, Respondents, which are Maryland limited liability companies, were, and currently are, "persons" as defined under Section 302(e) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C § 7602(e), and the owners and operators of an automotive service and repair shop located at 6600 Moravia Park Dr., Baltimore, Maryland 21237 (the "Facility").
- 4. EPA alleges and finds that Respondents failed to comply with Section 203(a)(3)(B) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 7522(a)(3)(B), and the implementing regulations found at 40 C.F.R. § 1068.101(b)(2).
- 5. As a result of EPA's investigation and pursuant to its enforcement authority under Section 208(b) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. §7542(b), EPA obtained evidence that between January 1, 2017, to July 15, 2020, Respondents sold/installed Seventeen (17) products, identified in Table 1, below, which render inoperative emission control systems on EPA-certified motor vehicle and motor vehicle engines ("defeat devices"). These products

include: (i) engine control module reprogrammers (also known as "tuners") that disable emission control systems and/or Diagnostic Trouble Codes (DTCs) on EPA-certified motor vehicles; (ii) Exhaust Gas Recirculation (EGR) deletion kits or components used for the removal or bypass of EGR systems; and (iii) exhaust emission control delete pipes to remove or bypass the catalytic converter, Diesel Particulate Filter (DPF) or Selective Catalytic Reduction (SCR) systems. Respondents knew or should have known that the products were being offered for sale, or installed for such use, or put to such use. EPA alleges and finds that Respondents' sale/install of these defeat devices, identified in Table 1, below, constitutes **Seventeen (17)** violations of CAA Section 203(a)(3)(B), 42 U.S.C. § 7522(a)(3)(B), and the implementing regulations found at 40 C.F.R. § 1068.101(b)(2).

Part #	Production Description	Quantity Installed	Quantity Sold	Motor Vehicle Application
MBRP-FAL2313	Y Pipe		11	2003-2007 Ford
	Downpipe	1	1	2012 GMC 2500
	EGR Delete	1	1	2012 GMC 2500
	EZ Lynk			
EZL 100EE00AA1	Tuning	1	1	2012 GMC 2500

Table 1: Violation Summary - Sale/Installation of Defeat Devices

- 6. Respondents certify that they have not had the same, or closely related, violation(s) that were the subject of an enforcement action under Title II of the CAA within five (5) years of the date of Respondents' execution of this Agreement.
- 7. EPA and Respondents agree that settlement of this matter for a penalty in the amount of EIGHTEEN THOUSAND, NINE HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-TWO DOLLARS (\$18,972), which Respondents shall be liable to pay in accordance with the terms and provisions set forth below, is reasonable and in the public interest and is based upon EPA's consideration of the statutory factors set forth in Section 205(c)(2) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7524(c)(2), which include the gravity of the violation, the economic benefit or savings (if any) resulting from the violation, the size of the violator's business, the violator's history of compliance with this subchapter, action taken to remedy the violation, the effect of the penalty on the violator's ability to continue in business, and such other matters as justice may require. These factors were applied to the particular facts and circumstances of this case with specific reference to EPA's June 21, 2019 Recommendation to Approve Expedited Settlement Agreement Pilot for Clean Air Act Vehicle and Engine Violations – Tampering/Defeat Devices policy, the appropriate Adjustment of Civil Monetary Penalties for Inflation, pursuant to 40 C.F.R. Part 19, and the applicable EPA memoranda addressing EPA's civil penalty policies to account for inflation.
- 8. Respondents agree that, <u>within fourteen (14) calendar days</u> of the effective date of this Agreement, Respondents shall make a payment of **EIGHTEEN THOUSAND**, **NINE HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-TWO DOLLARS (\$18,972)**, by one of following four

- (4) methods, as further specified and directed below: a) electronic funds transfer ("EFT"); b) Automated Clearinghouse; c) Pay.gov; or d) a cashier's check, or certified check, payable to the "United States Treasury" with the case name, address and docket number of this Agreement (CAA-03-2023-0018) referenced on the check for the amount specified above. A list of the payment methods is also provided on the website https://www.epa.gov/financial/makepayment.
- a) Payment of the penalty amount by EFT to:

Federal Reserve Bank of New York
ABA 021030004
Account 68010727
SWIFT address FRNYUS33
33 Liberty Street
New York, NY 10045
Beneficiary: Environmental Protection Agency

b) Payment of the penalty amount by Automated Clearinghouse (ACH) to EPA can be made through the U.S. Treasury using the following information:

U.S. Treasury REX/Cashlink ACH Receiver

ABA: 051036706

Account Number: 310006, Environmental Protection Agency

CTX Format Transaction Code 22- Checking

Physical Location of the U.S. Treasury Facility 5700 Rivertech Court Riverdale, MD 20737

Remittance Express (REX): 1-866-234-5681

c) Payment of the penalty amount made through Pay.gov:

Payers can use their credit or debit cards (Visa, MasterCard, American Express & Discover) as well as checking account information to make payments. Follow these steps to make a payment:

- (1) You DO NOT need a username and password or account.
- (2) Enter SFO 1.1 in the form search box on the top left side of the screen.
- (3) Open the form and follow the on-screen instructions.
- (4) Select your method of payment from the "Type of Payment" drop down menu.

- (5) Based on your selection, the corresponding line will open and no longer be shaded grey.
- (6) Enter the docket number of this Agreement into the field.
- d) Payment of the penalty amount by cashier's check, or by certified check, payable to the "United States Treasury" with the case name, address and docket number of this Agreement (CAA-03-2023-0018) referenced on the check which shall be sent:
 - (1) via U.S. regular mail to:

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

or

(2) via overnight mail (FedEx or other non-U.S. Postal Service express mail) to:

U.S. Bank 1005 Convention Plaza Mail Station SL-MO-C2GL St. Louis, MO 63101

9. Within twenty-four (24) hours of making payment, Respondents shall also send proof of such payment (a copy of the check, confirmation of credit card or debit card payment, confirmation of wire transfer or of automated clearinghouse transfer) by email to:

Parmatma Adhikari (3ED21) Adhikari.parmatma@epa.gov

and

Regional Hearing Clerk (3RC00)
R3 Hearing Clerk@epa.gov

- 10. In signing this Agreement, Respondents:
 - a) admit the jurisdictional allegations set forth in this Agreement;
 - b) neither admit nor deny the specific factual allegations set forth in this Agreement, except as provided in the jurisdictional admission above;
 - agree not to contest EPA's jurisdiction with respect to the execution of this Agreement, the issuance of the attached Final Order, or the enforcement the Agreement;

- d) expressly waive their right to a hearing on any issue of law or fact set forth in this Agreement and any right to appeal the accompanying Final Order;
- e) consent to the issuance of this Agreement and agrees to comply with its terms;
- f) agree to bear their own costs and attorney's fees; and
- g) agree not to deduct for federal tax purposes the civil penalty assessed in this Agreement.
- 11. By their signatures below, Respondents certify, that any information or representation they have supplied or made to EPA concerning this matter was, at the time of submission true, accurate, and complete and that there has been no material change regarding the truthfulness, accuracy or completeness of such information or representation. EPA shall have the right to institute further actions to recover appropriate relief if EPA obtains evidence that any information provided and/or representations made by Respondents to the EPA regarding matters relevant to this Agreement are false or, in any material respect, inaccurate. This right shall be in addition to all other rights and causes of action that EPA may have, civil or criminal, under law or equity in such event. Respondents and their officers, directors and agents are aware that the submission of false or misleading information to the United States government may subject a person to separate civil and/or criminal liability.
- 12. This Agreement and attached Final Order constitute a settlement by EPA of its claims for civil penalties for the violations alleged in this Agreement.
- 13. 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 Sections 22.18(c) and 22.31(a) of the Consolidated Rules of Practice. Further, EPA reserves any rights and remedies available to it under the CAA, the regulations promulgated thereunder, and any other federal laws or regulations for which EPA has jurisdiction, to enforce the provisions of this Agreement, following its filing with the Regional Hearing Clerk.
- 14. Late payment of the agreed upon penalty may subject Respondents to interest, administrative costs and late payment penalties in accordance with 40 C.F.R.§ 13.11.
- 15. This Agreement is binding on the parties signing below and is effective upon filing with the Regional Hearing Clerk pursuant to the Consolidated Rules of Practice, in accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 22.31(b).
- 16. The undersigned representative certifies that she/he is fully authorized to execute this Agreement and to legally bind Respondents.
- 17. As permitted under 40 CFR § 22.6, the Regional Hearing Clerk will serve copies of this Agreement and Final Order by e-mail to the parties at the following valid e-mail

addresses: adhikari.parmatma@epa.gov (for Complainant), and james@p1-performance.com (for Respondents).

18. By signing this Agreement, Respondents acknowledge that this Agreement and Final Order will be available to the public and represents that, to the best of Respondents' knowledge and belief, this Agreement and Final Order does not contain any confidential business information or personally identifiable information from Respondents.

For Respondents:

P1 PERFORMANCE, INC.

Name: James Evans

Title: President/CEO

Signature: Date: 5/04/2023

JE IMPORT PERFORMANCE, INC.

Name: James Evans

Title: President/CEO

Signature: Date: 5/04/2023

For Complainant: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III

After reviewing the Agreement and other pertinent matters, I, the undersigned Director of the Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division of the United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region III, agree to the terms and conditions of this Agreement and recommend that the Regional Administrator, or his/her designee, the Regional Judicial Officer, issue the attached Final Order.

[Digital Signature and Date]
Karen Melvin, Director
Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division

FILED: June 13, 2023 12:07 PM

In Re: P1 Performance, Inc., et al.

EPA Docket No. CAA-03-2023-0018

BEFORE THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION III

Four Penn Center – 1600 John F Kennedy Blvd Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2852

IN THE MATTER OF:) DOCKET NO.: CAA-03-2023-0018
P1 PERFORMANCE, INC. JE IMPORT PERFORMANCE, INC. 6600 Moravia Park Dr., Baltimore, Maryland 21237) EXPEDITED SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT)

Respondents.

FINAL ORDER

Complainant, the Director of the Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Division, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Region III, and Respondents, P1 PERFORMANCE, INC. and JE IMPORT PERFORMANCE, INC., have executed a document entitled "Expedited Settlement 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 Sections 22.13(b) and 22.18(b)(2) and (3)). The terms of the foregoing Expedited Settlement Agreement are accepted by the undersigned and incorporated herein as if set forth at length.

Based upon the representations of the parties in the attached Expedited Settlement Agreement, the penalty agreed to therein is based upon consideration of, inter alia, the statutory factors set forth in Section 205(c)(2) of the CAA, 42 U.S.C. § 7524(c)(2), EPA's June 21, 2019 Recommendation to Approve Expedited Settlement Agreement Pilot for Clean Air Act Vehicle and Engine Violations – Tampering/Defeat Devices policy, the appropriate Adjustment of Civil Monetary Penalties for Inflation, pursuant to 40 C.F.R. Part 19 and the applicable EPA memoranda addressing EPA's civil penalty policies to account for inflation, and Respondents' current financial condition.

NOW, THEREFORE, PURSUANT TO Section 205(c)(1) of the Clean Air Act ("CAA"), as amended, 42 U.S.C § 7524(c)(1), and Section 22.18(b)(3) of the Consolidated Rules of Practice, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Respondents pay a civil penalty in the amount of EIGHTEEN THOUSAND, NINE HUNDRED AND SEVENTY -TWO DOLLARS (\$18,972), in accordance with the payment provisions set forth in the Expedited Settlement Agreement, and comply with the terms and conditions of the Expedited Settlement Agreement.

This Final Order constitutes the final Agency action in this proceeding. This Final Order shall not in any case affect the right of the Agency or the United States to pursue appropriate injunctive or other equitable relief, or criminal sanctions for any violations of the law. This Final Order resolves only those causes of action alleged in the Expedited Settlement Agreement and does not waive, extinguish or otherwise affect Respondents' obligation to comply with all applicable provisions of Title II of the Clean Air Act ("CAA"), 42 U.S.C. §§ 7521 et seq., and

the regulations promulgated thereunder.

The effective date of the foregoing Expedited Settlement Agreement and this Final Order is the date on which this Final Order is filed with the Regional Hearing Clerk.

[Digital Signature and Date]
Joseph J. Lisa
Regional Judicial Officer
U.S. EPA - Region III

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION III

Four Penn Center – 1600 John F Kennedy Blvd Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2852

In the Matter of:

P1 PERFORMANCE, INC.

JE IMPORT PERFORMANCE, INC.

6600 Moravia Park Dr., : U.S. EPA Docket No. CAA-03-2023-0018

Baltimore, Maryland 21237

: Proceeding under CAA Section 205(c)(1),

Respondents. : 42 U.S.C. § 7524(c)(1)

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that the foregoing *Expedited Settlement Agreement and Final Order* was filed with the EPA Region III Regional Hearing Clerk on the date that has been electronically stamped on the *Expedited Settlement Agreement and Final Order*. I further certify that on the date set forth below, I caused to be served a true and correct copy of the foregoing to each of the following persons, in the manner specified below, at the following addresses:

Copies served via email to:

James Evans, President/CEO
P1 PERFORMANCE, INC.
JE IMPORT PERFORMANCE, INC.
james@p1-performance.com
6600 Moravia Park Dr.,
Baltimore, Maryland 21237

Parmatma Adhikari (3ED21) U.S. EPA, Region III adhikari.parmatma@epa.gov

[Digital Signature and Date]
Regional Hearing Clerk
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III