

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 4
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

JAN 1 9 2017

<u>CERTIFIED MAIL</u> RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Alfred J. Vincelli, Sr.
President
Carolina Precision Fibers, Inc.
145 Factory Street
Ronda, North Carolina 28670-9236

Re: Carolina Precision Fibers, Inc.
Ratified Consent Agreement and Final Order
Docket No. FIFRA-04-2017-3003(b)

Dear Mr. Vincelli:

Enclosed is a copy of the ratified Consent Agreement and Final Order (CAFO) in the above-referenced matter. The original CAFO has been filed with the Regional Hearing Clerk and served on the parties as directed in Section 22.6 of the Consolidated Rules of Practice, 40 C.F.R. Part 22.

Please refer to Section V of the CAFO for penalty information and payment requirements. To ensure proper processing, the respondent's name and docket number for this case, identified above and in the CAFO, should be noted on any cashier's or certified check submitted in payment of the penalty.

Also, enclosed is a copy of a document entitled "Notice of Securities and Exchange Commission Registrants' Duty to Disclose Environmental Legal Proceedings." This document puts you on notice of your potential duty to disclose to the Securities and Exchange Commission any environmental enforcement actions taken by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 4. Where used in the document "SEC" refers to the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Should you have any questions about this matter or your compliance status in the future, please contact Patricia Livingston, Case Development Officer, of the EPA Region 4 staff at (404) 562-9171.

Sincerely,

Anthony G. Toney

USturdivant for

Chief

Chemical Safety and Enforcement Branch

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In the Matter of:)	.RING (9	
Carolina Precision Fibers, Inc.)) Docket No.: FIFRA-04-20)17-3003(b)	AH 7: 43	
Respondent.)			

CONSENT AGREEMENT AND FINAL ORDER

I. Nature of the Action

- 1. This is a civil penalty proceeding pursuant to Section 14(a) of the Federal Insecticide,
 Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act, as amended, 7 U.S.C. § 136*l*(a) (FIFRA), and pursuant
 to the Consolidated Rules of Practice Governing Administrative Assessment of Civil
 Penalties and the Revocation/Termination or Suspension of Permits (Consolidated
 Rules), 40 C.F.R. Part 22. Complainant is the Director of the Air, Pesticides and Toxics
 Management Division, United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4.
 Respondent is Carolina Precision Fibers, Inc.
- 2. The authority to take action under Section 14(a) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136*l*(a), is vested in the Administrator of the EPA. The Administrator of the EPA has delegated this authority under FIFRA to the EPA Region 4 by the EPA Delegation 5-14, dated May 11, 1994. The Regional Administrator, Region 4, has re-delegated this authority to the Director, Air, Pesticides and Toxics Management Division, by the EPA Region 4 Delegation 5-14, dated September 7, 2005. Pursuant to that Delegation, the Director of the Air, Pesticides and Toxics Management Division has the authority to commence an

- enforcement action as the Complainant in this matter, and has the authority to sign Consent Agreements memorializing settlements between the EPA and Respondents.
- 3. Complainant and Respondent have conferred for the purpose of settlement pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 22.18 and desire to resolve this matter and settle the allegations described herein without a formal hearing. Therefore, without the taking of any evidence or testimony, the making of any argument, or the adjudication of any issue in this matter, and in accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 22.13(b), this Consent Agreement and Final Order (CAFO) will simultaneously commence and conclude this matter.

II. Preliminary Statements

4. Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 22.5(c)(4) the following individual is authorized to receive service for the EPA in this proceeding:

Patricia Livingston
Pesticides Section
U.S. EPA Region 4
61 Forsyth Street, S.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-8960
(404) 562-9171.

- 5. Respondent is Carolina Precision Fibers, Inc., a manufacturer and distributor of insulation products with a facility located at 145 Factory Street, Ronda, North Carolina 28670.
- 6. Respondent is a "person" as defined by Section 2(s) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136(s), and as such is subject to FIFRA and the regulations promulgated thereunder.

III. Specific Allegations

7. On or about March 21, 2015, the Respondent submitted EPA form 2540-16 to report production of a registered pesticide at its facility in Ronda, North Carolina pursuant to Sec. 7 of FIFRA for calendar year 2014.

- 8. The Respondent manufactures the product Tap Thermal Acoustical and Pest Control Insulation (EPA Reg. No. 72787-1-83896) at the establishment.
- 9. This product is a pesticide as defined in Section 2(u) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136(u), which includes any substance or mixture of substances intended for preventing, destroying, repelling, or mitigating any pest.
- 10. A pest is defined in Section 2(t) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136(t), as any insect, rodent, nematode, fungus, weed, or any other form of terrestrial or aquatic plant or animal life or virus, bacteria, or other micro-organism (except viruses, bacteria, or other microorganisms on or in living man or other living animals) which the Administrator declares to be a pest under Section 25(c)(1) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136w(c)(1).
- 11. Pursuant to Section 2(w) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136(w), a producer is defined as "the person who manufacturers (sic), prepares, compounds, propagates, or processes any pesticide or device or active ingredient used in producing a pesticide."
- 12. Establishments that produce pesticides are required to be registered with the Administrator of the EPA, pursuant to Section 7(a) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136e.
- 13. At the time of the report submission, the Respondent had not applied for an EPA

 Establishment Number and was thus producing pesticides in an establishment that was
 not registered with the Administrator of the EPA as a pesticide-producing establishment.
- 14. Under Section 12(a)(2)(L) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136j(a)(2)(L), it is unlawful for any producer of pesticides to violate the provisions of Section 7 of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136e.
- 15. Because Respondent produced pesticides in an unregistered establishment, Respondent violated Section 12(a)(2)(L) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136j(a)(2)(L) and is, therefore, subject to the assessment of a civil penalty under Section 14(a) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136l(a).

- 16. Section 14(a) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136*l*(a), in conjunction with the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996, authorizes the assessment of a civil penalty.
- 17. Section 14(a)(4) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136l(a)(4), requires the EPA to consider the appropriateness of the assessed penalty to the size of business of the Respondent, the effect on Respondent's ability to continue in business, and the gravity of the violation.
- 18. After consideration of the factors set forth in Section 14(a)(14) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136l(a)(4), the EPA proposes to assess a total civil penalty of **TWO THOUSAND**FIVE HUNDRED TWENTY DOLLARS (\$2,520) against the Respondent for the above-described violations. Civil penalties under Section 14(a) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136l(a), may be assessed by Administrative Order.

IV. Consent Agreement

- 19. For the purposes of this CAFO, Respondent admits the jurisdictional allegations set forth above and neither admits nor denies the factual allegations set forth above.
- 20. Respondent waives its right to a hearing on the allegations contained herein and its right to appeal the proposed Final Order accompanying the Consent Agreement.
- 21. Respondent consents to the assessment of the penalty proposed by the EPA and agrees to pay the civil penalty as set forth in this CAFO.
- 22. Respondent certifies that as of the date of its execution of this CAFO, it is in compliance with all relevant requirements of FIFRA.
- 23. Compliance with this CAFO shall resolve the allegations of the violations contained herein. This CAFO shall not otherwise affect any liability of Respondent to the United States. Other than as expressed herein, neither the EPA nor Complainant waives any right to bring an enforcement action against Respondent for violation of any federal or state

statute, regulation or permit, to initiate an action for imminent and substantial endangerment, or to pursue criminal enforcement.

24. Complainant and Respondent agree to settle this matter by their execution of this CAFO. The parties agree that the settlement of this matter is in the public interest and that this CAFO is consistent with the applicable requirements of FIFRA.

V. Final Order

- 25. Respondent is assessed a civil penalty of TWO THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED TWENTY DOLLARS (\$2,520) which shall be paid within 30 days from the effective date of this CAFO.
- 26. Respondent shall remit the penalty by either a cashier's or certified check made payable to the "Treasurer, United State of America," and shall send the penalty payment by one of the methods below.

Address for payment submittal using the United States Postal Service (excluding USPS overnight mail):

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

Address for payments by USPS overnight mail or other delivery service (e.g.,

Federal Express, United Parcel Service, DHL, etc.):

U.S. Bank Government Lockbox 979077 US EPA Fines & Penalties 1005 Convention Plaza Mail Station SL-MO-C2-GL St. Louis, Missouri 63101 Contact Number: (314) 425-1818

The check shall reference on its face the name of the Respondent and Docket Number of this CAFO.

27. At the time of payment, Respondent shall send a separate copy of the check and a written statement that the payment is being made in accordance with this CAFO, to the following persons at the following addresses:

Regional Hearing Clerk U.S. EPA Region 4 61 Forsyth Street, S.W. Atlanta, Georgia 30303-8960

Patricia Livingston
Pesticides Section
U.S. EPA Region 4
61 Forsyth Street, S.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-8960.

- 28. For the purposes of state and federal income taxation, Respondent shall not be entitled, and agrees not to attempt, to claim a deduction for any civil penalty payment made pursuant to this CAFO. Any attempt by Respondent to deduct any such payments shall constitute a violation of this CAFO.
- 29. Pursuant to 31 U.S.C. § 3717, the EPA is entitled to assess interest and penalties on debts owed to the United States and a charge to cover the cost of processing and handling a delinquent claim. Interest will therefore begin to accrue on the civil penalty from the effective date of this CAFO, if the penalty is not paid by the date required. A charge will also be assessed to cover the administrative costs, both direct and indirect, of overdue debts. In addition, a late payment penalty charge shall be applied on any principal amount not paid within 90 days of the due date.
- 30. Complainant and Respondent shall bear their own costs and attorney fees in this matter.
- 31. This CAFO shall be binding upon the Respondent, its successors and assigns.

32.	Each undersigned representative of the parties to this CAFO certifies that he or she is
	fully authorized by the party represented to enter into this CAFO and hereby legally binds
	that party to it.
	The remainder of this page intentionally left blank.

VI. Effective Date

33. The effective date of this CAFO shall be the date on which the CAFO is filed with the Regional Hearing Clerk.

AGREED AND CO	ONSENTED TO:		
Respondent: Docket No.:	Carolina Precision Fibers, I FIFRA-04-2017-3003(b)	nc.	
1	Signature)	Date	bee7th 2016
Name: APKEDS	(Typed or Printed))	
Title: Pres / L	(Typed or Printed))	
Complainant:	U.S. Environmental Protect	ion Agency	
By: R. Legy	403	Date:	12-16-16
Beverly H. Ban Director	ister		
	and Toxics Management Divisio	n	
APPROVED AND	so ordered this 17th	day of	1017.
Janua !	loy		
Tanya Floyd			
Regional Judicial Of	ficer		

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the date set out below, I filed the original and one copy of the foregoing Consent Agreement and Final Order and served a true and correct copy of the foregoing Consent Agreement and Final Order In the Matter of Carolina Precision Fibers, Inc., Docket Number: FIFRA-04-2017-3003(b), to the addressees listed below:

Mr. Alfred J. Vincelli, Sr. President Carolina Precision Fibers, Inc. 145 Factory Street Ronda, North Carolina 28670-9236

(via Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested)

Patricia Livingston
Pesticides Section
U.S. EPA Region 4
61 Forsyth Street, S.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

(via EPA's internal mail)

Robert Caplan Senior Attorney Office of Regional Counsel U.S. EPA Region 4 61 Forsyth Street, S.W. Atlanta, Georgia 30303 (via EPA's internal mail)

Date: / - / 7

Patricia A. Bullock, Regional Hearing Clerk U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4 61 Forsyth Street, S.W. Atlanta, Georgia 30303

(404) 562-9511