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U.S. EPA, REGION IX REGIONAL HEARING CLERK

#### UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION IX

In the matter of:	) Docket No. EPCRA-9-20070_0 0 8
Las Vegas Paving Corporation,	) CONSENT AGREEMENT AND FINAL ORDER
Respondent.	pursuant to 40 C.F.R. §§ 22.13(b), 22.18(b)(2), and 22.18(b)(3)

# I. CONSENT AGREEMENT

The United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX ("EPA"), and Las Vegas Paving Corporation (the "Respondent") agree to settle this matter and consent to the entry of this Consent Agreement and Final Order ("CAFO").

# A. AUTHORITY AND PARTIES

- 1. This is a civil administrative action brought under Section 325(c) of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act ("EPCRA"), 42 U.S.C. § 11045(c), for assessment of a civil administrative penalty against Respondent for its failure to submit timely, complete and correct Toxic Chemical Release Inventory Forms for calendar years 2003 and 2004 in violation of Section 313 of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11023, and the implementing regulations set forth at 40 C.F.R. Part 372.
- Complainant is the Director of the Communities and Ecosystems Division in EPA,
   Region IX (the "Complainant"). Pursuant to EPA Delegation Order Number 22-3-A, dated May
   11, 1994, the Administrator of EPA has delegated the authority to file this action under EPCRA

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to the Regional Administrator of EPA, Region IX, and pursuant to EPA Regional Order Number R1260.14B, dated May 19, 2005, the Regional Administrator re-delegated that authority to Complainant.

## B. STATUTORY AND REGULATORY BASIS

- 3. Pursuant to Sections 313 and 328 of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 11023 and 11048, EPA promulgated regulations on February 16, 1988 (53 Fed. Reg. 4525), setting forth requirements for the submission of information relating to the release of toxic chemicals under EPCRA Section 313. These regulations, as amended, are presently codified at 40 C.F.R. Part 372.
- 4. Sections 313(a) and (b) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 11023(a) and (b), and 40 C.F.R. §§ 372.22 and 372.30, provide that the owner or operator of a facility must submit to EPA and the State in which the facility is located a chemical release form published under Section 313(g) of EPCRA for each toxic chemical listed under Section 313(c) of EPCRA and 40 C.F.R. § 372.65 that it manufactured, processed or otherwise used if: (i) the facility has ten or more full-time employees; (ii) the facility is in Standard Industrial Classification Code 2951; and (iii) the facility manufactured, processed or otherwise used during the calendar year the listed toxic chemical in excess of the threshold quantity established under Section 313(f) of EPCRA and 40 C.F.R. § 372.25.
- 5. Pursuant to Section 313(g) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11023(g), EPA published a uniform Toxic Chemical Release Inventory Form (hereinafter referred to as a "Form R") for facilities that are subject to the reporting requirements of Section 313. Sections 313(a) and (b) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 11023(a) and (b), and 40 C.F.R. § 372.30(d), provide that each Form R for activities involving a toxic chemical that occurred during a calendar year must be submitted on or before July 1 of the next year.

## C. ALLEGED VIOLATIONS

- Respondent is a corporation and therefore fits within the definition of a "person," as provided in Section 329(7) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11049(7).
- 7. At all times relevant to this matter, Respondent owned and operated a facility (the "Lone Mountain Facility") in the business of aggregate materials mining and processing and

asphaltic concrete manufacturing, located approximately one mile west of the intersection of I-215 and Lone Mountain Road near Las Vegas, Nevada, that fits within the definition of a "facility," as provided in Section 329(4) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11049(4).

- At all times relevant to this matter, the Lone Mountain Facility had 10 or more "fulltime employees," as that term is defined at 40 C.F.R. § 372.3.
- At all times relevant to this matter, the asphaltic concrete manufacturing establishment at the Lone Mountain Facility was in Standard Industrial Classification Code 2951.
- 10. During the calendar year 2003, Respondent "manufactured, processed, and otherwise used," as those terms are defined in 40 C.F.R. § 372.3, approximately 27 pounds of benzo[g,h,i]perylene, a toxic chemical listed under 40 C.F.R. § 372.65. This quantity exceeded the 10 pound threshold for reporting "manufacturing, processing, and otherwise using" that chemical established under Section 313(f) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11023(f), and 40 C.F.R. § 372.28.
- 11. During the calendar year 2003, Respondent "manufactured, processed, and otherwise used," as those terms are defined in 40 C.F.R. § 372.3, approximately 661 pounds of polycyclic aromatic compounds, a toxic chemical category listed under 40 C.F.R. § 372.65. This quantity exceeded the 100 pound threshold for reporting "manufacturing, processing, and otherwise using" that chemical category established under Section 313(f) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11023(f), and 40 C.F.R. § 372.28.
- 12. During the calendar year 2004, Respondent "manufactured, processed, and otherwise used," as those terms are defined in 40 C.F.R. § 372.3, approximately 29 pounds of benzo[g,h,i]perylene, a toxic chemical listed under 40 C.F.R. § 372.65. This quantity exceeded the 10 pound threshold for reporting "manufacturing, processing, and otherwise using" that chemical established under Section 313(f) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11023(f), and 40 C.F.R. § 372.28.
- 13. During the calendar year 2004, Respondent "manufactured, processed, and otherwise used," as those terms are defined in 40 C.F.R. § 372.3, approximately 723 pounds of polycyclic aromatic compounds, a toxic chemical category listed under 40 C.F.R. § 372.65. This quantity

exceeded the 100 pound threshold for reporting "manufacturing, processing, and otherwise using" that chemical category established under Section 313(f) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11023(f), and 40 C.F.R. § 372.28.

- 14. Respondent was required to submit Form Rs for benzo[g,h,i]perylene and polycyclic aromatic compounds to EPA and the State of Nevada for calendar year 2003 on or before July 1, 2004.
- 15. Respondent was required to submit Form Rs for benzo[g,h,i]perylene and polycyclic aromatic compounds to EPA and the State of Nevada for calendar year 2004 on or before July 1, 2005.
- 16. Respondent failed to timely submit the Form Rs required of it to EPA and the State of Nevada for calendar years 2003 and 2004, and thus violated Section 313 of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11023, and 40 C.F.R. Part 372.
- 17. Section 325(c) of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11045(c), and the Civil Monetary Penalty Inflation Adjustment Rule, 40 C.F.R. Part 19, provide that any person who violates any requirement of Section 313 shall be liable to the United States for a civil penalty in an amount not to exceed \$32,500 for each such violation that occurred on or after March 15, 2004. Under the Enforcement Response Policy for Section 313 of EPCRA, dated August 10, 1992, and the Civil Monetary Penalty Inflation Adjustment Rule, the violations cited above would merit a total gravity-based civil penalty of TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND AND EIGHT HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$25,800), given the nature, circumstances, and extent of the violations alleged.

#### D. RESPONDENT'S ADMISSIONS

18. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 22.18(b)(2) and for the purpose of this proceeding, Respondent: (i) admits that EPA has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this CAFO and over Respondent; (ii) neither admits nor denies the specific factual allegations contained in Sections I.A.1 and I.C of this CAFO; (iii) consents to any and all conditions specified in this CAFO and to the assessment of the civil administrative penalty under Section I.E of this CAFO; (iv) waives any right to contest the allegations contained in this CAFO; and (v) waives the right to appeal the proposed Final Order contained in this CAFO.

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19. In settlement of the violations specifically alleged in Sections I.A.1 and I.C of this CAFO, Respondent shall pay a civil administrative penalty of EIGHTEEN THOUSAND AND SIXTY DOLLARS (\$18,060). Respondent shall pay this civil penalty within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this CAFO, shall make this payment by cashier's or certified check payable to the "Treasurer, United States of America," and shall send the check by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the following address:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX P.O. Box 371099M Pittsburgh, PA 15251

Respondent shall accompany its payment with a transmittal letter identifying the case name, the case docket number, and this CAFO. Concurrent with delivery of the payment of the penalty, Respondent shall send a copy of the check and transmittal letter to the following addresses:

Regional Hearing Clerk
Office of Regional Counsel (ORC-1)
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

Russell Frazer Communities and Ecosystems Division (CED-4) U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX 75 Hawthorne Street San Francisco, CA 94105

Edgar Coral
Office of Regional Counsel (ORC-2)
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

- 20. Respondent shall not use payment of any penalty under this CAFO as a tax deduction from Respondent's federal, state, or local taxes, nor shall Respondent allow any other person to use such payment as a tax deduction.
- 21. If Respondent fails to pay the assessed civil administrative penalty of EIGHTEEN THOUSAND AND SIXTY DOLLARS (\$18,060), as identified in Paragraph 19, by the deadline specified in that Paragraph, then Respondent shall also pay a stipulated penalty to EPA. The

amount of the stipulated penalty will be SEVEN THOUSAND, SEVEN HUNDRED, AND
FORTY DOLLARS (\$7,740), and will be immediately due and payable on the day following the
deadline specified in Paragraph 19, together with the initially assessed civil administrative penalty of EIGHTEEN THOUSAND AND SIXTY DOLLARS (\$18,060), resulting in a total
penalty due of TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND AND EIGHT HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$25,800).
Failure to pay the civil administrative penalty specified in Paragraph 19 by the deadline specified
in that Paragraph may also lead to any or all of the following actions:

- (1) EPA may refer the debt to a credit reporting agency, a collection agency, or to the Department of Justice for filing of a collection action in the appropriate United States District Court. 40 C.F.R. §§ 13.13, 13.14 and 13.33. The validity, amount, and appropriateness of the assessed penalty or of this CAFO is not subject to review in any such collection proceeding.
- (2) The U.S. Government may collect the debt by administrative offset (i.e., the withholding of money payable by the United States to, or held by the United States for, a person to satisfy the debt the person owes the U.S. Government), which includes, but is not limited to, referral to the Internal Revenue Service for offset against income tax refunds. 40 C.F.R. §§ 13(C) and 13(H).
- (3) Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. § 13.17, EPA may either: (i) suspend or revoke Respondent's licenses or other privileges, or (ii) suspend or disqualify Respondent from doing business with EPA or engaging in programs EPA sponsors or funds.
- (4) Pursuant to 31 U.S.C. § 3701 et seq. and 40 C.F.R. Part 13, the U.S. Government may assess interest, administrative handling charges, and nonpayment penalties against the outstanding amount that Respondent owes to EPA for Respondent's failure to pay the civil administrative penalty specified in Paragraph 19 by the deadline specified in that Paragraph.
- (a) Interest. Pursuant to 31 U.S.C. § 3717 and 40 C.F.R. §13.11(a)(1), any unpaid portion of the assessed penalty shall bear interest at the rate established according to 26 U.S.C. § 6621(a)(2) from the effective date of this CAFO, provided, however, that no interest shall be payable on any portion of the assessed penalty that is paid within thirty

(30) days of the effective date of this CAFO.

(b) Administrative Handling Charges. Pursuant to 31 U.S.C. Section 3717(e)(1) and 40 C.F.R. § 13.11(b), Respondent shall pay a monthly handling charge, based on either actual or average cost incurred (including both direct and indirect costs), for every month in which any portion of the assessed penalty is more than thirty (30) days past due.

(c) Nonpayment Penalties. Pursuant to 31 U.S.C. § 3717(e)(2) and 40 C.F.R. § 13.11(c), a monthly penalty charge, not to exceed six percent (6%) annually, may be assessed on all debts more than ninety (90) days delinquent.

# F. CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE

22. In executing this CAFO, Respondent certifies that (1) it has now fully completed and submitted to EPA all of the required Toxic Chemical Release Inventory Forms in compliance with Section 313 of EPCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 11023, and the regulations promulgated thereunder; and (2) it has complied with all other EPCRA requirements at all facilities under its control.

## G. RETENTION OF RIGHTS

- 23. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 22.18(c), this CAFO only resolves Respondent's liabilities for federal civil penalties for the violations and facts specifically alleged in Sections I.A.1 and I.C of this CAFO. Nothing in this CAFO is intended to or shall be construed to resolve: (i) any civil liability for violations of any provision of any federal, state, or local law, statute, regulation, rule, ordinance, or permit not specifically alleged in Sections I.A.1 and I.C of this CAFO; or (ii) any criminal liability. EPA specifically reserves any and all authorities, rights, and remedies available to it (including, but not limited to, injunctive or other equitable relief or criminal sanctions) to address any violation of this CAFO or any violation not specifically alleged in Sections I.A.1 and I.C of this CAFO.
- 24. This CAFO does not exempt, relieve, modify, or affect in any way Respondent's duties to comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, rules, ordinances, and permits.

# H. ATTORNEYS' FEES AND COSTS 1 25. Each party shall bear its own attorneys' fees, costs, and disbursements incurred in 2 3 this proceeding. I. EFFECTIVE DATE 4 26. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. §§ 22.18(b)(3) and 22.31(b), this CAFO shall be 5 effective on the date that the Final Order contained in this CAFO, having been approved and 6 issued by either the Regional Judicial Officer or Regional Administrator, is filed. 7 8 J. BINDING EFFECT 27. The undersigned representative of Complainant and the undersigned representative of 9 10 Respondent each certifies that he or she is fully authorized to enter into the terms and conditions of this CAFO and to bind the party he or she represents to this CAFO. 11 28. The provisions of this CAFO shall apply to and be binding upon Respondent and its 12 13 officers, directors, employees, agents, trustees, servants, authorized representatives, successors, and assigns. 14 15 FOR RESPONDENT LAS VEGAS PAVING CORPORATION: 16 17 18 19 Chief Executive Officer Las Vegas Paving Corporation 20 4420 South Decatur Blvd. 21 Las Vegas, NV 89103 22 FOR COMPLAINANT EPA: 23 24 25 26

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Director, Communities and Ecosystems Division

75 Hawthorne Street

San Francisco, California 94105

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX

# CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that the original fully executed Consent Agreement and Final Order ("CAFO"),

Docket Number EPCRA-09-2007-00, Qa8 filed this day with the Regional Hearing Clerk, U.S.

EPA, Region IX, 75 Hawthorne Street, San Francisco, California, 94105, and that a true and correct copy of the CAFO was sent to Respondent at the following address:

Mr. Robert L. Mendenhall CEO Las Vegas Paving Corporation 4420 South Decatur Blvd. Las Vegas, NV 89103

Certified Mail No: 7005 3110 0002 8247 1803

Danielle E. Can

Regional Hearing Clerk

Region IX, EPA

Office of Regional Counsel

7-17-07

Date