



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 5

77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

SEP 30 2011

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:
LU-9J

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Jeffrey Kehne
Hill & Kehne, LLC
2300 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, Suite 300
Washington, DC 20007

Re: Executed RCRA Section 3008(h) Performance-based Administrative Order on Consent
RACER Trust- Saginaw Nodular Iron, 2100 Veterans Memorial Parkway, Saginaw, MI
MID 041 793 340
Docket Number RCRA-05-2011-0023

Dear Mr. Kehn:

I am enclosing a fully executed copy of the 3008(h) Administrative Order on Consent (AOC), docket number RCRA-05-2011-0023 covering corrective action for past releases of hazardous contaminants at or from the subject facility. This performance-based AOC will provide the flexibility that you need to complete the work expeditiously. In addition, we expect that it will lead to better communication between our two organizations and the public. We look forward to working cooperatively with you and your staff on this project.

In accordance with Section V of the AOC, I am hereby designating Nate Nemani as the EPA project manager for this project. If you have any questions, please contact him at (312) 886-3224 or nemani.nate@epa.gov.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jose G. Cisneros".

Jose G. Cisneros, Chief
Remediation and Reuse Branch
Land and Chemicals Division

Enclosure

**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 5**

IN THE MATTER OF:)	ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER ON
)	CONSENT
)	
Saginaw Nodular Iron)	
2100 Veterans Memorial Parkway,)	U.S. EPA Docket No: RCRA-05-2011-0023
Saginaw, Michigan)	
)	
EPA ID#: MID 041 793 340)	Proceeding under Section 3008(h) of
)	the Resource Conservation and
)	Recovery Act as amended,
)	42 U.S.C. §6928(h).
RESPONDENT)	
Revitalizing Auto Communities)	
Environmental Response Trust)	
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I. JURISDICTION

**REGIONAL HEARING CLERK
U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION AGENCY**

1. The Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (“U.S. EPA”) and Respondent Revitalizing Auto Communities Environmental Response Trust (“RACER”), a trust formed under the laws of the State of New York, enter into this Administrative Order on Consent (“Order”) under Section 3008(h) of the Solid Waste Disposal Act, commonly referred to as the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976 (“RCRA”), as amended by the Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments of 1984, 42 U.S.C. § 6928(h). The Administrator has delegated the authority to issue orders under Section 3008(h) of RCRA to the Director, Land and Chemicals Division, U.S. EPA Region 5.

2. RACER manages a portion of the former General Motors Corporation (“GM”) property at 2100 Veterans Memorial Parkway in Saginaw, Michigan, formerly known as Saginaw Metal Casting Operations (“SMCO”), and henceforth to be referred as Saginaw Nodular Iron (“SNI”)(the “Site”). The Site, which is owned by RACER’s direct, wholly owned subsidiary RACER Properties LLC, is located in the city of Saginaw, Saginaw County, Michigan. The Site consists of: (a) the vacant land formerly occupied by the Nodular Iron plant designated as Investigative Unit (“IU-G”) in the old GM Corp’s RCRA Facility Investigation report, Phase 1(c) dated March 9, 2007, (“RFI”); (b) Waste Water Treatment Plant area and the Storm water ditch (“IU-H”); and (c) a portion of the Quench slag and the Metals Reclamation/Classified Sand Staging area (“IU-I”). The property is zoned Industrial on the City of Saginaw and Charter Township maps.

3. RACER agrees not to contest U.S. EPA's jurisdiction to issue this Order, or to enforce its terms.

4. RACER waives any rights to request a hearing on this matter pursuant to Section 3008(b) of RCRA and 40 C.F.R. Part 24, and consents to the issuance of this Order without a hearing under Section 3008(b) of RCRA as a Consent Order issued pursuant to Section 3008(h) of RCRA.

II. DEFINITIONS

5. This Order incorporates the definitions in RCRA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 6901-6922k, and the regulations promulgated under RCRA unless otherwise specified.

III. PARTIES BOUND

6. This Order applies to and is binding upon U.S. EPA and upon RACER (each separately a "Party," and collectively the "Parties") and RACER's successors and assigns. Any change in ownership or corporate status of RACER, including, but not limited to, any transfer of assets or real or personal property, shall not alter RACER's responsibilities under this Order. RACER shall ensure that its contractors, subcontractors, and representatives performing the work receive a copy of this Order and comply with this Order. RACER shall be responsible for any noncompliance with this Order.

7. No change in ownership or corporate or partnership status relating to the RCRA facility located at the Site will alter RACER's obligations under this Order, unless otherwise agreed to by all Parties and set forth in a modification(s) to this Order. This Section will not apply if U.S. EPA and RACER agree that this Order has terminated as to the facility or any relevant portion of the facility. RACER will provide to U.S. EPA advance notice of a proposed facility transfer pursuant to the terms and requirements of the Consent Decree identified in paragraph 10 of this Order.

IV. DETERMINATIONS

8. After consideration of the Administrative Record, the Director of the Land and Chemicals Division in U.S. EPA Region 5 has made the following conclusions of law and determinations:

- a. RACER is a "person" within the meaning of Section 1004(15) of RCRA.
- b. RACER, through its wholly owned direct subsidiary RACER Properties LLC, is the owner of a facility that has operated under interim status subject to Section 3005(e) of RCRA.
- c. Certain wastes and constituents found at the facility are hazardous wastes and/or hazardous constituents pursuant to Sections 1004(5) and 3001 of RCRA and 40 C.F.R. Part 261.

- d. There is or has been a release of hazardous wastes or hazardous constituents into the environment from the facility.
- e. The actions required by this Order are necessary to protect human health and/ or the environment.

V. PROJECT MANAGER

9. U.S. EPA and RACER will each designate a Project Manager and notify each other in writing of the Project Manager selected within 14 days of the effective date of this Order. Each Project Manager will be responsible for overseeing the implementation of this project. Whenever a Party changes Project Managers it will provide prompt written notice to the other Party.

VI. WORK TO BE PERFORMED

10. Pursuant to Section 3008(h) of RCRA, RACER agrees to perform the actions specified in this section, in the manner and by the dates specified here. RACER represents that it has the technical and financial ability to carry out Corrective Action at the facility, subject to the terms, provisions and limitations set forth in Environmental Response Trust Consent Decree and Settlement Agreement Among Debtors, the Environmental Response Trust Administrative Trustee, the United States [fourteen States] and the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe, Case No.09-50026 (REG) in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York (“Consent Decree”).

11. As contemplated by the Consent Decree, RACER may request and U.S. EPA may approve at its sole discretion, changes to the RCRA facility boundary to allow portions of the Site to be redeveloped. U.S. EPA may approve such an adjustment based on factors including but not limited to:

- a. Information on historical uses and environmental data demonstrating that the portion of the Site proposed for sale or redevelopment was never used for any regulated activity or that no contamination is present on the portion of the Site to be released for sale or redevelopment.
- b. Successful completion of the required remedy for contamination found on the portion of the Site to be released for sale or redevelopment.
- c. Approval of closure with restrictions or closure without restrictions for the portion of the Site to be released for sale or redevelopment.

12. In the case of a conflict between this Order and the Consent Decree, the Consent Decree controls.

13. RACER will perform the work undertaken pursuant to this Order in compliance with RCRA, other applicable federal and state laws, and their implementing regulations, and consistent with all relevant U.S. EPA guidance documents as appropriate to the facility, and the terms, provisions and limitations set forth in the Consent Decree.

14. Guidance documents that may be appropriate include, but are not limited to, the Documentation of Environmental Indicator Determination Guidance and relevant portions of the Model Scopes of Work for RCRA Corrective Action and of U.S. EPA's risk assessment guidance.

15. To the extent not already completed or otherwise determined by U.S. EPA to be unnecessary, RACER will identify and define the nature and extent of releases of hazardous waste and hazardous constituents at or from the facility. This may include, without limitation:

- a. Provide to U.S. EPA, within 60 days after the effective date of this Order, a brief Current Conditions Report that includes any recent sampling data from the facility, and a summary of the historic operations and physical setting of the facility. The Current Conditions Report will describe, at a minimum, any new /updated information since the submission of the original CCR report. The report must clearly identify, define and describe the property boundaries between the RACER property and the new GM LLC.
- b. Perform an investigation to identify the nature and extent of any releases of hazardous waste or hazardous constituents at or from the facility which may pose an unacceptable risk to human health and the environment, and provide a report to U.S. EPA. The report will also describe the nature and extent of any releases of hazardous waste and hazardous constituents at or from the facility which do not pose an unacceptable risk to human health and the environment, and provide the basis for those conclusions, including an evaluation of the risks, which upon concurrence of U.S. EPA may be a comparison to applicable Michigan Part 201 Non-residential Cleanup Criteria. RACER may prepare and submit the report in two phases to provide timely support for the demonstrations described in paragraph 16, below, and for the determinations and proposal described in paragraph 17, below.

16. RACER may proceed with remedial actions to limit site investigation work or risk assessment activities to complete the work as defined in paragraphs 17 through 20, below.

17. To the extent not already completed or otherwise determined by U.S. EPA to be unnecessary, RACER will demonstrate by December 31, 2011 through submitting an Environmental Indicators Report and by performing any other necessary activities, consistent with this Section, that:

- a. All current human exposures to contamination at or from the facility are under control and such control(s) will be maintained. That is, significant or unacceptable exposures do not exist for all media known or reasonably suspected to be contaminated with hazardous wastes or hazardous constituents above risk-based levels, which upon concurrence of U.S. EPA may be a comparison to applicable Michigan Part 201 Non-residential Cleanup Criteria, for which there are complete pathways between contamination and human receptors.
- b. Migration of contaminated groundwater, if any, at or from the facility is stabilized and such control(s) will be maintained. That is, the migration of all groundwater known or reasonably suspected to be contaminated with hazardous wastes or hazardous constituents above acceptable levels is stabilized to remain within any existing areas of contamination as defined by monitoring locations designated at the time of the demonstration. In addition, any discharge of groundwater to surface water is either insignificant or currently acceptable according to an appropriate interim assessment. RACER will collect monitoring and measurement data in the future as necessary to verify that migration of any contaminated groundwater is stabilized.

18. To prepare for and provide the demonstrations required by paragraph 17, above, RACER will:

- a. Determine appropriate risk screening criteria under current use scenarios and provide the basis and justification for the use of these criteria, which upon concurrence of U.S. EPA may be a comparison to applicable Michigan Part 201 Non-residential Cleanup Criteria.
- b. Determine any current unacceptable risks to human health and the environment and describe why other identified risks are acceptable.
- c. Control any unacceptable current human exposures that RACER identifies. This includes performing any corrective actions or other response measures ("Corrective Measures") necessary to control current human exposures to contamination to within acceptable risk levels.
- d. Stabilize the migration of contaminated groundwater. This includes implementing any Corrective Measures necessary to stabilize the migration of contaminated groundwater.
- e. Conduct groundwater monitoring to confirm that any contaminated groundwater remains within the original area of contamination.
- f. Prepare a report, either prior to or as part of the Environmental Indicators

Report that describes and justifies any interim actions performed to meet the requirements of this Section, including sampling documentation, construction completion documentation and/or confirmatory sampling results.

19. To the extent not already completed or otherwise determined by U.S. EPA to be unnecessary, RACER will propose to U.S. EPA by April 1, 2013 final Corrective Measures necessary to protect human health and the environment from all current and future unacceptable risks due to releases of hazardous waste or hazardous constituents at or from the Facility (the "Final Corrective Measures Proposal"). The proposal will describe all Corrective Measures implemented at the facility since the effective date of this Order. It will also include a description of all other final Corrective Measures that RACER evaluated, an explanation of why RACER preferred the proposed final Corrective Measures and cost estimates for the final Corrective Measures evaluated. The proposal will also include a schedule to construct and implement the final Corrective Measures and to submit a Final Remedy Construction Completion Report.

20. To the extent not already completed or otherwise determined by U.S. EPA to be unnecessary, as part of developing its proposal, RACER will propose appropriate risk screening criteria, which upon concurrence of U.S. EPA may be a comparison to applicable Michigan Part 201 Non-residential Cleanup Criteria, cleanup objectives, and points of compliance under current and reasonably expected future land use scenarios and provide the basis and justification for these decisions.

21. U.S. EPA may request supplemental information from RACER if U.S. EPA determines that that the proposal and supporting information do not provide an adequate basis to select the final Corrective Measures that will protect human health and the environment from the release of hazardous waste and hazardous constituents at or from the facility.

22. U.S. EPA will provide the public with an opportunity to review and comment on its proposed final Corrective Measures, including a detailed description and justification for the proposal (the "Statement of Basis"). Following the public comment period, U.S. EPA will select the final Corrective Measures, and will notify the public of the decision and rationale in a Final Decision and Response to Comments ("Final Decision").

23. Upon notice by U.S. EPA, RACER will implement the final Corrective Measures selected in U.S. EPA's Final Decision according to the schedule in the Final Decision to the extent the Final Decision does not conflict with the terms, conditions and limitations of the Consent Decree.

24. Reporting and other requirements:

- a. RACER will establish a publicly accessible repository for information regarding site activities and conduct public outreach and involvement activities consistent with the RCRA Public Participation Manual, as

appropriate for the facility and as directed and in consultation with U.S. EPA.

- b. RACER will provide quarterly progress reports to EPA by the fifteenth day of the month after the end of each quarter. The report will list work performed to date, data collected, problems encountered, project schedule and percent project completed, unless otherwise agreed.
- c. The Parties will communicate as needed and in good faith to assure successful completion of the requirements of this Order, and will communicate/meet on at least a semi-annual basis, or as needed, to discuss the work proposed and performed under this Order.
- d. RACER will provide a Final Remedy Construction Completion Report to U.S. EPA documenting all work that it has performed pursuant to the schedule in U.S. EPA's Final Remedy Decision.
- e. If ongoing monitoring or operation and maintenance are required after construction of the final Corrective Measures, RACER will include an operations and maintenance plan in the Final Remedy Construction Completion Report. RACER will revise and resubmit the report in response to U.S. EPA's written comments, if any, by the dates U.S. EPA specifies. Upon U.S. EPA's written approval, RACER will implement the approved operation and maintenance plan according to the schedule and terms of the plan.
- f. Any risk assessments RACER conducts will estimate human health and ecological risk under reasonable maximum exposure for both current and reasonably expected or planned land use scenarios. In conducting the risk assessments, RACER will follow the Risk Assessment Guidance for Superfund (RAGS) or other appropriate U.S. EPA guidance. RACER will use appropriate, conservative screening values when screening to determine whether further investigation is required. Appropriate screening values include those derived from Federal Maximum Contaminant Levels, U.S. EPA Regional Screening Levels, U.S. EPA Region 5 Ecological Screening Levels, U.S. EPA Region 5 Risk Based Screening Levels RAGS, or other screening values approved by U.S. EPA.
- g. All sampling and analysis conducted under this Order will be performed in accordance with the Region 5 RCRA Quality Assurance Project Plan Policy (April 1998) as appropriate for the facility, and be sufficient to identify and characterize the nature and extent of all releases as required by this Order. U.S. EPA may audit laboratories RACER, selects. RACER will notify U.S. EPA in writing at least 14 days before beginning each separate phase of field work performed under this Order. At the request of U.S. EPA, RACER will provide or allow U.S. EPA or its authorized

representative to take, split or duplicate samples of all samples RACER collects under this Order.

25. Project Managers can agree in writing to extend, for 90 days or less, any deadline in this Section. However, extensions of greater than 90 days require approval from the Chief, Remediation and Reuse Branch, Land and Chemicals Division.

VII. ACCESS

26. Upon reasonable notice, and at reasonable times, U.S. EPA, its contractors, employees, and any designated U.S. EPA representatives may enter and freely move about the facility to, among other things: interview facility personnel and contractors; review progress in carrying out the terms of this Order; conduct tests, sampling or monitoring as U.S. EPA deems necessary; use a camera, sound recording or other documentary equipment; and verify the reports and data RACER submits to U.S. EPA. RACER will permit such persons to inspect and copy all non-privileged photographs and documents, including all sampling and monitoring data, that pertain to work undertaken under this Order and that are within the possession or under the control of RACER or its contractors or consultants. RACER may request split samples, or copies of all photographs, tapes, videos or other recorded evidence created by U.S. EPA and releasable under the Freedom of Information Act.

27. If RACER will go beyond the facility's boundary to perform work required by this Order, RACER will use its best efforts to obtain the necessary access agreements from the present owner(s) of such property within 60 days after RACER knows of the need for access. Any such access agreement will provide for access by U.S. EPA and its representatives. RACER will submit a copy of any access agreement to U.S. EPA's Project Manager. If it does not obtain agreements for access within 60 days, RACER will notify U.S. EPA in writing within 14 additional days of both the efforts undertaken to obtain access and the failure to obtain access agreements. U.S. EPA may, at its discretion, assist RACER in obtaining access.

28. Nothing in this Section limits or otherwise affects U.S. EPA's right of access and entry under applicable law, including RCRA and the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act ("CERCLA"), 42 U.S.C. §§ 9601-9675.

VIII. RECORD PRESERVATION

29. RACER will retain, during the pendency of this Order and for at least six years after the Order terminates, all data and all final documents now in its possession or control or which come into its possession or control which relate to this Order. RACER will notify U.S. EPA in writing 90 days before destroying any such records, and give U.S. EPA the opportunity to take possession of any non-privileged documents. RACER's notice will refer to the effective date, caption and docket number of this Order and will be addressed to:

Director
Land and Chemicals Division
EPA, Region 5
77 W. Jackson Blvd.
Chicago, Illinois 60604-3590

RACER will also promptly give U.S. EPA's Project Manager a copy of the notice.

30. Within 30 days of retaining or employing any agent, consultant, or contractor ("Agents") to carry out the terms of this Order, RACER will enter into an agreement with the Agents to give RACER a copy of all data and final non-privileged documents produced under this Order.

31. RACER will not assert any privilege claim concerning any data gathered during any investigations or other actions required by this Order.

IX. DISPUTE RESOLUTION

32. The Parties will use their best efforts to informally and in good faith resolve all disputes or differences of opinion.

33. Any disputes regarding budget or funding for work at the Facility will be resolved pursuant to the terms of the Consent Decree. All other disputes will follow the procedures outlined in this section.

34. If either Party disagrees, in whole or in part, with any decision made or action taken under this Order, that Party will notify the other Party's Project Manager of the dispute. The Project Managers will attempt to resolve the dispute informally.

35. If the Project Managers cannot resolve the dispute informally, either Party may pursue the matter formally by placing its objections in writing. A written objection must state the specific points in dispute, the basis for that Party's position and any matters which it considers necessary for determination.

36. U.S. EPA and RACER will in good faith attempt to resolve the dispute through formal negotiations within 21 days, or a longer period if agreed in writing by the Parties. During formal negotiations, either Party may request a conference with appropriate senior management to discuss the dispute.

37. If the Parties are unable to reach an agreement through formal negotiations, within 14 business days after any formal negotiations end, RACER and U.S. EPA's Project Manager may submit additional written information to the Director of the Land and Chemicals Division, EPA Region 5. U.S. EPA will maintain a record of the dispute, which will contain all statements of position and any other documentation submitted pursuant to this Section. U.S. EPA will allow timely submission of relevant supplemental statements of position by the Parties to the dispute. Based on the record, U.S. EPA will

respond to RACER's arguments and evidence and provide a detailed written decision on the dispute signed by the Director of the Land and Chemicals Division, EPA Region 5 ("EPA Dispute Decision").

X. MODIFICATION

38. This Order may be modified only by mutual agreement of U.S. EPA and RACER, except as provided in Section VI - Work to be Performed. Any agreed modifications will be in writing, will be signed by both Parties, will be effective on the date of signature by U.S. EPA and will be incorporated into this Order.

39. Any changes to the Remediation Cost Estimate Scope of Work, prepared for the Site in the annual cleanup budget process set out in the Consent Decree, that has been approved by U.S. EPA and/or any change to the current budget for the Site that has been approved by U.S. EPA shall be considered a modification to this agreement that has been approved by the Parties and will be effective on the date of approval by U.S. EPA, and will be incorporated into this Order.

XI. RESERVATION OF RIGHTS

40. Nothing in this Order restricts U.S. EPA's authority to seek RACER's compliance with the Order and applicable laws and regulations. In any later proceeding, RACER will not assert or maintain any defense or claim of waiver, res judicata, collateral estoppel, issue preclusion, claim-splitting or other defenses based upon a contention that the claims raised by U.S. EPA or the United States in the later proceeding were or should have been raised here. This Order is not a covenant not to sue, release, waiver or limitation of any rights, remedies, powers or authorities of U.S. EPA.

41. U.S. EPA reserves all of its rights to perform any portion of the work required under this Order, or any additional site characterization, feasibility study, and remedial work as it deems necessary to protect human health or the environment.

42. If U.S. EPA determines that RACER's actions related to this Order have caused or may cause a release of hazardous waste or hazardous constituent(s), a threat to human health or the environment or that RACER cannot perform any of the work required, U.S. EPA may order RACER to stop implementing this Order for the time U.S. EPA determines may be needed to abate the release or threat and to take any action that U.S. EPA determines is necessary to abate the release or threat.

43. RACER does not admit any of U.S. EPA's factual or legal determinations. Except for the specific waivers in this Order, RACER reserves all of its rights, remedies and defenses, including all rights and defenses it may have: (a) to challenge U.S. EPA's performance of work; (b) to challenge U.S. EPA's stop work orders; and (c) regarding liability or responsibility for conditions at the facility, except for its right to contest U.S. EPA's jurisdiction to issue or enforce this Order. RACER has entered into this Order in good faith without trial or adjudication of any issue of fact or law.

XII. OTHER CLAIMS

44. RACER waives any claims or demands for compensation or payment under Section 106(b), 111, and 112 of CERCLA against the United States or the Hazardous Substance Superfund established by 26 U.S.C. § 9507 for, or arising out of, any activity performed or expense incurred under this Order. Additionally, this Order is not a decision on preauthorization of funds under Section 111(a)(2) of CERCLA.

XIII. SEVERABILITY

45. If any judicial or administrative authority holds any provision of this Order to be invalid, the remaining provisions will remain in force and will not be affected.

XIV. TERMINATION AND SATISFACTION

46. RACER may request that U.S. EPA issue a determination that RACER has met the requirements of the Order for all or a portion of the facility. RACER may also request that U.S. EPA issue a no further interest or no further action determination for all or a portion of the facility or that corrective action is complete at the facility.

47. The provisions of the Order will be satisfied upon RACER's and U.S. EPA's execution of an Acknowledgment of Termination and Agreement on Record Preservation and Reservation of Rights ("Acknowledgement"), consistent with U.S. EPA's Model Scope of Work.

48. RACER's execution of the Acknowledgment will affirm its continuing obligation to preserve all records as required by Section VIII, to maintain any necessary institutional controls or other long term measures, and to recognize U.S. EPA's reservation of rights as required in Section XI.

XV. EFFECTIVE DATE

49. This Order is effective on the date that U.S. EPA signs the Order.

IT IS SO AGREED:


DATE: 9/22/11

REVITALIZING AUTO COMMUNITIES
ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSE TRUST

BY: 
Michael O. Hill
Chief Operating Officer and General
Counsel

IT IS SO ORDERED:

DATE: 9/29/11

By: 
Margaret M. Guerriero
Director
Land and Chemicals Division
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region 5

RCRA-05-2011-0023

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COUNSEL