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HEARINGS CLERK EPA -- REGION 10

BEFORE THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

In the Matter of:		) ) )	DOCKET NO. FIFRA-10-2010-0230
AXSS USA, LLC		) )	CONSENT AGREEMENT AND FINAL ORDER
	Respondent	)	

# I. STATUTORY AUTHORITY

- 1.1. This Consent Agreement and Final Order ("CAFO") is issued under the authority vested in the Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") by Section 14(a) of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act ("FIFRA"), 7 U.S.C. § 136l(a).
- 1.2. The Administrator has delegated the authority to issue the Final Order contained in Part V of this CAFO to the Regional Administrator of EPA Region 10, who in turn has redelegated this authority to the Regional Judicial Officer.
- 1.3. Pursuant to Section 14(a) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136*l*(a), and in accordance with the "Consolidated Rules of Practice Governing the Administrative Assessment of Civil Penalties," 40 C.F.R. Part 22, EPA hereby issues, and Axss USA, LLC. ("Respondent") hereby agrees to issuance of, the Final Order contained in Part V of this CAFO.

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### II. PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

- 2.1. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. §§ 22.13(b) and 22.35, issuance of this CAFO commences this proceeding which will conclude when the Final Order contained in Part V of this CAFO becomes effective.
- 2.2. Part III of this CAFO contains a concise statement of the statutory and factual basis for the alleged violations of FIFRA.

### III. <u>ALLEGATIONS</u>

- 3.1. Axss USA, LLC owns and operates a business facility located at 6000 West 20<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 26, Greeley, Colorado 80633.
- 3.2. On one occasion in 2010, Respondent, imported the misbranded pesticide "2,4-D Acid Technical" EPA Registration Number 83520-9. Respondent committed one violation of Section 12(a)(1)(E) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136j(a)(1)(E), by selling and distributing misbranded pesticides. These violations subject Respondent to the payment of a civil penalty in accordance with Section 14(a)(2) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 136l(a)(2).
- 3.3. Pursuant to FIFRA Section 14(a), 7 U.S.C. § 136*l*(a), and 40 C.F.R. Part 19, EPA may assess a civil penalty of not more than \$7,500 for each offense against any registrant, commercial applicator, wholesaler, dealer, retailer, or other distributor who violates any provision of Section 12 of FIFRA.

#### IV. <u>CONSENT\_AGREEMENT</u>

4.1. For the purpose of this proceeding, Respondent admits the jurisdictional allegations contained herein, but neither admits nor denies the specific factual allegations put forth by EPA. Respondent waives any right to contest these allegations as well as the right to appeal the accompanying Final Order. Respondent also consents that this settlement will be

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1	considered prior history under FIFRA once finalized and consents to payment of the penalty as		
2	stated below.		
3	4.2. Respondent consents to the assessment of a civil penalty in the amount of FIVE -		
4	THOUSAND SEVEN-HUNDRED SIXTY DOLLARS and no cents (\$5,760.00). Respondent		
5	consents to issuance of the Final Order set forth in Part V, below, and agrees to pay the total civil		
6	penalty set forth in this paragraph within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this Final Order.		
7	4.3. Payment under this CAFO shall be made by cashier's check or certified check,		
8	payable to the order of "Treasurer, United States of America" and delivered to the following		
9	address:		
10	US Bank - USEPA - Region 10 Fines and Penalties		
11	Cincinnati Finance Center		
12	PO Box 979077 St. Louis, MO 63197-9000		
13	Respondent shall note on the check the title and docket number of this action.		
14	4.4. Respondent shall serve photocopies of the checks described in Paragraph 4.3,		
15	above, on the Regional Hearing Clerk and the EPA Region 10 Office of Compliance and		
16	Enforcement at the following addresses:		
17	Regional Hearing Clerk		
18	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 10 Office of Regional Counsel, ORC-158		
19	1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900 Seattle, WA 98101		
20	Attn: Derrick Terada		
21	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 10 Pesticides and Toxics Unit, OCE-084		
22	1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900 Seattle, WA 98101		
23			
24	4.5. Should Respondent fail to pay the penalty assessed herein in full by its due date, the entire unpaid balance of penalty and accrued interest shall become immediately due and		
25	the entire unpaid barance of penalty and accrued interest shall become infinediately due and		

owing. Should such a failure to pay occur, Respondent may be subject to a civil action under Section 14(a)(5) of FIFRA, 7 U.S.C. § 1361(a)(5), to collect any unpaid penalties, together with interest, handling charges, and nonpayment penalties, as set forth below.

- 4.6. Should Respondent fail to pay any portion of the penalty assessed herein in full by its due date, Respondent shall also be responsible for payment of the following amounts:
  - a. <u>Interest</u>: Any unpaid portion of the assessed penalty shall bear interest at the rate established by the Secretary of the Treasury pursuant to 31 U.S.C. § 3717(a)(1) from the effective date of the accompanying Final Order, provided, however, that no interest shall be payable on any portion of the assessed penalty that is paid within 30 days of the effective date of the Final Order.
  - b. <u>Handling Charge</u>: Pursuant to 31 U.S.C. § 3717(e)(1), a monthly handling charge of \$15 shall be paid if any portion of the assessed penalty is more than 30 days past due.
  - c. Nonpayment Penalty: Pursuant to 31 U.S.C. § 3717(e)(2), a nonpayment penalty of 6% per annum shall be paid on any portion of the assessed penalty that is more than 90 days past due, which nonpayment penalty shall be calculated as of the date the underlying penalty first becomes past due.
- 4.7. The penalty described in Paragraph 4.2, above, including any additional costs incurred under Paragraph 4.6, above, represents an administrative civil penalty assessed by EPA and shall not be deductible for purposes of federal taxes.
- 4.8. The undersigned representative of Respondent certifies that he is fully authorized to enter into the terms and conditions of this CAFO and to bind Respondent to this document.
- 4.9. Respondent shall bear its own costs and attorneys fees in connection with this matter.

1	4.10. The provisions of t	his CAFO shall bind Respondent and its agents, servants,
2	employees, successors, and assign	S.
3	4.11. The above provision	ons are STIPULATED AND AGREED upon by Respondent
4	and EPA.	
5	DATED:	AXSS USA, LLC.:
6	09.07.2010	Shiff
7 8		KEVIN HOWARD President
9		For Respondent
10	DATED:	U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY:
11	9/15/2010	
12		EDWARD J KOWALSKI
13		Director, Office of Compliance and Enforcement
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24   25		V. <u>FINAL ORDER</u>

## V. FINAL ORDER

- 5.1. The terms of the foregoing Parts I-IV are hereby ratified and incorporated by reference into this Final Order. Respondent is hereby ordered to comply with the foregoing terms of the settlement.
- 5.2. This CAFO shall constitute a settlement by EPA of all claims for civil penalties pursuant to FIFRA for the violations alleged above. In accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 22.31(a), nothing in this CAFO shall affect the right of EPA or the United States to pursue appropriate injunctive or other equitable relief or criminal sanctions for any violations of law. This CAFO does not waive, extinguish, or otherwise affect Respondent's obligations to comply with all applicable provisions of FIFRA and regulations promulgated thereunder.
  - 5.3. This Final Order shall become effective upon filing.

SO ORDERED this 16 day of September, 2010

Thomas M. Jahnke

Regional Judicial Officer

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Region 10

CONSENT AGREEMENT AND FINAL ORDER - 6 DOCKET NO. FIFRA-10-2010-0230

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900 Seattle, Washington 98101 (206) 553-1037

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned certifies that the original of the attached CONSENT AGREEMENT AND FINAL ORDER in the Matter of: Axss USA, LLC. Docket No. FIFRA 10-2010-0230, was filed with the Regional Hearing Clerk on Sept 16, 2010.

On <u>Sept 16</u>, <sup>2c/o</sup> the undersigned certifies that a true and correct copy of the document was hand delivered to:

Mercer St. Peter, Assistant Regional Counsel U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10 1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900, Mail Stop ORC-158 Seattle, Washington 98101

Further, the undersigned certifies that a true and correct copy of the aforementioned document was placed in the United States mail certified/return receipt on Sept. 16, 2016, to:

Kevin Howard, President Axss USA, LLC 6600 West 20<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 26 Greeley, Colorado 80633

Dated:  $\frac{9/16/2010}{}$ 

To Carol Kennedy

Regional Hearing Clerk

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