

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

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BEFORE THE ADMINISTRATOR

IN THE MATTER OF:

LAKE'S FARM SERVICE LLC,

DOCKET NO. CAA-05-2010-0058

RESPONDENT

ORDER SCHEDULING HEARING

This proceeding arises under the authority of Section 113(d) of the Clean Air Act ("CAA"), 42 U.S.C. § 7413(d). The parties are reminded that this proceeding is governed by the Consolidated Rules of Practice Governing the Administrative Assessment of Civil Penalties and the Revocation/Termination or Suspension of Permits ("Rules of Practice"), 40 C.F.R. §§ 22.1-22.32.

Pursuant to the Prehearing Order issued by the undersigned on April 6, 2011, the parties have filed their initial prehearing exchanges and Complainant has filed its Rebuttal Prehearing Exchange. Section 22.19(f) of the Rules of Practice, 40 C.F.R. § 22.19(f), requires parties to promptly supplement their initial prehearing exchanges when they learn that the information therein is incomplete, inaccurate, or outdated, and the additional information has not otherwise been disclosed to the opposing party. The parties retain the right to move to supplement their prehearing exchanges no later than 15 days before the hearing date. Sections 22.19(a) and 22.22(a) of the Rules of Practice, 40 C.F.R. §§ 22.19(a) and 22.22(a), provide that documents or exhibits that have not been exchanged and witnesses whose names or testimony summaries have not been exchanged at least 15 days before the hearing date shall not be admitted into evidence or allowed to testify unless good cause is shown for failing to exchange the required information. The parties are advised that the undersigned will not entertain last minute attempts to supplement their prehearing exchanges absent extraordinary circumstances.

The parties are also advised that every motion filed in this proceeding must be served in sufficient time to permit the filing of a response by the non-moving party and to permit the issuance of an order on the motion before the deadlines set by this Order or any subsequent order. Section 22.16(b) of the Rules of Practice, 40 C.F.R. § 22.16(b), requires a party's response to a motion to be filed within 15 days of service of the motion, and Section 22.7(c), 40 C.F.R. § 22.7(c), provides for an additional five days to be added to that 15-day period when the motion is served by mail.

The file before me reflects that the parties have engaged in settlement negotiations but that a settlement has not yet been reached. United States Environmental Protection Agency policy, found in the Rules of Practice at Section 22.18(b), 40 C.F.R. § 22.18(b), encourages settlement of a proceeding without the necessity of a formal hearing. The benefits of a negotiated settlement may far outweigh the uncertainty, time, and expense associated with a litigated proceeding. However, the parties are advised that the pursuit of settlement negotiations or an averment that a settlement in principle has been reached will not constitute good cause for failure to comply with the requirements or schedule set forth in this Order.

As the parties have not reached a settlement in this matter, they shall strictly comply with the requirements of this Order and prepare for a hearing. In connection therewith, on or before **December 16, 2011**, the parties shall file a joint set of stipulated facts, exhibits, and testimony. See Section 22.19(b)(2) of the Rules of Practice, 40 C.F.R. § 22.19(b)(2). The time allotted for the hearing is limited. Therefore, the parties must make a good faith effort to stipulate, as much as possible, to matters that cannot reasonably be contested so that the hearing can be concise and focused solely on those matters that can only be resolved after a hearing.

The Hearing in this matter will be held beginning at 9:30 a.m. on Monday, January 9, 2012, in South Bend, Indiana, and continue if necessary through January 13, 2012.¹ The Regional Hearing Clerk will make appropriate arrangements for a courtroom and retain a stenographic reporter. The parties will be notified of the exact location and of other procedures pertinent to the hearing when those arrangements are complete. Individuals requiring special accommodation at this hearing, including wheelchair access, should contact the Regional Hearing Clerk at least five business days prior to the hearing so that appropriate arrangements can be made.

¹ At the present time, the undersigned is not available to conduct a hearing in this matter on any earlier dates due to previously scheduled hearings. However, should any of those hearings be cancelled, the parties will have the option of rescheduling the hearing in this matter for an earlier date.

IF ANY PARTY DOES NOT INTEND TO ATTEND THE HEARING OR HAS GOOD CAUSE FOR NOT BEING ABLE TO ATTEND THE HEARING AS SCHEDULED, IT SHALL NOTIFY THE UNDERSIGNED AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE MOMENT.

Barbara Α.

Barbara A. Gunning Administrative Law Judge

Dated: July 6, 2011 Washington, DC

In the Matter of *Lake's Farm Service LLC*, Respondent. Docket No. CAA-05-2010-0058

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true copy of this **Order Scheduling Hearing**, issued by Barbara A. Gunning, Administrative Law Judge, dated July 6, 2011, in Docket No. CAA-05-2010-0058, was sent to the following parties on this 6st day of July 2011, in the manner indicated:

Man Angeles

Mary Angeles Legal Staff Assistant

Original and One Copy by Pouch Mail to:

LaDawn Whitehead Regional Hearing Clerk U.S. EPA, Region V, MC-E-19J 77 West Jackson Blvd., Chicago, IL 60604-3590

Copy by Pouch Mail to:

Louise Gross, Esq. Associate Regional Counsel ORC / U.S. EPA / Region V, C-14J 77 West Jackson Blvd. Chicago, IL 60604-3590

Copy by Regular Mail to:

Michael J. Schmidt, Esq. Stephen A. Studer, Esq. John H. Lloyd, Esq. Krieg DeVault, LLP 4101 Edison Lakes Pkway., Ste. 100 Mishawaka, IN 46545

Dated: July 6, 2011 Washington, DC