

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY BEFORE THE ADMINISTRATOR

In the Matter of:)	
)	
The GEO Group, Inc.,)	Docket No. FIFRA-09-2024-0066
)	
Respondent.)	

ORDER GRANTING UNOPPOSED FOURTH MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

I am in receipt of Complainant's March 14, 2025, Fourth Motion for Extension of Time, which requests that Complainant's deadline to respond to Respondent's November 25, 2024, Motion to Dismiss be extended for an additional 60 days. 4th Mot. for Extension of Time (Mar. 14, 2025) (the "Motion"). Complainant's current response deadline is March 25, 2025. Order Granting Unopposed 3rd Mot. for Extension of Time (Feb. 6, 2025). Complainant notes that the alternative dispute resolution ("ADR") period in this matter will conclude without the possibility of further extension on March 21, 2025. Mot. 1–2; 2nd Rep. Recommending Continuation of ADR Process (Feb. 5, 2025). Complainant further notes that a change in presidential administrations took place during the ADR period and asserts that, no settlement having been reached, Complainant now requires additional "time to brief new Agency officials about this case and the underlying statute." Mot. 1–2. Complainant states that Respondent does not oppose the requested extension. Mot. 2.

This matter 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") set forth at 40 C.F.R. Part 22. The Rules of Practice provide that I "may grant an extension of time for filing any document: upon timely motion of a party to the proceeding, for good cause shown, and after consideration of prejudice to other parties; or upon its own initiative." 40 C.F.R. § 22.7(b).

Here, the Motion was timely and shows good cause. Respondent does not oppose the Motion, and, in this instance, the interests of the parties and of justice will be served by permitting Complainant to engage in such internal consultation as may be necessary to proceed with its case. Therefore, the Motion is hereby **GRANTED**. Complainant shall file any response to Respondent's Motion to Dismiss no later than May 26, 2025.

SO ORDERED.

Administrative Law Judge

Dated: March 18, 2025 Washington, D.C. In the Matter of *The GEO Group, Inc.*, Respondent. Docket No. FIFRA-09-2024-0066

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that the foregoing **Order Granting Unopposed Fourth Motion for Extension of Time**, dated March 18, 2025, and issued by Administrative Law Judge Michael B. Wright, was sent this day to the following parties in the manner indicated below.

Stefanie Neale
Stefanie Neale
Attorney Advisor

Copy by OALJ E-Filing System to:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Administrative Law Judges
https://yosemite.epa.gov/OA/EAB/EAB-ALJ_Upload.nsf

Copy by Electronic Mail to:

Carol Bussey
Assistant Regional Counsel
Office of Regional Counsel
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX

Email: <u>Bussey.Carol@epa.gov</u> Counsel for Complainant

Gregory M. Munson Gunster Law Firm

Email: gmunson@gunster.com

Counsel for Respondent

Dated: March 18, 2025 Washington, D.C.