UNITED STATES ANVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGAINCY

BEFORE THE ADMINISTRATOR

In the Matter of

Gottfredson's, Inc.,

Docket No. FIFRA-09-0828-C-94-03

Respondent

SUMMARY OF TELEPHONE CONFERENCE

STATEMENT OF AGREEMENT AND RULING

This document summarizes the February 14, 1996 telephone conference, and states for the record the agreement reached and ruling issued during the conference. Representing Complainant was David M. Jones, and representing Respondent was Kevin J. Phillips.

In the conference, Respondent explained his defense to the Complaint. Since at this point this defense appears nowhere in the written record, it was agreed that by February 29, 1996 Respondent will submit a letter setting forth this defense.

It was ruled that Complainant's Motion for a Default Order is denied. Respondent had failed to file a prehearing exchange, as stated in the Motion. Nevertheless, since Respondent is appearing in this case without legal counsel and may not have appreciated the consequences of that failure to file, Respondent is given another chance to state his case through the letter due February 29, 1996. Where possible, it is always desirable to decide a case on the merits, rather than on a procedural point.

Thomas

Administrative Law Judg

Dated:

Felmon

In the Matter of Gottfredson's Inc., Respondent Docket No. FIFRA-09-0828-C-94-03

Certificate of Service

I certify that the foregoing **Summary of Telephone Conference Statement of Agreement and Ruling,** dated February 14, 1996, was sent this day in the following manner to the addressees listed below.

Original by Regular Mail to:

Steven Armsey Regional Hearing Clerk U.S. EPA 75 Hawthorne Street San Francisco, CA 94105

Copy by Regular Mail to:

Attorney for Complainant:

David M. Jones, Esquire Office of Regional Counsel U.S. EPA 75 Hawthorne Street San Francisco, CA 94105

Attorney for Respondent:

Kevin J. Phillips Gottfredsons Incorporated P.O. Box 307 179 Clover Street Caliente, NV 89008

Maria Whiting / Legal Staff Assistant

Dated: February 14, 1996