

**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 5**

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

Three Star Drilling and Producing Co  
201 S Christy Ave  
Sumner, Illinois 62466

**ATTENTION:** Mr. Ira Mike Patton  
President

**Request to Provide Information Pursuant to the Clean Air Act**

U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is requiring Three Star Drilling and Producing Co (Three Star or you) to submit certain information about your oil production operations in Lawrence County, Illinois. Appendix B specifies the information that you must submit. You must send this information to us or according to the schedule in Appendix B.

We are issuing this information request under section 114(a) of the Clean Air Act (the Act), 42 U.S.C. § 7414(a). Section 114(a) authorizes the Administrator of EPA to require the submission of information. The Administrator has delegated this authority to the Director of the Air and Radiation Division, Region 5.

You own and operate an emission source in Lawrence County, Illinois. We are requesting this information to determine whether your emission source is complying with the Act, in response to the ambient concentrations of hydrogen sulfide measured in the county.

You must send all required information to:

Attn: Compliance Tracker, AE-17J  
Air Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Branch  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5  
77 West Jackson Boulevard  
Chicago, Illinois 60604  
With copies to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency:

Ray Pilapil, Manager  
Bureau of Air, Compliance and Enforcement Section  
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency  
1021 North Grand Avenue East  
Springfield, Illinois 62706

Under 40 C.F.R. Part 2, Subpart B, you may assert a claim of business confidentiality for any portion of the submitted information. You must specify the page, paragraph, and sentence when identifying the information subject to your claim. Appendix A specifies the assertion and substantiation requirements for business confidentiality claims. You must submit all requested information under an authorized signature with the following certification:

I certify under penalty of law that I have examined and am familiar with the information in the enclosed documents, including all attachments. Based on my inquiry of those individuals with primary responsibility for obtaining the information, I certify that the statements and information are, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for knowingly submitting false statements and information, including the possibility of fines or imprisonment pursuant to section 113(c)(2) of the Act, and 18 U.S.C. §§ 1001 and 1341.

We may use any information submitted in response to this request in an administrative, civil, or criminal action. This request is not subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act, 44 U.S.C. § 3501 et seq., because it seeks collection of information from specific individuals or entities as part of an administrative action or investigation. To aid in our electronic record keeping efforts, please provide your response to this request for information without staples. Paper clips, binder clips, and 3-ring binders are acceptable.

Failure to comply fully with this request for information may subject you to an enforcement action under section 113 of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 7413.

You should direct any questions about this request for information to Kathryn Siegel at (312) 353-1377.

11/30/07  
Date

*for* William L. MacDowell  
Stephen Rothblatt, Director  
Air and Radiation Division

## Appendix A

### **Confidential Business Information (CBI) Assertion and Substantiation Requirements**

#### A. Assertion Requirements

You may assert a business confidentiality claim covering all or part of the information requested in the attached letter, as provided in 40 C.F.R. § 2.203(b). To make a confidentiality claim, submit the requested information and indicate that you are making a claim of confidentiality. Any document over which you make a claim of confidentiality should be marked by attaching a cover sheet stamped or typed with a legend to indicate the intent to claim confidentiality. The stamped or typed legend, or other suitable form of notice, should employ language such as "trade secret" or "proprietary" or "company confidential" and indicate a date if any when the information should no longer be treated as confidential. Information covered by such a claim will be disclosed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) only to the extent permitted and by means of the procedures set forth by Section 114(c) of the Clean Air Act (the Act), and 40 C.F.R. Part 2. Allegedly confidential portions of otherwise nonconfidential documents should be clearly identified. EPA will construe the failure to furnish a confidentiality claim with your response to the attached letter as a waiver of that claim, and the information may be made available to the public without further notice to you.

Please segregate personnel, medical and similar files from your responses and include that information on separate sheet(s) marked as "Personal Privacy Information" given that disclosure of such information to the general public may constitute an invasion of privacy.

#### B. Substantiation Requirements

All confidentiality claims are subject to EPA verification and must be made in accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 2.208 which provides in part that you satisfactorily show that you have taken reasonable measures to protect the confidentiality of the information and that you intend to continue to do so; and that the information is not and has not been reasonably obtainable by legitimate means without your consent.

Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. Part 2, Subpart B, EPA may at any time send you a letter asking you to substantiate fully your CBI claim. If you receive such a letter, you must provide EPA with a response within the number of days set forth in the EPA request letter. Failure to submit your comments within that time would be regarded as a waiver of your confidentiality claim or claims, and EPA may release the information. If you receive such a letter, EPA will ask you to specify which portions of the information you consider confidential. **You must be specific by page, paragraph, and sentence when identifying the information subject to your claim.** Any information not specifically identified as subject to a confidentiality claim may be disclosed to the requestor without

further notice to you. For each item or class of information that you identify as being subject to CBI, you must answer the following questions, giving as much detail as possible:

1. For what period of time do you request that the information be maintained as confidential, e.g., until a certain date, until the occurrence of a specified event, or permanently? If the occurrence of a specific event will eliminate the need for confidentiality, please specify that event.
2. Information submitted to EPA becomes stale over time. Why should the information you claim as confidential be protected for the time period specified in your answer to question #1?
3. What measures have you taken to protect the information claimed as confidential? Have you disclosed the information to anyone other than a governmental body or someone who is bound by an agreement not to disclose the information further? If so, why should the information still be considered confidential?
4. Is the information contained in any publicly available material such as the Internet, publicly available databases, promotional publications, annual reports, or articles? Is there any means by which a member of the public could obtain access to the information? Is the information of a kind that you would customarily not release to the public?
5. Has any governmental body made a determination as to the confidentiality of the information? If so, please attach a copy of the determination.
6. For each category of information claimed as confidential, explain with specificity why release of the information is likely to cause substantial harm to your competitive position. Explain the specific nature of those harmful effects, why they should be viewed as substantial, and the causal relationship between disclosure and such harmful effects. How could your competitors make use of this information to your detriment?
7. Do you assert that the information is submitted on a voluntary or a mandatory basis? Please explain the reason for your assertion. If you assert that the information is voluntarily submitted information, explain whether and why disclosure of the information would tend to lessen the availability to EPA of similar information in the future.
8. Any other issue you deem relevant.

Please note that emission data provided under Section 114 of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 7414, is not entitled to confidential treatment under 40 C.F.R. Part 2. "Emission data" means, with reference to any source of emission of any substance into the air-

Information necessary to determine the identity, amount, frequency, concentration, or other characteristics (to the extent related to air quality) of any emission which has been emitted by the source (or of any pollutant resulting from any emission by the source), or any combination of the foregoing;

Information necessary to determine the identity, amount, frequency, concentration, or other characteristics (to the extent related to air quality) of the emissions which, under an applicable standard or limitation, the source was authorized to emit (including, to the extent necessary for such purposes, a description of the manner and rate of operation of the source); and

A general description of the location and/or nature of the source to the extent necessary to identify the source and to distinguish it from other sources (including, to the extent necessary for such purposes, a description of the device, installation, or operation constituting the source).

40 C.F.R. § 2.301(a)(2)(i)(A), (B) and (C).

Emission data includes, but is not limited to, service records stating the amount of refrigerant added to a unit or reclaimed from a unit.

If you receive a request for a substantiation letter from the EPA, you bear the burden of substantiating your confidentiality claim. Conclusory allegations will be given little or no weight in the determination. In substantiating your CBI claim(s), you must bracket all text so claimed and mark it "CBI." Information so designated will be disclosed by EPA only to the extent allowed by, and by means of the procedures set forth in, 40 C.F.R. Part 2, Subpart B. If you fail to claim the information as confidential, it may be made available to the public without further notice to you.

## Appendix B

Three Star must submit the following information to EPA, pursuant to Section 114 of the Clean Air Act, 42 U.S.C. § 7414, within fifteen days of receipt of this request.

1. Provide a brief description of Three Star's oil production operations.
2. Provide all annual oil production and storage capacity information from January 2002 to the present.
3. Identify all oil well acquisitions from January 2002 to the present.
4. Provide all drawings and maps displaying Three Star's properties and the location of all wells, pipelines, tanks, pits, processing plants and all other equipment and buildings owned or operated by Three Star.
5. In tabular form, provide a list of all wells owned or operated by Three Star in Lawrence County, Illinois, and provide the following information for each well:
  - a. date of construction;
  - b. physical location including either UTM, latitude and longitude coordinates, or other specific location information as identified in Three Star's records;
  - c. status (active, abandoned, etc.);
  - d. production rate; and
  - e. a description of any associated air emission control devices.
6. In tabular form, provide a list of all tanks owned or operated by Three Star in Lawrence County, Illinois, and provide the following information for each tank:
  - a. date of construction;
  - b. physical location including either Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) grid or latitude and longitude coordinates, or other specific location information as identified in Three Star's records;
  - c. purpose (receiver, stock, sales, etc.);
  - d. total capacity, expressed as barrels;
  - e. daily throughput volume, expressed as both barrels of oil per day and barrels of brine per day; and
  - f. a description of any associated air emission control devices.
7. Provide a detailed description of Three Star's brine water handling procedures, including but not limited to, the volume of brine water extracted, how brine is stored, if brine is re-injected, and how brine is disposed. Also include a description of any associated air emission control devices.
8. Provide a detailed description of Three Star's purchase truck off-load procedures, including but not limited to, frequency of truck off-loading and volume of crude

product that is off-loaded. Also include a description of any associated air emission control devices.

9. Provide all air permitting documents, air permit applications and correspondence relating to air permitting submitted to any state or federal agencies.
10. Provide all calculations of hydrogen sulfide emissions for all emission sources, including but not limited to, wells, tanks, and pits, from January 2002 to the present. Include any assumptions used in these calculations.
11. Provide records of any citizen complaints received by Three Star from January 2002 to the present.
12. Identify any actions undertaken by Three Star to investigate, repair, or control sources of hydrogen sulfide or sour gas emissions.

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I, Betty Williams, certify that I sent a Request to Provide Information Pursuant to the

Clean Air Act by Certified Mail to:

Mr. Ira Mike Patton  
President  
Three Star Drilling and Producing Co  
201 S Christy Ave  
Sumner, Illinois 62466

With copies to:

Ray Pilapil, Manager  
Bureau of Air, Compliance and Enforcement Section  
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency  
1021 North Grand Avenue East  
Springfield, Illinois 62706

on the 30<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2007.

  
Betty Williams, Secretary  
AECAS, (IL/IN)

CERTIFIED MAIL RECEIPT NUMBER: 7006 0320 0005 8920 1934



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 5

77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD

CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

Exhibit II

APR 03 2008

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

AE-17J

CERTIFIED MAIL

RETURN RECEIPT No.: 70010320000589201385

Mr. Ira Mike Patton, President  
Three Star Drilling and Producing Co  
201 S Christy Ave  
Sumner, IL 62466

Re: Failure to Comply with Clean Air Act Section 114 Request

Dear Mr. Patton:

On November 30, 2007, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) sent Three Star Drilling and Producing Co a request for information under Section 114(a) of the Clean Air Act, 42 U.S.C. § 7414(a). EPA sent the Section 114 request for information via certified mail. The Section 114 request was returned to EPA on January 2, 2008. EPA resent the Section 114 request and received confirmation that the United States post office delivered the Section 114 request on January 25, 2008. A copy of the November 30, 2007 Section 114 request is enclosed with this letter.

Section 114(a) of the Clean Air Act authorizes the Administrator of EPA to require the submission of information. EPA's November 30, 2007 Section 114 request required upon its receipt that you send written responses and appropriate supporting documentation to all questions in Appendix B within 15 days of your receipt of the request.

If you choose to comply with EPA's Section 114 request, please send the requested information within 15 days of your receipt of this letter to:

Attn: Compliance Tracker, AE-17J  
Air Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Branch  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5  
77 West Jackson Boulevard  
Chicago, Illinois 60604.

If you continue to refuse to comply with the Section 114 request, EPA will consider its enforcement options.

If you have any questions concerning this Section 114 request, please contact Kathryn Siegel at (312) 353-1377.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brent Marable". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "B" and a stylized "M".

Brent Marable

Enclosure