

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY



**IN THE MATTER OF AN
ENFORCEMENT ACTION
CONCERNING
TOM GREEN COUNTY;
RN100551282**

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**BEFORE THE
TEXAS COMMISSION ON
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**

AGREED ORDER

DOCKET NO. 2010-1516-PST-E

I. JURISDICTION AND STIPULATIONS

At its _____ agenda meeting, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality ("Commission" or "TCEQ") considered this agreement of the parties (the "Agreed Order"), resolving an enforcement action regarding Tom Green County ("Respondent") under the authority of TEX. WATER CODE chs. 7 and 26. The Executive Director of the TCEQ, represented by the Litigation Division, and Respondent, represented by Wm. Keith Davis of the law firm Hay, Wittenburg, Davis, Caldwell & Bale, L.L.P., appear before the Commission and together stipulate that:

1. Respondent owns and operates, as defined in 30 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 334.2(73) and (70), an underground storage tank ("UST") system and a non-commercial gasoline service station located at 400 East Avenue A in San Angelo, Tom Green County, Texas (the "Facility"). The UST at the Facility is not exempt or excluded from regulation under the Texas Water Code or the rules of the Commission, and contain a regulated petroleum substance as defined in the rules of the TCEQ.
2. This Agreed Order is entered into pursuant to TEX. WATER CODE §§ 7.051 and 7.070. The Commission has jurisdiction of this matter pursuant to TEX. WATER CODE § 5.013 because it alleges violations of TEX. WATER CODE ch. 26 and TCEQ rules.
3. The Executive Director and Respondent agree that the Commission has jurisdiction to enter this Agreed Order, and that Respondent is subject to the Commission's jurisdiction.
4. The occurrence of any violation is in dispute and the entry of this Agreed Order shall not constitute an admission by Respondent of any violation alleged in Section II ("Allegations"), nor of any statute or rule.
5. An administrative penalty in the amount of three thousand dollars (\$3,000.00) is assessed by the Commission in settlement of the violations alleged in Section II. Respondent has paid the three thousand dollar (\$3,000.00) administrative penalty in full.
- ~~6. Any notice and procedures which might otherwise be authorized or required in this action are waived in the interest of a more timely resolution of the matter.~~

7. The Executive Director of the TCEQ and Respondent agree on a settlement of the matters addressed in this Agreed Order, subject to the approval of the Commission.
8. The Executive Director recognizes that Respondent:
 - a. Submitted documents on May 12, 2010, demonstrating that inspections of the sumps, manways, and overspill containers have been and are being conducted at the Facility; and
 - b. Began conducting daily volume measurement and monthly reconciliation of detailed inventory control records on October 6, 2010.
9. The Executive Director may, without further notice or hearing, refer this matter to the Office of the Attorney General of the State of Texas ("OAG") for further enforcement proceedings if the Executive Director determines that Respondent has not complied with one or more of the terms or conditions in this Agreed Order.
10. This Agreed Order shall terminate five years from its effective date or upon compliance with all the terms and conditions set forth in this Agreed Order, whichever is later.
11. The provisions of this Agreed Order are deemed severable, and, if a court of competent jurisdiction or other appropriate authority deems any provision of this Agreed Order unenforceable, the remaining provisions shall be valid and enforceable.

II. ALLEGATIONS

1. During an investigation conducted on May 12, 2010, a TCEQ San Angelo Regional Office investigator documented the following alleged violations:
 - a. Respondent failed to conduct reconciliation of detailed inventory control records at least once each month, in a manner sufficiently accurate to detect a release which equals or exceeds the sum of 1.0% of the total substance flow-through for the month plus 130 gallons, and failed to record inventory volume measurement for the regulated substance inputs, withdrawals, and the amount still remaining in the tank each operating day, in violation of 30 TEX. ADMIN. CODE §§ 334.50(d)(1)(B)(ii) and 334.50(d)(1)(B)(iii)(I), and TEX. WATER CODE § 26.3475(c)(1); and
 - b. Respondent failed to inspect all sumps, manways, overspill containers or catchment basins associated with a UST system at least once every 60 days to assure that their sides, bottoms, and any penetration points are maintained liquid-tight, and free from liquid or debris. Specifically, the overspill containers contained liquid, in violation of 30 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 334.42(i).
 2. Respondent received notice of the allegations in Section II on or about June 5, 2010.
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III. DENIALS

Respondent generally denies each Allegation in Section II.

IV. ORDERING PROVISIONS

1. It is, therefore, ordered by the TCEQ that Respondent pay an administrative penalty as set forth in Section I, Paragraph 5, above. The payment of this administrative penalty and Respondent's compliance with all the terms and conditions set forth in this Agreed Order resolve only the Allegations in Section II. The Commission shall not be constrained in any manner from considering or requiring corrective actions or penalties for violations which are not raised here.
2. All relief not expressly granted in this Agreed Order is denied.
3. The duties and provisions imposed by this Agreed Order shall apply to and be binding upon Respondent. Respondent is ordered to give notice of this Agreed Order to personnel who maintain day-to-day control over the Facility operations referenced in this Agreed Order.
4. If Respondent fails to comply with any of the Ordering Provisions in this Agreed Order within the prescribed schedules, and that failure is caused solely by an act of God, war, strike, riot, or other catastrophe, Respondent's failure to comply is not a violation of this Agreed Order. Respondent shall have the burden of establishing to the Executive Director's satisfaction that such an event has occurred. Respondent shall notify the Executive Director within seven days after Respondent becomes aware of a delaying event and shall take all reasonable measures to mitigate and minimize any delay.
5. The Executive Director may grant an extension of any deadline in this Agreed Order or in any plan, report, or other document submitted pursuant to this Agreed Order, upon a written and substantiated showing of good cause. All requests for extensions by Respondent shall be made in writing to the Executive Director. Extensions are not effective until Respondent receives written approval from the Executive Director. The determination of what constitutes good cause rests solely with the Executive Director.
6. This Agreed Order, issued by the Commission, shall not be admissible against Respondent in a civil proceeding, unless the proceeding is brought by the OAG to: (1) enforce the terms of this Agreed Order; or (2) pursue violations of a statute within the Commission's jurisdiction, or of a rule adopted or an order or permit issued by the Commission under such a statute.
7. This Agreed Order may be executed in separate and multiple counterparts, which together shall constitute a single instrument. Any page of this Agreed Order may be copied, scanned, digitized, converted to electronic portable document format ("pdf"), or otherwise reproduced and may be transmitted by digital or electronic transmission, including but not limited to facsimile transmission and electronic mail. Any signature affixed to this Agreed Order shall constitute an original signature for all purposes and may be used, filed, substituted, or issued for any purpose for which an original signature could be used. The term "signature" shall include manual signatures and true and accurate reproductions of manual signatures created,

executed, endorsed, adopted, or authorized by the person or persons to whom the signatures are attributable. Signatures may be copied or reproduced digitally, electronically, by photocopying, engraving, imprinting, lithographing, electronic mail, facsimile transmission, stamping, or any other means or process which the Executive Director deems acceptable. In this paragraph exclusively, the terms "electronic transmission" "owner" "person" "writing" and "written" shall have the meanings assigned to them under TEX. BUS. ORG. CODE § 1.002.

8. Pursuant to 30 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 70.10(b) and TEX. GOV'T CODE § 2001.142, the effective date of this Agreed Order is the date of hand delivery of this Agreed Order to Respondent, or three days after the date on which the Commission mails notice of this Agreed Order to Respondent, whichever is earlier. The Chief Clerk shall provide a copy of this Agreed Order to each of the parties.

SIGNATURE PAGE

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

For the Commission

For the Executive Director

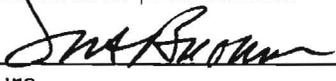
Date

I, the undersigned, have read and understand the attached Agreed Order. I represent that I am authorized to agree to the attached Agreed Order on behalf of Tom Green County, and I do agree to the terms and conditions specified therein. I further acknowledge that the TCEQ, in accepting payment for the penalty amount, is materially relying on such representation.

I also understand that failure to comply with the Ordering Provisions in this order and/or failure to timely pay the penalty amount may result in:

- A negative impact on compliance history;
- Greater scrutiny of any permit applications;
- Referral of this case to the Attorney General's office for contempt, injunctive relief, additional penalties, and/or attorney fees, or to a collection agency;
- Increased penalties in any future enforcement actions;
- Automatic referral to the Attorney General's Office of any future enforcement actions; and
- TCEQ seeking other relief as authorized by law.

In addition, I understand that any falsification of any compliance documents may result in criminal prosecution.



Signature

7-26-11

Date

County Judge

Michael D. Brown, County Judge
acting in his official capacity
and not in his individual capacity