



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT**

**V.**

**CLEAN HARBORS ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, INC.**

**CONSENT ORDER #** WSWDH12004

**Date Issued:** May 18, 2012

- A. With the agreement of Clean Harbors Environmental Services, Inc. (“Respondent”), the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection (“the Commissioner”) finds:
1. Respondent is a Massachusetts corporation which is or has been engaged as operator of hazardous waste management services for the Mid-Northeast Recycling Operating Committee’s (“Mid-NEROC”) Permanent Household Hazardous Waste Collection Center located on Hancock Road in Willington, CT (“the site”).
  2. Permit to Operate No. 1600901-PO (“the permit”) was issued by the Commissioner on May 19, 2009 to the Town of Willington for hazardous waste management operations at the site.
  3. The document entitled “Mid-NEROC Household Chemical Waste Collection Center Operation and Management Plan” (“O&MP”) dated May 17, 1993 or latest revision is incorporated into the permit as Condition 2.
  4. Section III.B of the O&MP requires the site’s operator to take full responsibility for the collection center’s operation including, but not limited to, compliance with all state and federal regulations.
  5. On April 28, 1994, Respondent entered into an agreement with the Town of Willington, through Mid-NEROC, to operate the site according to the terms and conditions of the permit.
  6. Based on the findings of an inspection of the site performed by Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, Waste Engineering and Enforcement Division (“DEEP”) staff on August 20, 2011:
    - a. Respondent failed to notify as a generator of hazardous waste by obtaining a generator EPA ID number as required by Section III.B of the O&MP as incorporated into Condition 2 of the permit. Specifically, DEEP found the facility operating under a temporary EPA ID number issued to its former contractor, Safety-Kleen Systems, Inc.
    - b. Respondent failed to store wastes at the facility 90 days or less as required by Condition 11 of the permit. Specifically, DEEP found the following wastes stored at the facility for greater than 90-days: Adjacent to the sorting table – one, 55-gallon drum labeled “acid”

dated "4/7/10"; one, 55-gallon drum labeled "labpack basic" dated "10/7/09"; one, 55-gallon drum labeled "labpack basic" dated "5/7/11"; one, 55-gallon drum labeled "labpack oxidizer" dated "4/16/11"; one, 55-gallon drum labeled "labpack basic" dated "5/19/07"; Adjacent to the pour-off station – one, 55-gallon drum attached to a can puncturer labeled "waste paint related material" dated "10/7/09".

- c. Respondent failed to clearly label or mark each hazardous waste container with the words "Hazardous Waste" and other words that identify the contents of the containers such as "acid", "alkaline", "cyanide", "reactive", "halogenated solvent", or the chemical name as required by Condition 16 of the permit. Specifically, DEEP found the following containers not labeled or marked with the words "Hazardous Waste" and/or with a description of contents: Adjacent to the sorting table – one, 55-gallon drum accumulating waste aerosol cans (no description of contents); one, 55-gallon drum accumulating waste pesticide solids (no "Hazardous Waste" label and description of contents); one, 55-gallon drum accumulating spent pesticide liquids (no "Hazardous Waste" label and description of contents); Adjacent to the pour-off station – two, 55-gallon drums with a set of paint can cleaning paddles mounted on top (no "Hazardous Waste" label and description of contents).
- d. Respondent failed to label each container with the date of initial acceptance of waste as required by Condition 16 of the permit. Specifically, DEEP found the containers cited in paragraph A.6.c above were not dated.
- e. Respondent failed to manage universal wastes in accordance with Section 22a-449(c)-113 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies ("RCSA") as required by Condition 11 of the permit. Specifically, DEEP found spent fluorescent tubes staged on top of the waste chemical shed were not placed in a container or package; none of the spent tubes or containers holding mercury-containing lamps marked with the words "universal waste-lamps", "waste lamps", or "used lamps"; no date of accumulation on the spent tubes or containers; no inventory system to clearly demonstrate the length of time the spent tubes or mercury-containing lamps had been on-site.
- f. Respondent failed to maintain a daily tracking log at the facility for the purpose of determining maximum storage limit as required by Condition 16 of the permit. Specifically, DEEP found no daily tracking log maintained at the facility.
- g. Respondent failed to maintain an inventory of wastes stored at the facility on each operating day, listing each drum by number, hazard classification, and contents as required by Section IV.I(5) of the O&MP, as incorporated into Condition 2 of the permit. Specifically, DEEP found the last storage inventory sheet available for review at the facility was completed May 16, 2009.
- h. Respondent failed to maintain a container contents sheet for each drum of waste packed at the facility as required by Section IV.I(4) of the O&MP, as incorporated into Condition 2 of the permit. Specifically, DEEP found no container contents sheets available for review at the facility.

- i. Respondent failed to maintain an inspection log and log check-off sheet at the facility which record daily and weekly inspection information and is initialed by the supervising field chemist as required by Sections IV.H, IV.I(6), and VII.A of the O&MP, as incorporated into Condition 2 of the permit. The only inspection log available for review at the facility was dated May 7, 2005. No inspection log check-off sheets were available for review at the facility.
  - j. Respondent failed to complete abandoned waste forms to record incidents of waste abandonment at the facility as required by Section IV.I(7) of the O&MP, as incorporated into Condition 2 of the permit. Specifically, site personnel indicated to DEEP that waste abandonment at the facility is common; however, DEEP found no completed abandoned waste forms available for review.
  - k. Respondent failed to have an operator, certified pursuant to Section 22a-209-6 of the RCSA, present at all times during facility operation as required by Condition 22 of the permit. Specifically, DEEP found no certified operator on-site at the time of the inspection.
  - l. Respondent failed to employ trained personnel of the operator to receive, segregate, pack, consolidate, store and load hazardous waste as required by Section IV.B of the O&MP, as incorporated into Condition 2 of the permit. Specifically, DEEP found that two Mid-NEROC employees on-site receiving, segregating, packing and/or consolidating wastes were not employees of nor trained by Respondent and one employee of the Respondent performing these same duties had not received hazardous waste management training at the time of DEEP's inspection.
  - m. Respondent failed to employ personnel wearing air purifying respirators to consolidate solvents, paints, or other organic liquids in the Work Area as required by Sections VI.B (1) & (2) of the O&MP, as incorporated into Condition 2 of the permit. Specifically, on August 20, 2011 DEEP found one employee of the Respondent and one Mid-NEROC employee working in this area without air-purifying respirators.
  - n. Respondent failed to employ personnel wearing appropriate safety clothing to consolidate solvents, paints, or other organic liquids in the Work Area as required by Section VI.B(2) of the O&MP, as incorporated into Condition 2 of the permit. Specifically, on August 20, 2011 DEEP found one Mid-NEROC employee working in this area without safety glasses or safety shoes.
  - o. Respondent failed to post a performance bond equivalent to the annual face value of the contract between itself and the Permittee as well as provide \$1,000,000 of liability insurance as required by Section III.B of the O&MP as incorporated into Condition 2 of the permit.
7. By virtue of the above, Respondent has violated Permit to Operate No. 1600901-PO issued May 19, 2009.

8. On November 1, 2011 the DEEP issued Notice of Violation No. WSWDH 11079 to Respondent to correct violations corresponding to those listed in paragraph A.6 of this consent order.
  9. In correspondence received November 30, 2011, Respondent represented that violations corresponding to those listed in paragraphs A.6.a through A.6.j of this consent order have been corrected.
  10. By agreeing to the issuance of this consent order, Respondent makes no admission of fact or law with respect to the matters addressed herein, other than the facts asserted in paragraphs A.1 through A.5 of this consent order.
- B. With the agreement of Respondent, the Commissioner, acting under Sections 22a-6, 22a-131, 22a-208, 22a-225, and 22a-226 of the Connecticut General Statutes (“CGS”), orders Respondent as follows:
1. Respondent shall bring all violations identified in paragraph A.6 above into compliance with the terms and conditions of Permit to Operate No. 1600901-PO issued May 19, 2009 in accordance with the following schedule:
    - a. On or before **thirty (30) days** after the date of issuance of this consent order, Respondent shall retain one or more qualified consultants or in-house environmental compliance experts acceptable to the Commissioner to prepare the documents and implement or oversee the actions required by this consent order. Respondent shall retain such consultants or in-house environmental compliance experts or retain other qualified environmental consultants or in-house environmental compliance experts acceptable to the Commissioner until this consent order is fully complied with, and within **ten (10) days** after retaining any consultants or in-house environmental compliance experts other than those originally identified under this paragraph, Respondent shall notify the Commissioner in writing of the identity of such other consultant or in-house environmental compliance expert. Respondent shall submit to the Commissioner a description of a consultant’s or in-house environmental compliance expert’s education, experience, and training which is relevant to the work required by this consent order within **ten (10) days** after a request for such description. Nothing in this paragraph shall preclude the Commissioner from finding a previously acceptable consultant or in-house environmental compliance expert unacceptable.
    - b. On or before **sixty (60) days** after issuance of this consent order, Respondent shall address the comments specified in the attached correspondence letter dated January 30, 2012, which is incorporated herein and made a part of this consent order, and submit, for the Commissioner’s review and written approval, documentation demonstrating such comments have been addressed.

- c. On or before **ninety (90) days** after the date of issuance of this consent order, Respondent shall submit for the Commissioner's review and written approval a plan detailing additional actions and/or operational changes to ensure future compliance with the requirements specified in paragraph A.6 of this consent order. Within **five (5) days** after the Commissioner approves such plan, Respondent shall carry out the plan and maintain it in full effect thereafter.
2. Full compliance. Respondent shall not be considered in full compliance with this consent order until all actions required by this consent order have been completed as approved and to the Commissioner's satisfaction.
3. Status of Notice of Violation No. WSWDH 11079: This consent order supersedes Notice of Violation No. WSWDH 11079.
4. Civil penalty. On or before **fourteen (14) days** after issuance of this consent order, Respondent shall pay a penalty of **twelve thousand seven hundred ninety dollars (\$12,790.00)** as the total civil penalty to be sought by the Commissioner for those, and only those, violations described in paragraph A.6 of this consent order.
5. Supplemental Environmental Project. In addition to the penalty referenced in paragraph B.4 above, Respondent has agreed to fund a supplemental environmental project ("SEP") or projects acceptable to the Department according to its February 15, 1996 "Policy on Supplemental Environmental Projects". Therefore, on or before one hundred eighty (180) days after the date of issuance of this consent order, Respondent shall pay **twelve thousand seven hundred ninety dollars (\$12,790.00)** to the Statewide SEP Account, provided Respondent has not received approval from the Commissioner to perform an alternate SEP. Within ninety (90) days of issuance of the order, Respondent may submit an alternate SEP proposal for the Commissioner's review and written approval. If such approval is received, then the payment to the Statewide SEP Account noted above is limited to the difference between the credited value of the SEP and twelve thousand seven hundred ninety dollars (\$12,790.00). The proposed alternative SEP shall be implemented within sixty (60) days of the Commissioner's approval of the proposed SEP. Any payments under this paragraph shall be mailed or personally delivered to the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, Bureau of Financial and Support Services, Accounts Receivable Office, 79 Elm Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06106-5127, and shall be certified or bank check payable to the "Treasurer, State of Connecticut", with notation thereon "Statewide SEP Account" and the consent order number identified on the first page of this Consent Order. A copy of the check and any transmittal letter shall also be sent to Julie Dutton, Bureau of Materials Management and Compliance Assurance, Waste Engineering and Enforcement Division at the same address.
- a. Respondent shall not claim or represent that any SEP payment made pursuant to this consent order constitutes an ordinary business expense or charitable contribution or any other type of tax deductible expense, and Respondent shall not seek or obtain any other tax benefit such as a tax credit as a result of the payment under this paragraph.

- b. If and when Respondent disseminates any publicity, including but not limited to any press releases regarding funding a SEP, Respondent shall include a statement that such funding is in partial settlement of an enforcement action brought by the Commissioner.
6. Payment of penalties. Payment of penalties under this consent order shall be mailed or personally delivered to the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, Bureau of Financial and Support Services, Accounts Receivable Office, 79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106-5127, and shall be by certified or bank check payable to "Treasurer, State of Connecticut." The check shall state on its face, "Bureau of Materials Management and Compliance Assurance, Waste Engineering and Enforcement Division, civil penalty" and the consent order number identified on the first page of this Consent Order. A copy of the check as well as any transmittal letter shall be mailed or delivered to Julie Dutton, Bureau of Materials Management and Compliance Assurance, Waste Engineering and Enforcement Division at the same address.
7. Sampling and sample analyses. All sampling and sample analyses which are required by this consent order and all reporting of such sample analyses shall be conducted by a laboratory certified by the Connecticut Department of Public Health to conduct such sampling and analyses. All sampling and sample analyses performed under this order shall be performed in accordance with procedures specified or approved in writing by the Commissioner, or, if no such procedures have been specified or approved, in accordance with EPA document SW-846. Unless otherwise specified by the Commissioner in writing, the value of each parameter shall be reported to the maximum level of precision and accuracy specified in the applicable protocol, and if no such level is specified, to the maximum level of precision and accuracy possible.
8. Approvals. Respondent shall use best efforts to submit to the Commissioner all documents required by this consent order in a complete and approvable form. If the Commissioner notifies Respondent that any document or other action is deficient, and does not approve it with conditions or modifications, it is deemed disapproved, and Respondent shall correct the deficiencies and resubmit it within the time specified by the Commissioner or, if no time is specified by the Commissioner, within thirty (30) days of the Commissioner's notice of deficiencies. In approving any document or other action under this consent order, the Commissioner may approve the document or other action as submitted or performed or with such conditions or modifications as the Commissioner deems necessary to carry out the purposes of this consent order. Nothing in this paragraph shall excuse noncompliance or delay.
9. Definitions. As used in this consent order, "Commissioner" means the Commissioner or a representative of the Commissioner.
10. Dates. The date of "issuance" of this consent order is the date the consent order is deposited in the U.S. mail or personally delivered, whichever is earlier. The date of submission to the Commissioner of any document required by this consent order shall be the date such document is received by the Commissioner. The date of any notice by the Commissioner under this consent order, including but not limited to notice of approval or disapproval of any document or other action, shall be the date such notice is deposited in the U.S. mail or is

personally delivered, whichever is earlier. Except as otherwise specified in this consent order, the word "day" as used in this consent order means calendar day. Any document or action which is required by this consent order to be submitted or performed by a date which falls on a Saturday, Sunday or a Connecticut or federal holiday shall be submitted or performed by the next day which is not a Saturday, Sunday or Connecticut or federal holiday.

11. Certification of documents. Any document, including but not limited to any notice, which is required to be submitted to the Commissioner under this consent order shall be signed by Respondent or, if Respondent is not an individual, by Respondent's chief executive officer or a duly authorized representative of such officer, as those terms are defined in Section 22a-430-3(b)(2) of the RCSA, and by the individual(s) responsible for actually preparing such document, and each such individual shall certify in writing as follows:  
  
"I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this document and all attachments thereto, and I certify, based on reasonable investigation, including my inquiry of those individuals responsible for obtaining the information, that the submitted information is true, accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. I understand that any false statement made in the submitted information may be punishable as a criminal offense under §53a-157b of the Connecticut General Statutes and any other applicable law."
12. Noncompliance. This consent order is a final order of the Commissioner with respect to the matters addressed herein, and is non-appealable and immediately enforceable. Failure to comply with this consent order may subject Respondent to an injunction and penalties.
13. False statements. Any false statement in any information submitted pursuant to this consent order may be punishable as a criminal offense under Section 53a-157b of the CGS and any other applicable law.
14. Notice of transfer; liability of Respondent. Until Respondent has fully complied with this consent order, Respondent shall notify the Commissioner in writing no later than fifteen (15) days after transferring all or any portion of the facility, the operations, the site or the business which is the subject of this consent order or after obtaining a new mailing or location address. Respondent's obligations under this consent order shall not be affected by the passage of title to any property to any other person or municipality.
15. Commissioner's powers. Except as provided hereinabove with respect to payment of civil penalties, nothing in this consent order shall affect the Commissioner's authority to institute any proceeding or take any other action to prevent or abate violations of law, prevent or abate pollution, recover costs and natural resource damages, and to impose penalties for past, present, or future violations of law. If at any time the Commissioner determines that the actions taken by Respondent pursuant to this consent order have not successfully corrected all violations, fully characterized the extent or degree of any pollution, or successfully abated or prevented pollution, the Commissioner may institute any proceeding to require Respondent to undertake further investigation or further action to prevent or abate violations or pollution.

16. Respondent's obligations under law. Nothing in this consent order shall relieve Respondent of other obligations under applicable federal, state and local law.
17. No assurance by Commissioner. No provision of this consent order and no action or inaction by the Commissioner shall be construed to constitute an assurance by the Commissioner that the actions taken by Respondent pursuant to this consent order will result in compliance or prevent or abate pollution.
18. Access to site. Any representative of the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection may enter the site without prior notice for the purposes of monitoring and enforcing the actions required or allowed by this consent order.
19. No effect on rights of other persons. This consent order neither creates nor affects any rights of persons or municipalities that are not parties to this consent order.
20. Notice to Commissioner of changes. Within fifteen (15) days of the date Respondent becomes aware of a change in any information submitted to the Commissioner under this consent order, or that any such information was inaccurate or misleading or that any relevant information was omitted, Respondent shall submit the correct or omitted information to the Commissioner.
21. Notification of noncompliance. In the event that Respondent becomes aware that it did not or may not comply, or did not or may not comply on time, with any requirement of this consent order or of any document required hereunder, Respondent shall immediately notify by telephone the individual identified in the next paragraph and shall take all reasonable steps to ensure that any noncompliance or delay is avoided or, if unavoidable, is minimized to the greatest extent possible. Within five (5) days of the initial notice, Respondent shall submit in writing the date, time, and duration of the noncompliance and the reasons for the noncompliance or delay and propose, for the review and written approval of the Commissioner, dates by which compliance will be achieved, and Respondent shall comply with any dates which may be approved in writing by the Commissioner. Notification by Respondent shall not excuse noncompliance or delay, and the Commissioner's approval of any compliance dates proposed shall not excuse noncompliance or delay unless specifically so stated by the Commissioner in writing.
22. Submission of documents. Any document required to be submitted to the Commissioner under this consent order shall, unless otherwise specified in this consent order or in writing by the Commissioner, be directed to:

Michelle L. Gore, Sanitary Engineer 3  
Department of Energy and Environmental Protection  
Bureau of Materials Management and Compliance Assurance  
Waste Engineering and Enforcement Division  
79 Elm Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Hartford, Connecticut 06106-5127

Respondent consents to the issuance of this consent order without further notice. The undersigned certifies that he/she is fully authorized to enter into this consent order and to legally bind the Respondent to the terms and conditions of the consent order.

**CLEAN HARBORS ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, INC.**

BY: William G Connors  
William Connors  
Senior Vice President Compliance

5/8/2012  
Date

Issued as a final order of the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection.

Macky McCleary  
Macky McCleary  
Deputy Commissioner

5/17/12  
Date

Consent Order # WSWDH12004