

SITE: Admiral Home
BREAK: 10.11
OTHER: V.17

UNITED STATES
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 4

IN THE MATTER OF:)	ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER ON
Admiral Homes Appliances)	CONSENT FOR REMOVAL ACTION
Superfund Site)	
)	
Williston, Barnwell County,)	U.S. EPA Region 4
South Carolina)	CERCLA Docket No. CER-04-2004-3784
)	
Rheem Manufacturing Company)	Proceeding Under Sections 104, 106(a), 107
)	and 122 of the Comprehensive
<u>Respondent</u>)	Environmental Response, Compensation,
)	and Liability Act, as amended, 42 U.S.C. §§
)	9604, 9606(a), 9607 and 9622

I. JURISDICTION AND GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. This Administrative Order on Consent ("Order") is entered into voluntarily by the United States Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") and Rheem Manufacturing Company ("Respondent"). This Order provides for the performance of a removal action by Respondent and the reimbursement of certain response costs incurred by the United States at the property located at County Road 65 in Williston, South Carolina, in a rural area of Barnwell County (the Admiral Home Appliances Superfund Site or Site). This Order only addresses removal activities and direct and indirect costs related to the removal associated with sewer easements for an Imhoff system and associated pipeline, all of which, as of the date of this agreement, is owned by Dixie-Narco, Inc.

2. This Order is issued under the authority vested in the President of the United States by Sections 104, 106(a), 107 and 122 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, 42 U.S.C. §§ 9604, 9606(a), 9607 and 9622, as amended ("CERCLA").

3. EPA has notified the State of South Carolina ("State") of this action pursuant to Section 106(a) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9606(a).



4. EPA and Respondent recognize that this Order has been negotiated in good faith and that the actions undertaken by Respondent in accordance with this Order do not constitute an admission of any liability. Respondent does not admit, and retains the right to controvert in any on-going third party or subsequent proceedings other than proceedings to implement or enforce this Order, the validity of the findings of facts, conclusions of law, and determinations in Sections IV and V of this Order. Respondent agrees to comply with and be bound by the terms of this Order and further agrees that they will not contest the basis or validity of this Order or its terms.

II. PARTIES BOUND

5. This Order applies to and is binding upon EPA and upon Respondent and its successors and assigns. Any change in ownership or corporate status of Respondent including, but not limited to, any transfer of assets or real or personal property shall not alter Respondent's responsibilities under this Order.

6. Respondent shall ensure that its contractors, subcontractors, and representatives receive a copy of this Order and comply with this Order. Respondent shall be responsible for any noncompliance with this Order, provided however, that such responsibility of Respondent shall not preclude or affect possible claims by Respondent, except as specified in Section XXIV, Paragraph 66.

III. DEFINITIONS

7. Unless otherwise expressly provided herein, terms used in this Order which are defined in CERCLA or in regulations promulgated under CERCLA shall have the meaning assigned to them in CERCLA or in such regulations. Whenever terms listed below are used in this Order or in the appendices attached hereto and incorporated hereunder, the following definitions shall apply:

a. "CERCLA" shall mean the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, as amended, 42 U.S.C. §§ 9601, *et seq.*

b. "Day" shall mean a calendar day. In computing any period of time under this Order, where the last day would fall on a Saturday, Sunday, or Federal holiday, the period shall run until the close of business of the next working day.

c. "Effective Date" shall be the effective date of this Order as provided in Section XXXI.

d. "EPA" shall mean the United States Environmental Protection Agency and any successor departments or agencies of the United States.

e. "SCDHEC" shall mean the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control and any successor departments or agencies of the State.

f. "Future Response Costs" shall mean all costs, including, but not limited to, direct and indirect costs, that the United States incurs in reviewing or developing plans, reports and other items pursuant to this Order, verifying the Work, or otherwise implementing, overseeing, or enforcing this Order, including but not limited to, payroll costs, contractor costs, travel costs, laboratory costs, and Paragraph 33 (emergency response), and Paragraph 59 (work takeover)." Future Response Costs shall mean all costs, including, but not limited to, direct and indirect costs, that the United States incurs at or in connection with the Site after the Effective Date of this Order.

g. "Interest" shall mean interest at the rate specified for interest on investments of the EPA Hazardous Substance Superfund established by 26 U.S.C. § 9507, compounded annually on October 1 of each year, in accordance with 42 U.S.C. § 9607(a). The applicable rate of interest shall be the rate in effect at the time the interest accrues. The rate of interest is subject to change on October 1 of each year.

h. "National Contingency Plan" or "NCP" shall mean the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan promulgated pursuant to Section 105 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9605, codified at 40 C.F.R. Part 300, and any amendments thereto.

i. "Order" shall mean this Administrative Order on Consent and all appendices attached hereto (listed in Section XXXI). In the event of conflict between this Order and any appendix, this Order shall control.

j. "Paragraph" shall mean a portion of this Order identified by an Arabic numeral.

k. "Parties" shall mean EPA and Respondent.

l. "RCRA" shall mean the Solid Waste Disposal Act, as amended, 42 U.S.C. §§ 6901, *et seq.* (also known as the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act).

m. "Respondent" shall mean Rheem Manufacturing Company.

n. "Section" shall mean a portion of this Order identified by a Roman numeral.

o. "Site" shall mean a portion of the Admiral Home Appliances Superfund Site including only the Imhoff tank structure and the associated pipeline located on east side of County Road 65 in Barnwell County, South Carolina near the town of Williston. The Site, as defined by and governed by this Order, is a limited component of the Admiral Home Appliances Superfund Site.

p. "State" shall mean the State of South Carolina.

q. "Statement of Work" or "SOW" shall mean the statement of work for implementation of the removal action, as set forth in Appendix 1 to this Order, and any modifications made in accordance with this Order.

r. "Waste Material" shall mean 1) any "hazardous substance" under Section 101(14) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9601(14); 2) any pollutant or contaminant under Section 101(33) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9601(33); 3) any "solid waste" under Section 1004(27) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6903(27); and 4) any "hazardous material" under appropriate State law.

s. "Work" shall mean all activities Respondent is required to perform under this Order.

IV. FINDINGS OF FACT

8. EPA makes the following Findings of Fact, which Respondent neither admits nor denies

a. The Admiral Home Appliances Superfund Site is located on County Road 65 in Williston, South Carolina, in a rural area of Barnwell County. The Admiral Home Appliances Superfund Site consists of property that is divided into two areas. The first area is west of County Road 65 and is currently owned and operated by Dixie-Narco, Inc., and is an active soft drink vending machine manufacturing facility. The second area is east of County Road 65 and consists of an Imhoff Septic System that formerly discharged into a possible wetland and an unnamed tributary of Spur Branch. The east area of the Admiral Home Appliances Superfund Site is currently owned by Dixie-Narco, Inc. The Site, as it is defined by and governed by this Order, consists of the Imhoff Septic System and associated pipeline only.

b. Previously, Admiral Home Appliances operated on the west area of the Admiral Home Appliances Superfund Site as a manufacturer of refrigerators and freezers under various brand names. Admiral Home Appliances previously used an equalization lagoon on the west area and the Imhoff Septic System on the east area to dispose of domestic and process wastewater that was discharged to adjacent wetlands. The Imhoff Septic System was operated by industry from about 1966 until August 1982, and discharged treated wastewater continuously during this time under a permit approved by the South Carolina Pollution Control Authority (the predecessor to SCDHEC). In addition, effluent was also released from a break in the discharge pipe located approximately 100 feet from the Imhoff tank. The facility discharged to this Imhoff Septic System until August of 1982, when the implementation of the local 201 Plan had created a municipal system to which the facility could connect. The facility was believed to be owned and/or operated by Revco, Inc. (a subsidiary of the predecessor to Rheem Manufacturing Company) and Magic Chef, Inc. (a predecessor to Dixie-Narco, Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of Maytag, Inc.)

c. The Imhoff Septic System consisted of an Imhoff tank, a sludge drying bed, a trickling filter, and a polishing tank. The Imhoff tank was an open topped concrete tank used as a sewage treatment system. The tank was designed so that solids sank to the bottom of an initial chamber and then pumped from the chamber onto a sludge drying bed. The liquids from the Imhoff tank passed through a polishing tank and then into a sand trickling filter.

d. Discharge from the Imhoff system, via a NPDES discharge, was to a possible low wetlands area leading to a wet-weather branch that is shown on USGS topographic maps as an intermittent stream for approximately 0.4 miles below the Site. At this point, it becomes the main perennial arm of Spur Branch, and flows 9 miles northeast to the South Fork of the Edisto River.

e. The hazardous substances of concern are chromium, nickel, zinc, and other metals associated with refrigerator and freezer manufacturing at the Admiral Home Appliances Superfund Site, the discharge of which was not permitted by the facility's NPDES permit. Contamination from these kinds of substances has been found in, but not limited to, soils, surface water and sediments at or near the Site.

f. Dixie-Narco, Inc. has entered into an Administrative Order by Consent for performance of the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study for the Admiral Home Appliances Superfund Site, which includes the Site specifically governed by this Order.

g. This Order is the product of a partial settlement of a contribution action that Dixie-Narco, Inc. and the Maytag Corporation brought against Rheem Manufacturing Company.

V. CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND DETERMINATIONS

9. Based on the Findings of Fact set forth above, and the Administrative Record supporting this removal action, EPA has determined that:

a. The Site is a "facility" as defined by Section 101(9) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9601(9).

b. The contamination found at the Site, as identified in the Findings of Fact above, includes "hazardous substances" as defined by Section 101(14) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9601(14).

c. Respondent is a "person" as defined by Section 101(21) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9601(21).

d. Respondent is a responsible party under Section 107(a) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9607(a), and is jointly and severally liable for performance of response action and for response costs incurred and to be incurred at the Site.

e. Respondent is and was the "owner(s)" and/or "operator(s)" of the facility, as defined by Section 101(20) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9601(20), and within the meaning of Section 107(a)(1) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9607(a)(1).

f. The conditions described in the Findings of Fact above constitute an actual or threatened "release" of a hazardous substance from the facility as defined by Section 101(22) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9601(22).

g. The removal action required by this Order is necessary to protect the public health, welfare, or the environment and, if carried out in compliance with the terms of this Order, will be considered consistent with the NCP, as provided in Section 300.700(c)(3)(ii) of the NCP.

VI. ORDER

Based upon the foregoing Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, Determinations, and the Administrative Record for the Site, it is hereby Ordered and Agreed that Respondent shall comply with all provisions of this Order, including, but not limited to, all attachments to this Order and all documents incorporated by reference into this Order.

VII. DESIGNATION OF CONTRACTOR, PROJECT COORDINATOR, AND REMEDIAL PROJECT MANAGER

10. Respondent shall retain one or more contractors to perform the Work and shall notify EPA of the name(s) and qualifications of such contractor(s) within 14 days of the Effective Date. Respondent shall also notify EPA of the name(s) and qualification(s) of any other contractor(s) or subcontractor(s) retained to perform the Work at least 14 days prior to commencement of such Work. EPA retains the right to disapprove of any or all of the contractors and/or subcontractors retained by Respondent. If EPA disapproves of a selected contractor, Respondent shall retain a different contractor and shall notify EPA of that contractor's name and qualifications within 30 days of EPA's disapproval. The proposed contractor must demonstrate compliance with ANSI/ASQC E-4-1994, "Specifications and Guidelines for Quality Systems for Environmental Data Collection and Environmental Technology Programs" (American National Standard, January 5, 1995), by submitting a copy of the proposed contractor's Quality Management Plan ("QMP"). The QMP should be prepared in accordance with "EPA Requirements for Quality Management Plans (QA/R-2)" (EPA/240/B0-1/002), or equivalent documentation as required by EPA. Any decision not to require submission of the contractor's QMP should be documented in a memorandum from the RPM and Regional QA personnel to the Site file.

11. Within 14 days after the Effective Date, Respondent shall designate a Project Coordinator who shall be responsible for administration of all actions by Respondent required by

this Order and shall submit to EPA the designated Project Coordinator's name, address, telephone number, and qualifications. To the greatest extent possible, the Project Coordinator shall be present on Site or readily available during Site work. EPA retains the right to disapprove of the designated Project Coordinator. If EPA disapproves of the designated Project Coordinator, Respondent shall retain a different Project Coordinator and shall notify EPA of that person's name, address, telephone number, and qualifications within 14 days following EPA's disapproval. Receipt by Respondent's Project Coordinator of any notice or communication from EPA relating to this Order shall constitute receipt by Respondent.

12. EPA has designated Mr. Steven Sandler of the North Site Remedial Branch, Region 4, as its Remedial Project Manager ("RPM"). Except as otherwise provided in this Order, Respondent shall direct all submissions required by this Order to the RPM at:

Steven Sandler
United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region 4
Sam Nunn Atlanta Federal Center
61 Forsyth Street, SW
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

13. EPA and Respondent shall have the right, subject to Paragraph 11, to change their respective designated RPM or Project Coordinator. Respondent shall notify EPA 14 days before such a change is made. The initial notification may be made orally, but shall be promptly followed by a written notice.

VIII. WORK TO BE PERFORMED

14. Respondent shall perform, at a minimum, all actions necessary to implement the Statement of Work. The Statement of Work is incorporated and attached to this agreement as stated in Section XXX.

15. Work Plan and Implementation.

a. Within 30 days after the submission of the Effective Date of this Order, Respondent shall submit to EPA for approval a draft Work Plan for performing the removal action generally described in Paragraph 14 above. The draft Work Plan shall provide a description of, and a reasonably diligent schedule for, the actions required by this Order.

b. EPA may approve, disapprove, require revisions to, or modify the draft Work Plan in whole or in part. If EPA requires revisions, Respondent shall submit a revised draft Work Plan within 14 days of receipt of EPA's notification of the required revisions. Respondent shall implement the Work Plan as approved in writing by EPA in accordance with the schedule approved by EPA. Once approved, or approved with modifications, the Work Plan, the schedule,

and any subsequent modifications shall be incorporated into and become fully enforceable under this Order.

c. Respondent shall not commence any Work except in conformance with the terms of this Order. Respondent shall not commence implementation of the Work Plan developed hereunder until receiving written EPA approval pursuant to Paragraph 15(b). The foregoing limitation shall not apply where such Work must be commenced without delay in the interest of protection of the public health and safety.

16. Health and Safety Plan. Within 14 days after the Effective Date, Respondent shall submit for EPA review and comment a plan that ensures the protection of the public health and safety during performance of on-Site work under this Order. This plan shall be prepared in accordance with EPA's Standard Operating Safety Guide (PUB 9285.1-03, PB 92-963414, June 1992). In addition, the plan shall comply with all currently applicable Occupational Safety and Health Administration ("OSHA") regulations found at 29 C.F.R. Part 1910. If EPA determines that it is appropriate, the plan shall also include contingency planning. Respondent shall incorporate all changes to the plan recommended by EPA and shall implement the plan during the pendency of the removal action.

17. Quality Assurance and Sampling.

a. At this point no need for sampling is anticipated and therefore no sampling is planned. If the need for sampling becomes necessary, all sampling and analyses performed shall conform to EPA direction, approval, and guidance regarding sampling, quality assurance/quality control ("QA/QC"), data validation, and chain of custody procedures. Respondent shall ensure that the laboratory used to perform the analyses participates in a QA/QC program that complies with the appropriate EPA guidance. Respondent shall follow, as appropriate, "Quality Assurance/Quality Control Guidance for Removal Activities: Sampling QA/QC Plan and Data Validation Procedures" (OSWER Directive No. 9360.4-01, April 1, 1990), as guidance for QA/QC and sampling. Respondent shall only use laboratories that have a documented Quality System that complies with ANSI/ASQC E-4 1994, "Specifications and Guidelines for Quality Systems for Environmental Data Collection and Environmental Technology Programs" (American National Standard, January 5, 1995), and "EPA Requirements for Quality Management Plans (QA/R-2) (EPA/240/B-01/002, March 2001)," or equivalent documentation as determined by EPA. EPA may consider laboratories accredited under the National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program ("NELAP") as meeting the Quality System requirements.

b. Upon request by EPA, Respondent shall have such a laboratory analyze samples submitted by EPA for QA monitoring. Respondent shall provide to EPA the QA/QC procedures followed by all sampling teams and laboratories performing data collection and/or analysis.

c. Upon request by EPA, Respondent shall allow EPA or its authorized representatives to take split and/or duplicate samples. Respondent shall notify EPA not less than

14 days in advance of any sample collection activity, unless shorter notice is agreed to by EPA. EPA shall have the right to take any additional samples that EPA deems necessary. Upon request, EPA shall allow Respondent to take split or duplicate samples of any samples it takes as part of its oversight of Respondent's implementation of the Work.

18. Reporting.

a. Respondent shall submit a written progress report to EPA concerning actions undertaken pursuant to this Order on a schedule acceptable to the RPM. The progress reports shall include, at a minimum, the following: (1) a description of the response action completed and the actions that have been taken toward achieving compliance with this Order; (2) a description of all data anticipated and activities scheduled for the next 7 calendar days or, if applicable, the period specified in writing by the EPA RPM; (3) a description of any problems encountered or anticipated; (4) any actions taken to prevent or mitigate such problems; (5) a schedule for completion of such actions; (6) copies of all analytical data received during the reporting period; and (7) all modifications to the response action, RAP, and schedule made in accordance with Section VIII of this Order during the reporting period.

b. Respondent shall submit 3 copies of all plans, reports or other submissions required by this Order, the Statement of Work, or any approved work plan. Upon request by EPA, Respondent shall submit such documents in electronic form.

19. Final Report. Within 45 days after completion of all Work required by this Order, Respondent shall submit for EPA review and approval a final report summarizing the actions taken to comply with this Order. The final report shall conform, at a minimum, with the requirements set forth in Section 300.165 of the NCP entitled "RPM Reports." The final report shall include a good faith estimate of total costs or a statement of actual costs incurred in complying with the Order, a listing of quantities and types of materials removed off-Site or handled on-Site, a discussion of removal and disposal options considered for those materials, a listing of the ultimate destination(s) of those materials, a presentation of the analytical results of all sampling and analyses performed, and accompanying appendices containing all relevant documentation generated during the removal action (e.g., manifests, invoices, bills, contracts, and permits). The final report shall also include the following certification signed by a person who supervised or directed the preparation of that report:

"Under penalty of law, I certify that to the best of my knowledge, after appropriate inquiries of all relevant persons involved in the preparation of the report, the information submitted is true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations."

20. Off-Site Shipments.

a. Respondent shall, prior to any off-Site shipment of Waste Material from the Site to an out-of-state waste management facility, provide written notification of such shipment of Waste Material to the appropriate state environmental official in the receiving facility's state and to the On-Scene Coordinator. However, this notification requirement shall not apply to any off-site shipments when the total volume of all such shipments will not exceed 10 cubic yards.

i. Respondent shall include in the written notification the following information: 1) the name and location of the facility to which the Waste Material is to be shipped; 2) the type and quantity of the Waste Material to be shipped; 3) the expected schedule for the shipment of the Waste Material; and 4) the method of transportation. Respondent shall notify the state in which the planned receiving facility is located of major changes in the shipment plan; such as a decision to ship the Waste Material to another facility within the same state, or to a facility in another state.

ii. The identity of the receiving facility and state will be determined by Respondent following the award of the contract for the removal action. Respondent shall provide the information required by Paragraph 21(a) and 21(b) as soon as practicable after the award of the contract and before the Waste Material is actually shipped.

b. Before shipping any hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants from the Site to an off-Site location, Respondent shall obtain EPA's certification that the proposed receiving facility is operating in compliance with the requirements of CERCLA Section 121(d)(3), 42 U.S.C. § 9621(d)(3), and 40 C.F.R. § 300.440. Respondent shall only send hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants from the Site to an off-site facility that complies with the requirements of the statutory provision and regulation cited in the preceding sentence.

IX. SITE ACCESS

21. Respondent shall, commencing on the Effective Date, provide EPA, the State, and their representatives, including contractors, with access at all reasonable times to the Site for the purpose of conducting any activity related to this Order.

22. Notwithstanding any provision of this Order, EPA retains all of its access authorities and rights, including enforcement authorities related thereto, under CERCLA, RCRA, and any other applicable statutes or regulations.

X. ACCESS TO INFORMATION

23. Respondent shall provide to EPA and the State, upon request, copies of all documents and information within their possession, custody or control or that of their contractors or agents relating to activities at the Site or to the implementation of this Order, including, but not limited to, sampling, analysis, chain of custody records, manifests, trucking logs, receipts, reports, sample

traffic routing, correspondence, or other documents or information related to the Work. Respondent shall also make available to EPA and the State, for purposes of investigation, information gathering, or testimony, their employees, agents, or representatives with knowledge of relevant facts concerning the performance of the Work.

24. Respondent may assert business confidentiality claims covering part or all of the documents or information submitted to EPA and the State under this Order to the extent permitted by and in accordance with Section 104(e)(7) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9604(e)(7), and 40 C.F.R. § 2.203(b). Documents or information determined to be confidential by EPA will be afforded the protection specified in 40 C.F.R. Part 2, Subpart B. If no claim of confidentiality accompanies documents or information when they are submitted to EPA and the State, or if EPA has notified Respondent that the documents or information are not confidential under the standards of Section 104(e)(7) of CERCLA or 40 C.F.R. Part 2, Subpart B, the public may be given access to such documents or information without further notice to Respondent.

25. Respondent may assert that certain documents, records and other information are privileged under the attorney-client privilege or any other privilege and/or exemption recognized by federal law. If the Respondent asserts such a privilege and/or exemption in lieu of providing documents, they shall provide EPA and the State with the following: 1) the title of the document, record, or information; 2) the date of the document, record, or information; 3) the name and title of the author of the document, record, or information; 4) the name and title of each addressee and recipient; 5) a description of the contents of the document, record, or information; and 6) the privilege and/or exemption asserted by Respondent. However, no documents, reports or other information created or generated pursuant to the requirements of this Order shall be withheld on the grounds that they are privileged, unless identified pursuant this paragraph.

26. As to the information assessable under the terms of this section (Section X), no claim of confidentiality shall be made with respect to any data, including, but not limited to, all sampling, analytical, monitoring, hydrogeologic, scientific, chemical, or engineering data, or any other documents or information evidencing conditions at or around the Site.

XI. RECORD RETENTION

27. Until five years after Respondent's receipt of EPA's notification pursuant to Section XXIX (Notice of Completion of Work), Respondent shall preserve and retain all non-identical copies of records and documents (including records or documents in electronic form) now in its possession, custody or control or which come into its possession, custody or control to which access provided under Section X above and that relate in any manner to the performance of the Work or the liability of any person under CERCLA with respect to the Site, regardless of any corporate retention policy to the contrary. Until five years after Respondent's receipt of EPA's notification pursuant to Section XXIX (Notice of Completion of Work), Respondent shall also instruct its contractors and agents to preserve all documents, records, and information of whatever kind, nature or description relating to performance of the Work.

28. At the conclusion of this document retention period, Respondent shall notify EPA and the State at least 90 days prior to the destruction of any such records or documents, and, upon request by EPA or the State, Respondent shall deliver any such records or documents to EPA or the State. Respondent may assert that certain documents, records and other information are privileged under the attorney-client privilege or any other privilege and/or exemption recognized by federal law. If Respondent asserts such a privilege and/or exemption, they shall provide EPA or the State with the following: 1) the title of the document, record, or information; 2) the date of the document, record, or information; 3) the name and title of the author of the document, record, or information; 4) the name and title of each addressee and recipient; 5) a description of the subject of the document, record, or information; and 6) the privilege and/or exemption asserted by Respondent.

29. Respondent hereby certifies individually that to the best of its knowledge and belief, after thorough inquiry, it has not altered, mutilated, discarded, destroyed or otherwise disposed of any records, documents or other information (other than identical copies) relating to its potential liability regarding the Site since notification of potential liability by EPA or the State or the filing of suit against it regarding the Site and that it has fully complied with any and all EPA requests for information pursuant to Sections 104(e) and 122(e) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 9604(e) and 9622(e), and Section 3007 of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6927.

XII. COMPLIANCE WITH OTHER LAWS

30. Respondent shall perform all actions required pursuant to this Order in accordance with all applicable local, state, and federal laws and regulations except as provided in Section 121(e) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 6921(e), and 40 C.F.R. §§ 300.400(e) and 300.415(j). In accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 300.415(j), all on-Site actions required pursuant to this Order shall, to the extent practicable, as determined by EPA, considering the exigencies of the situation, attain applicable or relevant and appropriate requirements ("ARARs") under federal environmental or state environmental or facility siting laws. Respondent shall identify ARARs in the Work Plan subject to EPA approval.

XIII. EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND NOTIFICATION OF RELEASES

31. In the event of any action or occurrence during performance of the Work which causes or threatens a release of Waste Material from the Site that constitutes an emergency situation or may present an immediate threat to public health or welfare or the environment, Respondent shall immediately take all appropriate action. Respondent shall take these actions in accordance with all applicable provisions of this Order, including, but not limited to, the Health and Safety Plan, in order to prevent, abate or minimize such release or endangerment caused or threatened by the release. Respondent shall also immediately notify the RPM or, in the event of his/her unavailability, the Regional Duty Officer Emergency Response and Removal Branch, EPA Region 4, 404/562-8700, and the EPA Regional Emergency 24-hour 1-800-424-8802 of the incident or Site conditions. In the event that Respondent fails to take appropriate response action as required by this Paragraph, and EPA takes such action instead, Respondent shall reimburse EPA all costs of the response action not inconsistent with the NCP pursuant to Section XV (Payment of Response Costs).

32. In addition, in the event of any release of a hazardous substance from the Site, Respondent shall immediately notify the RPM at 404/229-9516 and the National Response Center at (800) 424-8802. Respondent shall submit a written report to EPA within 7 days after each release, setting forth the events that occurred and the measures taken or to be taken to mitigate any release or endangerment caused or threatened by the release and to prevent the recurrence of such a release. This reporting requirement is in addition to, and not in lieu of, reporting under Section 103(c) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9603(c), and Section 304 of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act of 1986, 42 U.S.C. § 11004, *et seq.*

XIV. AUTHORITY OF REMEDIAL PROJECT COORDINATOR

33. The RPM shall be responsible for overseeing Respondent's implementation of this Order. The RPM shall have the authority vested in an RPM by the NCP, including the authority to halt, conduct, or direct any Work required by this Order, or to direct any other removal action undertaken at the Site. Absence of the RPM from the Site shall not be cause for stoppage of work unless specifically directed by the RPM.

XV. PAYMENT OF RESPONSE COSTS

34. Payments for Future Response Costs.

a. Respondent shall pay EPA all Future Response Costs related to the removal activities performed pursuant to this AOC and not inconsistent with the NCP. On a periodic basis, EPA will send Respondent a bill for Future Response Costs that includes a cost summary. Respondent shall make all payments within 30 days of receipt of each bill requiring payment, except as otherwise provided in Paragraph 36 of this Order.

b. Respondent shall make all payments required by this Paragraph by a certified or cashier's check or checks made payable to "EPA Hazardous Substance Superfund," referencing the name and address of the party(ies) making payment and EPA Site/Spill ID number A4Q2. Respondent shall send the check(s) to:

EPA Superfund
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region 4 Accounting
P.O. Box 100142
Atlanta, Georgia 30384
ATTENTION: Collection Officer

c. At the time of payment, Respondent shall send notice that such payment has been made to:

Paula Batchelor
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4
Superfund Enforcement & Information Management Branch
61 Forsyth Street
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

d. The total amount to be paid by Respondent pursuant to Paragraph 34(a) shall be deposited in the Admiral Home Appliances Superfund Site Special Account within the EPA Hazardous Substance Superfund to be retained and used to conduct or finance response actions at or in connection with the Site, or to be transferred by EPA to the EPA Hazardous Substance Superfund.

35. In the event that the payment for Future Response Costs are not made within 30 days of Respondent's receipt of a bill, Respondent shall pay Interest on the unpaid balance. The Interest on Future Response Costs shall begin to accrue on the date of the bill and shall continue to accrue until the date of payment. Payments of Interest made under this Paragraph shall be in addition to such other remedies or sanctions available to the United States by virtue of Respondent's failure to make timely payments under this Section, including but not limited to, payment of stipulated penalties pursuant to Section XVIII .

36. Respondent may dispute all or part of a bill for Future Response Costs submitted under this Order, if Respondent alleges that EPA has made an accounting error, or if Respondent alleges that a cost item is inconsistent with the NCP. If any dispute over costs is resolved before payment is due, the amount due will be adjusted as necessary. If the dispute is not resolved before payment is due, Respondent shall pay the full amount of the uncontested costs to EPA as specified in Paragraph 34 on or before the due date. Within the same time period, Respondent shall pay the full amount of the contested costs into an interest-bearing escrow account. Respondent shall simultaneously transmit a copy of both checks to the persons listed in Paragraph 34(c) above.

Respondent shall ensure that the prevailing party or parties in the dispute shall receive the amount upon which they prevailed from the escrow funds plus interest within 7 days after the dispute is resolved. In the event that Respondent is successful in its dispute and provided the above procedures have been followed, no interest shall be due on that portion.

XVI. DISPUTE RESOLUTION

37. Unless otherwise expressly provided for in this Order, the dispute resolution procedures of this Section shall be the exclusive mechanism for resolving disputes arising under this Order. The Parties shall attempt to resolve any disagreements concerning this Order expeditiously and informally.

38. If Respondent objects to any EPA action taken pursuant to this Order, including billings for Future Response Costs, Respondent shall notify EPA in writing of their objection(s) within 21 days of such action, unless the objection(s) has/have been resolved informally. EPA and Respondent shall have 14 days from EPA's receipt of Respondent's written objection(s) to resolve the dispute through formal negotiations (the "Negotiation Period"). Negotiation Period may be extended by written agreement of both parties.

39. Any agreement reached by the parties pursuant to this Section shall be in writing and shall, upon signature by both parties, be incorporated into and become an enforceable part of this Order. If the Parties are unable to reach an agreement within the Negotiation Period, an EPA management official at the Division Director level or higher will issue a written decision on the dispute to Respondent. EPA's decision shall be incorporated into and become an enforceable part of this Order. Respondent's obligations under this Order shall not be tolled by submission of any objection for dispute resolution under this Section. Following resolution of the dispute, as provided by this Section, Respondent shall fulfill the requirement that was the subject of the dispute in accordance with the agreement reached or with EPA's decision, whichever occurs.

XVII. FORCE MAJEURE

40. Respondent agrees to perform all requirements of this Order within the time limits established under this Order, unless the performance is delayed by a *force majeure*. For purposes of this Order, a *force majeure* is defined as any event arising from causes beyond the control of Respondent, or of any entity controlled by Respondent, including but not limited to its contractors and subcontractors, which delays or prevents performance of any obligation under this Order despite Respondent's best efforts to fulfill the obligation. *Force majeure* does not include financial inability to complete the Work, or increased cost of performance, or a failure to attain performance standards/action levels set forth in the Action Memorandum.

41. If any event occurs or has occurred that may delay the performance of any obligation under this Order, whether or not caused by a *force majeure* event, Respondent shall notify EPA orally within seven days of when Respondent first knew that the event might cause a delay.

Within 10 days thereafter, Respondent shall provide to EPA in writing an explanation and description of the reasons for the delay; the anticipated duration of the delay; all actions taken or to be taken to prevent or minimize the delay; a schedule for implementation of any measures to be taken to prevent or mitigate the delay or the effect of the delay; Respondent's rationale for attributing such delay to a *force majeure* event if they intend to assert such a claim; and a statement as to whether, in the opinion of Respondent, such event may cause or contribute to an endangerment to public health, welfare or the environment. Failure to comply with the above requirements shall preclude Respondent from asserting any claim of *force majeure* for that event for the period of time of such failure to comply and for any additional delay caused by such failure.

42. If EPA agrees that the delay or anticipated delay is attributable to a *force majeure* event, the time for performance of the obligations under this Order that are affected by the *force majeure* event will be extended by EPA for such time as is necessary to complete those obligations. An extension of the time for performance of the obligations affected by the *force majeure* event shall not, of itself, extend the time for performance of any other obligation. If EPA does not agree that the delay or anticipated delay has been or will be caused by a *force majeure* event, EPA will notify Respondent in writing of its decision. If EPA agrees that the delay is attributable to a *force majeure* event, EPA will notify Respondent in writing of the length of the extension, if any, for performance of the obligations affected by the *force majeure* event.

XVIII. STIPULATED PENALTIES

43. Respondent shall be liable to EPA for stipulated penalties in the amounts set forth in Paragraphs 44 and 45 for failure to comply with the requirements of this Order specified below, unless excused under Section XVII (*Force Majeure*). "Compliance" by Respondent shall include completion of the activities under this Order or any work plan or other plan approved under this Order identified below in accordance with all applicable requirements of law, this Order, and any plans or other documents approved by EPA pursuant to this Order and within the specified time schedules established by and approved under this Order.

44. Stipulated Penalty Amounts - Work.

a. For each day, or portion thereof, that Respondent fails to perform, fully, any material requirement of this Order in accordance with the schedule established pursuant to this Order, Respondent shall be liable as follows:

<u>Penalty Per Violation Per Day</u>	<u>Period of Noncompliance</u>
\$500	1st through 14th day
\$1,000	15th through 30th day
\$2,500	31st day and beyond

45. Stipulated Penalty Amounts - Reports:- The following stipulated penalties shall accrue per violation per day for failure to submit timely or adequate reports pursuant to Paragraphs 19 & 20:

<u>Penalty Per Violation Per Day</u>	<u>Period of Noncompliance</u>
\$250	1st through 14th day
\$500	15th through 30th day
\$1,000	31st day and beyond

46. In the event that EPA assumes performance of a portion or all of the Work pursuant to Paragraph 56 of Section XX and in EPA's discretion, Respondent may be liable for a stipulated penalty up to the amount of \$25,000 taking into account the remainder of work to be performed.

47. All penalties shall begin to accrue on the day after the complete performance is due or the day a violation occurs, and shall continue to accrue through the final day of the correction of the noncompliance or completion of the activity. However, stipulated penalties shall not accrue: 1) with respect to a deficient submission under Section VIII (Work to be Performed), during the period, if any, beginning on the 31st day after EPA's receipt of such submission until the date that EPA notifies Respondent of any deficiency; and 2) with respect to a decision by the EPA Management Official at the Division Director level or higher, under Paragraph 39 of Section XVI (Dispute Resolution), during the period, if any, beginning on the 21st day after the Negotiation Period begins until the date that the EPA management official issues a final decision regarding such dispute. Nothing herein shall prevent the simultaneous accrual of separate penalties for separate violations of this Order.

48. Following EPA's determination that Respondent has failed to comply with a requirement of this Order, EPA may give Respondent written notification of the failure and describe the noncompliance. EPA may send Respondent a written demand for payment of the penalties. However, penalties shall accrue as provided in the preceding Paragraph regardless of whether EPA has notified Respondent of a violation.

49. All penalties accruing under this Section shall be due and payable to EPA within 30 days of Respondent's receipt from EPA of a demand for payment of the penalties, unless Respondent invokes the dispute resolution procedures under Section XVI (Dispute Resolution). All payments to EPA under this Section shall be paid by certified or cashier's check(s) made payable to "EPA Hazardous Substances Superfund," shall be mailed to:

U. S. Environmental Protection Agency
 Region 4
 Superfund Accounting
 P. O. Box 100142
 Atlanta, Georgia 30384
 ATTENTION: Collection Officer for Superfund

Payment shall indicate that it is for stipulated penalties, and shall reference the EPA Region and Site/Spill ID Number A4Q2, the EPA Docket Number, and the name and address of the party(ies) making payment. Copies of check(s) paid pursuant to this Section, and any accompanying transmittal letter(s), shall be sent to EPA as provided in Paragraph 12, and to:

Ms. Paula Batchelor
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Superfund Enforcement & Information Management Branch
61 Forsyth Street S.W.
Atlanta, GA 30303.

50. The payment of penalties shall not alter in any way Respondent's obligation to complete performance of the Work required under this Order.

51. Penalties shall continue to accrue during any dispute resolution period, but need not be paid until 15 days after the dispute is resolved by agreement or by receipt of EPA's decision.

52. If Respondent fails to pay stipulated penalties when due, EPA may institute proceedings to collect the penalties, as well as Interest. Respondent shall pay Interest on the unpaid balance, which shall begin to accrue on the date of demand made pursuant to Paragraph 50. Nothing in this Order shall be construed as prohibiting, altering, or in any way limiting the ability of EPA to seek any other remedies or sanctions available by virtue of Respondent's violation of this Order or of the statutes and regulations upon which it is based, including, but not limited to, penalties pursuant to Sections 106(b) and 122(l) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 9606(b) and 9622(l), and punitive damages pursuant to Section 107(c)(3) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9607(c)(3). Provided, however, that EPA shall not seek civil penalties pursuant to Section 106(b) or 122(l) of CERCLA or punitive damages pursuant to Section 107(c)(3) of CERCLA for any violation for which a stipulated penalty is provided herein, except in the case of a willful violation of this Order or in the event that EPA assumes performance of a portion or all of the Work pursuant to Section XX, Paragraph 56. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Section, EPA may, in its unreviewable discretion, waive any portion of stipulated penalties that have accrued pursuant to this Order.

XIX. COVENANT NOT TO SUE BY EPA

53. In consideration of the actions that will be performed and the payments that will be made by Respondent under the terms of this Order, and except as otherwise specifically provided in this Order, EPA covenants not to sue or to take administrative action against Respondent pursuant to Sections 106 and 107(a) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 9606 and 9607(a), for performance of the Work and for recovery of Future Response Costs. This covenant not to sue shall take effect upon the Effective Date of this Order. This covenant not to sue is conditioned

shall take effect upon the Effective Date of this Order. This covenant not to sue is conditioned upon the complete and satisfactory performance by Respondent of its obligations under this Order, including, but not limited to, payment of Future Response Costs pursuant to Section XV. This covenant not to sue extends only to Respondent and does not extend to any other person.

XX. RESERVATIONS OF RIGHTS BY EPA

54. Except as specifically provided in this Order, nothing herein shall limit the power and authority of EPA or the United States to take, direct, or order all actions necessary to protect public health, welfare, or the environment or to prevent, abate, or minimize an actual or threatened release of hazardous substances, pollutants or contaminants, or hazardous or solid waste on, at, or from the Site. Further, nothing herein shall prevent EPA from seeking legal or equitable relief to enforce the terms of this Order, from taking other legal or equitable action as it deems appropriate and necessary, or from requiring Respondent in the future to perform additional activities pursuant to CERCLA or any other applicable law.

55. The covenant not to sue set forth in Section XIX above does not pertain to any matters other than those expressly identified therein. EPA reserves, and this Order is without prejudice to, all rights against Respondent with respect to all other matters, including, but not limited to:

- a. claims based on a failure by Respondent to meet a requirement of this Order;
- b. liability for costs not included within the definition Future Response Costs;
- c. liability for performance of response action other than the Work;
- d. criminal liability;
- e. liability for damages for injury to, destruction of, or loss of natural resources, and for the costs of any natural resource damage assessments;
- f. liability arising from the past, present, or future disposal, release or threat of release of Waste Materials outside of the Site; and
- g. liability for costs incurred or to be incurred by the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry related to the Site.

56. Work Takeover. In the event EPA determines that Respondent has ceased implementation of any portion of the Work, is seriously or repeatedly deficient or late in its performance of the Work, or is implementing the Work in a manner which may cause an endangerment to human health or the environment, EPA may assume the performance of all or any portion of the Work as EPA determines necessary. Respondent may invoke the procedures set forth in Section XVI (Dispute Resolution) to dispute EPA's determination that takeover of the

set forth in Section XVI (Dispute Resolution) to dispute EPA's determination that takeover of the Work is warranted under this Paragraph. Costs incurred by the United States in performing the Work pursuant to this Paragraph shall be considered Future Response Costs that Respondent shall pay pursuant to Section XV (Payment of Response Costs). Notwithstanding any other provision of this Order, EPA retains all authority and reserves all rights to take any and all response actions authorized by law.

XXI. COVENANT NOT TO SUE BY RESPONDENT

57. Respondent covenants not to sue and agrees not to assert any claims or causes of action against the United States, or its contractors or employees, with respect to the Work, Future Response Costs related to the activities pursuant to this Order, or this Order, including, but not limited to:

a. any direct or indirect claim for reimbursement from the Hazardous Substance Superfund established by 26 U.S.C. § 9507, based on Sections 106(b)(2), 107, 111, 112, or 113 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 9606(b)(2), 9607, 9611, 9612, or 9613, or any other provision of law;

b. any claim arising out of response actions at or in connection with the Site, including any claim under the United States Constitution, the South Carolina Constitution, the Tucker Act, 28 U.S.C. § 1491, the Equal Access to Justice Act, 28 U.S.C. § 2412, as amended, or at common law; or

c. any claim against the United States pursuant to Sections 107 and 113 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 9607 and 9613, relating to the Site.

Except as provided in Paragraph 60 (Waiver of Claims), these covenants not to sue shall not apply in the event the United States brings a cause of action or issues an order pursuant to the reservations set forth in Paragraphs 55 (b), (c), and (e) - (g), but only to the extent that Respondent's claims arise from the same response action, response costs, or damages that the United States is seeking pursuant to the applicable reservation related to removal activities performed pursuant to this Order.

58. Nothing in this Agreement shall be deemed to constitute approval or preauthorization of a claim within the meaning of Section 111 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9611, or 40 C.F.R. § 300.700(d).

59. Respondent agrees not to assert any claims and to waive all claims or causes of action that they may have for all matters relating to the Site, including for contribution, against any person where the person's liability to Respondent with respect to the Site is based solely on having arranged for disposal or treatment, or for transport for disposal or treatment, of hazardous substances at the Site, or having accepted for transport for disposal or treatment of hazardous substances at the Site, if

a. the materials contributed by such person to the Site containing hazardous substances did not exceed the greater of i) 0.002% of the total volume of waste at the Site, or ii) 110 gallons of liquid materials or 200 pounds of solid materials.

b. This waiver shall not apply to any claim or cause of action against any person meeting the above criteria if EPA has determined that the materials contributed to the Site by such person contributed or could contribute significantly to the costs of response at the Site. This waiver also shall not apply with respect to any defense, claim, or cause of action that a Respondent may have against any person if such person asserts a claim or cause of action relating to the Site against such Respondent.

XXII. OTHER CLAIMS

60. By issuance of this Order, the United States and EPA assume no liability for injuries or damages to persons or property resulting from any acts or omissions of Respondent. The United States or EPA shall not be deemed a party to any contract entered into by Respondent or its directors, officers, employees, agents, successors, representatives, assigns, contractors, or consultants in carrying out actions pursuant to this Order.

61. Except as expressly provided in Section XIX (Covenant Not to Sue by EPA), nothing in this Order constitutes a satisfaction of or release from any claim or cause of action against Respondent or any person not a party to this Order, for any liability such person may have under CERCLA, other statutes, or common law, including but not limited to any claims of the United States for costs, damages and interest under Sections 106 and 107 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 9606 and 9607.

62. No action or decision by EPA pursuant to this Order shall give rise to any right to judicial review, except as set forth in Section 113(h) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9613(h).

XXIII. CONTRIBUTION PROTECTION

63. The Parties agree that Respondent is entitled, as of the Effective Date, to protection from contribution actions or claims as provided by Sections 113(f)(2) and 122(h)(4) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 9613(f)(2) and 9622(h)(4), for "matters addressed" in this Order. The "matters addressed" in this Order are the Work and Future Response Costs. Nothing in this Order precludes the United States or Respondent from asserting any claims, causes of action, or demands against any persons not parties to this Order for indemnification, contribution, or cost recovery.

XXIV. INDEMNIFICATION

64. Respondent shall indemnify, save and hold harmless the United States, its officials, agents, contractors, subcontractors, employees and representatives from any and all claims or

causes of action arising from, or on account of, negligent or other wrongful acts or omissions of Respondent, its officers, directors, employees, agents, contractors, or subcontractors, in carrying out actions pursuant to this Order. In addition, Respondent agrees to pay the United States all costs incurred by the United States, including but not limited to attorneys fees and other expenses of litigation and settlement, arising from or on account of claims made against the United States based on negligent or other wrongful acts or omissions of Respondent, its officers, directors, employees, agents, contractors, subcontractors and any persons acting on its behalf or under their control, in carrying out activities pursuant to this Order. The United States shall not be held out as a party to any contract entered into by or on behalf of Respondent in carrying out activities pursuant to this Order. Neither Respondent nor any such contractor shall be considered an agent of the United States.

65. The United States shall give Respondent notice of any claim for which the United States plans to seek indemnification pursuant to this Section and shall consult with Respondent prior to settling such claim.

66. Respondent waives all claims against the United States for damages or reimbursement or for set-off of any payments made or to be made to the United States, arising from or on account of any contract, agreement, or arrangement between Respondent and any person for performance of Work on or relating to the Site, including, but not limited to, claims on account of construction delays. In addition, Respondent shall indemnify and hold harmless the United States with respect to any and all claims for damages or reimbursement arising from or on account of any contract, agreement, or arrangement between Respondent and any person for performance of Work on or relating to the Site, including, but not limited to, claims on account of construction delays.

XXV. INSURANCE

67. At least 7 days prior to commencing any on-Site work under this Order, Respondent shall secure, and shall maintain for the duration of this Order, comprehensive general liability insurance and automobile insurance with limits of 1 million dollars, combined single limit. Within the same time period, Respondent shall provide EPA with certificates of such insurance and a copy of each insurance policy. In addition, for the duration of the Order, Respondent shall satisfy, or shall ensure that their contractors or subcontractors satisfy, all applicable laws and regulations regarding the provision of worker's compensation insurance for all persons performing the Work on behalf of Respondent in furtherance of this Order. If Respondent demonstrates by evidence satisfactory to EPA that any contractor or subcontractor maintains insurance equivalent to that described above, or insurance covering some or all of the same risks but in an equal or lesser amount, then Respondent needs provide only that portion of the insurance described above which is not maintained by such contractor or subcontractor.

XXVI. FINANCIAL ASSURANCE

68. Within 30 days of the day the remedy is selected, Respondent shall establish and maintain financial security in the amount of the estimated cost of Work in one or more of the following forms:

- a. A surety bond guaranteeing performance of the Work;
- b. One or more irrevocable letters of credit equaling the total estimated cost of the Work;
- c. A trust fund;
- d. A guarantee to perform the Work by one or more parent corporations or subsidiaries, or by one or more unrelated corporations that have a substantial business relationship with Respondent; or
- e. A demonstration that Respondent satisfies the requirements of 40 C.F.R. Part 264.143(f).

69. If Respondent seeks to demonstrate the ability to complete the Work through a guarantee by a third party pursuant to Paragraph 68(a) of this Section, Respondent shall demonstrate that the guarantor satisfies the requirements of 40 C.F.R. Part 264.143(f). If Respondent seeks to demonstrate their ability to complete the Work by means of the financial test or the corporate guarantee pursuant to Paragraph 68(d) or (e) of this Section, they shall resubmit sworn statements conveying the information required by 40 C.F.R. Part 264.143(f) annually, on the anniversary of the Effective Date. In the event that EPA determines at any time that the financial assurances provided pursuant to this Section are inadequate, Respondent shall, within 30 days of receipt of notice of EPA's determination, obtain and present to EPA for approval one of the other forms of financial assurance listed in Paragraph 68 of this Section. Respondent's inability to demonstrate financial ability to complete the Work shall not excuse performance of any activities required under this Order.

70. If, after the Effective Date, Respondent can show that the estimated cost to complete the remaining Work has diminished below the amount set forth in Paragraph 68 of this Section, Respondent may, on any anniversary date of the Effective Date, or at any other time agreed to by the Parties, reduce the amount of the financial security provided under this Section to the estimated cost of the remaining Work to be performed. Respondent shall submit a proposal for such reduction to EPA, in accordance with the requirements of this Section, and may reduce the amount of the security upon approval by EPA. In the event of a dispute, Respondent may reduce the amount of the security in accordance with the written decision resolving the dispute.

71. Respondent may change the form of financial assurance provided under this Section at any time, upon notice to and approval by EPA, provided that the new form of assurance meets the

requirements of this Section. In the event of a dispute, Respondent may change the form of the financial assurance only in accordance with the written decision resolving the dispute.

XXVII. MODIFICATIONS

72. The RPM may make modifications to any plan or schedule or SOW in writing or by oral direction. Any oral modification will be memorialized in writing by EPA promptly, but shall have as its effective date the date of the RPM's oral direction. Any other requirements of this Order may be modified in writing by mutual agreement of the parties.

73. If Respondent seeks permission to deviate from any approved work plan or schedule or SOW, Respondent's Project Coordinator shall submit a written request to EPA for approval outlining the proposed modification and its basis. Respondent may not proceed with the requested deviation until receiving oral or written approval from the RPM pursuant to Paragraph 73.

74. No informal advice, guidance, suggestion, or comment by the RPM or other EPA representatives regarding reports, plans, specifications, schedules, or any other writing submitted by Respondent shall relieve Respondent of its obligation to obtain any formal approval required by this Order, or to comply with all requirements of this Order, unless it is formally modified.

XXVIII. ADDITIONAL REMOVAL ACTION

75. If EPA determines that additional removal actions associated with the sewer easements for the Imhoff system and associated pipeline at the Site and not included in an approved plan are necessary to protect public health, welfare, or the environment, EPA will notify Respondent of that determination. Unless otherwise stated by EPA, within 30 days of receipt of notice from EPA that additional removal actions are necessary to protect public health, welfare, or the environment, Respondent shall submit for approval by EPA a Work Plan for the additional removal actions. The plan shall conform to the applicable requirements of Section VIII (Work to Be Performed) of this Order. Upon EPA's approval of the plan pursuant to Section VIII, Respondent shall implement the plan for additional removal actions in accordance with the provisions and schedule contained therein. This Section does not alter or diminish the RPM's authority to make oral modifications to any plan or schedule pursuant to Section XXVII (Modifications).

XXIX. NOTICE OF COMPLETION OF WORK

76. When EPA determines, after EPA's review of the Final Report, that all Work has been fully performed in accordance with this Order, with the exception of any continuing obligations required by this Order, including, *e.g.*, post-removal site controls, payment of Future Response Costs, or record retention, EPA will provide written notice to Respondent. If EPA determines that

any such Work has not been completed in accordance with this Order, EPA will notify Respondent, provide a list of the deficiencies, and require that Respondent modify the Work Plan if appropriate in order to correct such deficiencies. Respondent shall implement the modified and approved Work Plan and shall submit a modified Final Report in accordance with the EPA notice. Failure by Respondent to implement the approved modified Work Plan shall be a violation of this Order.

XXX. SEVERABILITY/INTEGRATION/APPENDICES

77. If a court issues an order that invalidates any provision of this Order or finds that Respondent has sufficient cause not to comply with one or more provisions of this Order, Respondent shall remain bound to comply with all provisions of this Order not invalidated or determined to be subject to a sufficient cause defense by the court's order.

78. This Order and its appendices constitute the final, complete and exclusive agreement and understanding among the Parties with respect to the settlement embodied in this Order. The parties acknowledge that there are no representations, agreements or understandings relating to the settlement other than those expressly contained in this Order. The following appendices are attached to and incorporated into this Order: Statement of Work - Appendix 1.

XXXI. EFFECTIVE DATE

79. This Order shall be effective 5 days after the Order is signed by the Regional Administrator or his/her delegatee.

The undersigned representative of Respondent certifies that they are fully authorized to enter into the terms and conditions of this Order and to bind the party they represents to this document.

Agreed this 1st day of July, 2004.

For Respondent Rheem Manufacturing Company

By 

Title Vice President, Secretary + General Counsel

It is so ORDERED and Agreed this 16th day of July, 2004.

BY: Franklin E. Hill

DATE: July 16, 2004

Franklin E. Hill
Superfund Remedial & Site Evaluation Branch
Waste Management Division
U.S. EPA, Region 4