

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY - ENFORCEMENT MATTER** Page 1 of 2  
**DOCKET NO.:** 2008-0754-WQ-E **TCEQ ID:** RN105490361 **CASE NO.:** 35788  
**RESPONDENT NAME:** American Commodities, Inc.

<b>ORDER TYPE:</b>		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1660 AGREED ORDER	<input type="checkbox"/> FINDINGS AGREED ORDER	<input type="checkbox"/> FINDINGS ORDER FOLLOWING SOAH HEARING
<input type="checkbox"/> FINDINGS DEFAULT ORDER	<input type="checkbox"/> SHUTDOWN ORDER	<input type="checkbox"/> IMMINENT AND SUBSTANTIAL ENDANGERMENT ORDER
<input type="checkbox"/> AMENDED ORDER	<input type="checkbox"/> EMERGENCY ORDER	
<b>CASE TYPE:</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> AIR	<input type="checkbox"/> MULTI-MEDIA (check all that apply)	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL AND HAZARDOUS WASTE
<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY	<input type="checkbox"/> PETROLEUM STORAGE TANKS	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPATIONAL CERTIFICATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> WATER QUALITY	<input type="checkbox"/> SEWAGE SLUDGE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNDERGROUND INJECTION CONTROL
<input type="checkbox"/> MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE	<input type="checkbox"/> RADIOACTIVE WASTE	<input type="checkbox"/> DRY CLEANER REGISTRATION
<p><b>SITE WHERE VIOLATION(S) OCCURRED:</b> American Commodities, 419 Logan Avenue, Laredo, Webb County</p> <p><b>TYPE OF OPERATION:</b> Used oil transfer and rail car cleaning facility</p> <p><b>SMALL BUSINESS:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><b>OTHER SIGNIFICANT MATTERS:</b> One complaint was received on February 22, 2008, alleging that the Respondent was not transporting wastewater and solid wastes to a proper disposal facility, the Respondent was not a registered transporter, and water from washing activities was standing on the ground. There is no record of additional pending enforcement actions regarding this facility location.</p> <p><b>INTERESTED PARTIES:</b> A complaint was received, but the complainant has not expressed a desire to protest this action or to speak at Agenda.</p> <p><b>COMMENTS RECEIVED:</b> The <i>Texas Register</i> comment period expired on August 18, 2008. No comments were received.</p> <p><b>CONTACTS AND MAILING LIST:</b>  <b>TCEQ Attorney/SEP Coordinator:</b> None  <b>TCEQ Enforcement Coordinator:</b> Mr. Steve Villatoro, Enforcement Division, Enforcement Team 1, MC 169, (512) 239-4930; Mr. Bryan Sinclair, Enforcement Division, MC 219, (512) 239-2171  <b>Respondent:</b> Mr. Eric D. Olson, Vice President of Operations, American Commodities, Inc., 3701 North Grove, Fort Worth, Texas, 76106  <b>Respondent's Attorney:</b> Not represented by counsel on this enforcement matter</p>		

**VIOLATION SUMMARY CHART:**

VIOLATION INFORMATION	PENALTY CONSIDERATIONS	CORRECTIVE ACTIONS TAKEN/REQUIRED
<p><b>Type of Investigation:</b>  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Complaint  <input type="checkbox"/> Routine  <input type="checkbox"/> Enforcement Follow-up  <input type="checkbox"/> Records Review</p> <p><b>Date(s) of Complaints Relating to this Case:</b> February 22, 2008</p> <p><b>Date of Investigation Relating to this Case:</b> March 10, 2008</p> <p><b>Date of NOV/NOE Relating to this Case:</b> April 18, 2008 (NOE)</p> <p><b>Background Facts:</b> This was a complaint investigation.</p> <p><b>WATER</b></p> <p>Failure to obtain authorization to discharge storm water associated with industrial activities [30 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 281.25(a)(4) and 40 CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS § 122.26(c)].</p>	<p><b>Total Assessed:</b> \$1,800</p> <p><b>Total Deferred:</b> \$360  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Expedited Settlement  <input type="checkbox"/> Financial Inability to Pay</p> <p><b>SEP Conditional Offset:</b> \$0</p> <p><b>Total Paid to General Revenue:</b> \$1,440</p> <p><b>Site Compliance History Classification</b>  <input type="checkbox"/> High <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Average <input type="checkbox"/> Poor</p> <p><b>Person Compliance History Classification</b>  <input type="checkbox"/> High <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Average <input type="checkbox"/> Poor</p> <p><b>Major Source:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p><b>Applicable Penalty Policy:</b> September 2002</p>	<p><b>Corrective Actions Taken:</b></p> <p>The Executive Director recognizes that on April 30, 2008, the Respondent submitted a Notice of Intent.</p>

Additional ID No(s): STW Non-permitted



Policy Revision 2 (September 2002)

# Penalty Calculation Worksheet (PCW)

PCW Revision March 8, 2008

**TCEQ**

<b>DATES</b>	Assigned	22-Apr-2008	Screening	25-Apr-2008	EPA Due	
	PCW	25-Apr-2008				

**RESPONDENT/FACILITY INFORMATION**

Respondent	American Commodities, Inc.		
Reg. Ent. Ref. No.	RN105490361		
Facility/Site Region	16-Laredo	Major/Minor Source	Minor

**CASE INFORMATION**

Enf./Case ID No.	35788	No. of Violations	1	
Docket No.	2008-0754-WQ-E	Order Type	1660	
Media Program(s)	Water Quality	Enf. Coordinator	Steve Villatoro	
Multi-Media		EC's Team	Enforcement Team 1	
Admin. Penalty \$	Limit Minimum	\$0	Maximum	\$10,000

## Penalty Calculation Section

**TOTAL BASE PENALTY (Sum of violation base penalties)** **Subtotal 1**

**ADJUSTMENTS (+/-) TO SUBTOTAL 1**

Subtotals 2-7 are obtained by multiplying the Total Base Penalty (Subtotal 1) by the indicated percentage.

**Compliance History**  Enhancement **Subtotals 2, 3, & 7**

Notes

**Culpability**   Enhancement **Subtotal 4**

Notes

**Good Faith Effort to Comply**  Reduction **Subtotal 5**

	Before NOV	NOV to EDPRP/Settlement Offer
Extraordinary	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Ordinary	<input type="text"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
N/A	<input type="text"/>	(mark with x)

Notes

**Total EB Amounts**  **Subtotal 6**   
 Approx. Cost of Compliance  **0% Enhancement\***  
\*Capped at the Total EB \$ Amount

**SUM OF SUBTOTALS 1-7** **Final Subtotal**

**OTHER FACTORS AS JUSTICE MAY REQUIRE**  **Adjustment**

Reduces or enhances the Final Subtotal by the indicated percentage.

Notes

**Final Penalty Amount**

**STATUTORY LIMIT ADJUSTMENT** **Final Assessed Penalty**

**DEFERRAL**  Reduction **Adjustment**

Reduces the Final Assessed Penalty by the indicated percentage. (Enter number only; e.g. 20 for 20% reduction.)

Notes

**PAYABLE PENALTY**

**Screening Date** 25-Apr-2008

**Docket No.** 2008-0754-WQ-E

**PCW**

**Respondent** American Commodities, Inc.

Policy Revision 2 (September 2002)

**Case ID No.** 35788

PCW Revision March 8, 2008

**Reg. Ent. Reference No.** RN105490361

**Media [Statute]** Water Quality

**Enf. Coordinator** Steve Villatoro

**Compliance History Worksheet**

>> **Compliance History Site Enhancement (Subtotal 2)**

Component	Number of...	Enter Number Here	Adjust.
NOVs	Written NOVs with same or similar violations as those in the current enforcement action ( <i>number of NOVs meeting criteria</i> )	0	0%
	Other written NOVs	0	0%
Orders	Any agreed final enforcement orders containing a denial of liability ( <i>number of orders meeting criteria</i> )	0	0%
	Any adjudicated final enforcement orders, agreed final enforcement orders without a denial of liability, or default orders of this state or the federal government, or any final prohibitory emergency orders issued by the commission	0	0%
Judgments and Consent Decrees	Any non-adjudicated final court judgments or consent decrees containing a denial of liability of this state or the federal government ( <i>number of judgements or consent decrees meeting criteria</i> )	0	0%
	Any adjudicated final court judgments and default judgments, or non-adjudicated final court judgments or consent decrees without a denial of liability, of this state or the federal government	0	0%
Convictions	Any criminal convictions of this state or the federal government ( <i>number of counts</i> )	0	0%
Emissions	Chronic excessive emissions events ( <i>number of events</i> )	0	0%
Audits	Letters notifying the executive director of an intended audit conducted under the Texas Environmental, Health, and Safety Audit Privilege Act, 74th Legislature, 1995 ( <i>number of audits for which notices were submitted</i> )	0	0%
	Disclosures of violations under the Texas Environmental, Health, and Safety Audit Privilege Act, 74th Legislature, 1995 ( <i>number of audits for which violations were disclosed</i> )	0	0%
<i>Please Enter Yes or No</i>			
Other	Environmental management systems in place for one year or more	No	0%
	Voluntary on-site compliance assessments conducted by the executive director under a special assistance program	No	0%
	Participation in a voluntary pollution reduction program	No	0%
	Early compliance with, or offer of a product that meets future state or federal government environmental requirements	No	0%

**Adjustment Percentage (Subtotal 2)** 0%

>> **Repeat Violator (Subtotal 3)**

N/A

**Adjustment Percentage (Subtotal 3)** 0%

>> **Compliance History Person Classification (Subtotal 7)**

Average Performer

**Adjustment Percentage (Subtotal 7)** 0%

>> **Compliance History Summary**

**Compliance History Notes**

No enhancement is recommended based on average performer classification.

**Total Adjustment Percentage (Subtotals 2, 3, & 7)** 0%

**Screening Date** 25-Apr-2008

**Docket No.** 2008-0754-WQ-E

**PCW**

**Respondent** American Commodities, Inc.

*Policy Revision 2 (September 2002)*

**Case ID No.** 35788

*PCW Revision March 8, 2008*

**Reg. Ent. Reference No.** RN105490361

**Media [Statute]** Water Quality

**Enf. Coordinator** Steve Villatoro

**Violation Number**

**Rule Cite(s)**

**Violation Description**

**Base Penalty**

**>> Environmental, Property and Human Health Matrix**

OR	Release	Harm			Percent
		Major	Moderate	Minor	
Actual	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="0%"/>
Potential	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	

**>> Programmatic Matrix**

Matrix Notes	Falsification	Harm			Percent
		Major	Moderate	Minor	
	<input type="text"/>	<input checked="" type="text" value="x"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="10%"/>

**Matrix Notes**

**Adjustment**

**Violation Events**

**Number of Violation Events**  **Number of violation days**

<i>mark only one with an x</i>	daily	<input type="text"/>
	monthly	<input checked="" type="text" value="x"/>
	quarterly	<input type="text"/>
	semiannual	<input type="text"/>
	annual	<input type="text"/>
single event	<input type="text"/>	

**Violation Base Penalty**

**Economic Benefit (EB) for this violation**

**Statutory Limit Test**

**Estimated EB Amount**

**Violation Final Penalty Total**

**This violation Final Assessed Penalty (adjusted for limits)**

## Economic Benefit Worksheet

**Respondent** American Commodities, Inc.  
**Case ID No.** 35788  
**Reg. Ent. Reference No.** RN105490361  
**Media** Water Quality  
**Violation No.** 1

<b>Percent Interest</b>	<b>Years of Depreciation</b>
5.0	15

Item Description	Item Cost	Date Required	Final Date	Yrs	Interest Saved	Onetime Costs	EB Amount
No commas or \$							

**Delayed Costs**

Equipment				0.0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Buildings				0.0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other (as needed)				0.0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Engineering/construction				0.0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Land				0.0	\$0	n/a	\$0
Record Keeping System				0.0	\$0	n/a	\$0
Training/Sampling				0.0	\$0	n/a	\$0
Remediation/Disposal				0.0	\$0	n/a	\$0
Permit Costs	\$5,000	10-Mar-2008	30-Apr-2008	0.1	\$35	n/a	\$35
Other (as needed)				0.0	\$0	n/a	\$0

Notes for DELAYED costs

Estimated costs to develop and implement a storm water pollution prevention plan and to obtain a permit to discharge storm water. Date Required is the date of the investigation and Final Date is the submittal of Notice of Intent.

**Avoided Costs**

ANNUALIZE [1] avoided costs before entering item (except for one-time avoided costs)

Disposal				0.0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Personnel				0.0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Inspection/Reporting/Sampling				0.0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Supplies/equipment				0.0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Financial Assurance [2]				0.0	\$0	\$0	\$0
ONE-TIME avoided costs [3]				0.0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other (as needed)				0.0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Notes for AVOIDED costs

Approx. Cost of Compliance

\$5,000

TOTAL

\$35

# Compliance History

Customer/Respondent/Owner-Operator: CN602680118 American Commodities, Inc. Classification: AVERAGE Rating: 2.50  
Regulated Entity: RN105490361 AMERICAN COMMODITIES Classification: Average Site Rating: 3.01  
By Default  
ID Number(s):  
Location: 419 LOGAN AVE, LAREDO, WEBB COUNTY, TX  
TCEQ Region: REGION 16 - LAREDO  
Date Compliance History Prepared: April 22, 2008  
Agency Decision Requiring Compliance History: Enforcement  
Compliance Period: April 22, 2003 to April 22, 2008  
TCEQ Staff Member to Contact for Additional Information Regarding this Compliance History  
Name: Steve Villatoro Phone: 512-239-4930

## Site Compliance History Components

- |  |            |
|--|------------|
| 1. Has the site been in existence and/or operation for the full five year compliance period? | Yes        |
| 2. Has there been a (known) change in ownership of the site during the compliance period?    | No         |
| 3. If Yes, who is the current owner?   | <u>N/A</u> |
| 4. If Yes, who was/were the prior owner(s)?  | N/A        |
| 5. When did the change(s) in ownership occur?  | N/A        |

## Components (Multimedia) for the Site :

- A. Final Enforcement Orders, court judgements, and consent decrees of the state of Texas and the federal government:  
N/A
- B. Any criminal convictions of the state of Texas and the federal government.  
N/A
- C. Chronic excessive emissions events.  
N/A
- D. The approval dates of investigations. (CCEDS Inv. Track. No.)  
N/A
- E. Written notices of violations (NOV). (CCEDS Inv. Track. No.)
- F. Environmental audits.  
N/A
- G. Type of environmental management systems (EMSs).  
N/A
- H. Voluntary on-site compliance assessment dates.  
N/A
- I. Participation in a voluntary pollution reduction program.  
N/A
- J. Early compliance.  
N/A
- Sites Outside of Texas  
N/A



# TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY



<b>IN THE MATTER OF AN</b>	<b>§</b>	<b>BEFORE THE</b>
<b>ENFORCEMENT ACTION</b>	<b>§</b>	
<b>CONCERNING</b>	<b>§</b>	<b>TEXAS COMMISSION ON</b>
<b>AMERICAN COMMODITIES, INC.</b>	<b>§</b>	
<b>RN105490361</b>	<b>§</b>	<b>ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY</b>

## **AGREED ORDER DOCKET NO. 2008-0754-WQ-E**

### **I. JURISDICTION AND STIPULATIONS**

At its \_\_\_\_\_ agenda, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality ("the Commission" or "TCEQ") considered this agreement of the parties, resolving an enforcement action regarding American Commodities, Inc. ("the Respondent") under the authority of TEX. WATER CODE chs. 7 and 26. The Executive Director of the TCEQ, through the Enforcement Division, and the Respondent appear before the Commission and together stipulate that:

1. The Respondent owns and operates a used oil transfer and rail car cleaning facility at 419 Logan Avenue in Laredo, Webb County, Texas (the "Facility").
2. The Respondent has committed any other act or engaged in any other activity which in itself or in conjunction with any other discharge or activity causes, continues to cause, or will cause pollution of any water in the state under TEX. WATER CODE ch. 26.
3. The Commission and the Respondent agree that the Commission has jurisdiction to enter this Agreed Order, and that the Respondent is subject to the Commission's jurisdiction.
4. The Respondent received notice of the violation alleged in Section II ("Allegations") on or about April 23, 2008.
5. The occurrence of any violation is in dispute and the entry of this Agreed Order shall not constitute an admission by the Respondent of any violation alleged in Section II ("Allegations"), nor of any statute or rule.
6. An administrative penalty in the amount of One Thousand Eight Hundred Dollars (\$1,800) is assessed by the Commission in settlement of the violations alleged in Section II ("Allegations"). The Respondent has paid One Thousand Four Hundred Forty Dollars (\$1,440) of the



administrative penalty and Three Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$360) is deferred contingent upon the Respondent's timely and satisfactory compliance with all the terms of this Agreed Order. The deferred amount will be waived upon full compliance with the terms of this Agreed Order. If the Respondent fails to timely and satisfactorily comply with all requirements of this Agreed Order, the Executive Director may require the Respondent to pay all or part of the deferred penalty.

7. 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.
8. The Executive Director of the TCEQ and the Respondent have agreed on a settlement of the matters alleged in this enforcement action, subject to the approval of the Commission.
9. The Executive Director recognizes that on April 30, 2008, the Respondent submitted a Notice of Intent.
10. 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 the Respondent has not complied with one or more of the terms or conditions in this Agreed Order.
11. 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.
12. 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**

As owner and operator of the Facility, the Respondent is alleged to have failed to obtain authorization to discharge storm water associated with industrial activities, in violation of 30 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 281.25(a)(4) and 40 CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS § 122.26(c), as documented during an investigation conducted on March 10, 2008.

## **III. DENIALS**

The Respondent generally denies each allegation in Section II ("Allegations").



#### IV. ORDERING PROVISIONS

1. It is, therefore, ordered by the TCEQ that the Respondent pay an administrative penalty as set forth in Section I, Paragraph 6 above. The payment of this administrative penalty and the 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 requiring corrective action or penalties for violations which are not raised here. Administrative penalty payments shall be made payable to "TCEQ" and shall be sent with the notation "Re: American Commodities, Inc., Docket No. 2008-0754-WQ-E" to:

Financial Administration Division, Revenues Section  
Attention: Cashier's Office, MC 214  
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality  
P.O. Box 13088  
Austin, Texas 78711-3088

2. The provisions of this Agreed Order shall apply to and be binding upon the Respondent. The Respondent is ordered to give notice of the Agreed Order to personnel who maintain day-to-day control over the Facility operations referenced in this Agreed Order.
3. This Agreed Order, issued by the Commission, shall not be admissible against the 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.
4. This agreement may be executed in multiple counterparts, which together shall constitute a single original instrument. Any executed signature page to this Agreement may be transmitted by facsimile transmission to the other parties, which shall constitute an original signature for all purposes.
5. Under 30 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 70.10(b), the effective date is the date of hand-delivery of the Order to the Respondent, or three days after the date on which the Commission mails notice of the Order to the 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

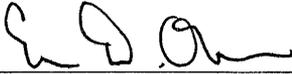
3/25/2008  
Date

I, the undersigned, have read and understand the attached Agreed Order. I am authorized to agree to the attached Agreed Order on behalf of the entity indicated below my signature, 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, if any, 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 submitted;
- 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, any falsification of any compliance documents may result in criminal prosecution.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

6/4/08  
Date

Eric N. Olson  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Name (Printed or typed)  
Authorized Representative of  
American Commodities, Inc.

V.P. Operations  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

**Instructions:** Send the original, signed Agreed Order with penalty payment to the Financial Administration Division, Revenues Section at the address in Section IV, Paragraph 1 of this Agreed Order.

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