EXECUTIVE SUMMARY – ENFORCEMENT MATTER – CASE NO. 62249 Jerry M. Stell RN103465167 Docket No. 2022-0508-WOC-E

Order Type:

Default Order (SOAH preliminary hearing)

Media:

All Occupational Licenses

Small Business:

Yes

Location Where Violation Occurred:

2702 Tipps Road, Crossroads, Denton County

Type of Operation:

process control duties

Other Significant Matters:

Additional Pending Enforcement Actions: None Past-Due Penalties: None Past-Due Fees: None Other: None Interested Third Parties: None

Texas Register Publication Date: December 20, 2024

Comments Received: None

Penalty Information

Total Penalty Assessed: \$1,191
Total Paid to General Revenue: \$0
Total Due to General Revenue: \$1,191

Compliance History Classifications:

Person/CN - Unclassified

Site/RN - N/A

Major Source: No Statutory Limit Adjustment: None

Applicable Penalty Policy: January 28, 2021

Investigation Information

Complaint Date: N/A

Date of Investigation: January 13, 2022

Date of NOV: N/A

Date of NOE: January 14, 2022

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY - ENFORCEMENT MATTER - CASE No. 62249 Jerry M. Stell RN103465167 Docket No. 2022-0508-WOC-E

Violation Information

Failed to have a current, valid water system operator's license prior to performing process control duties in production or distribution of public drinking water [Tex. Water Code § 37.003, Tex. Health & Safety Code § 341.034(b), and 30 Tex. Admin. Code § 30.5(a) and 30.381(b)].

Corrective Actions/Technical Requirements

Corrective Action Completed:

Respondent ceased performing process control duties for the production and distribution of drinking water at the Facility, as of March 11, 2022.

Technical Requirements:

None

Litigation Information

Date Petitions Filed:April 30, 2024Dates of Service:May 4, 2024Date Answer Filed:June 20, 2024SOAH Referral Date:July 23, 2024

Hearing Date:

Preliminary hearing: September 12, 2024 (defaulted)

Contact Information

TCEQ Attorneys: Alexander Kepczyk, Litigation Division, (512) 239-3400

Sheldon Wayne, Public Interest Counsel, (512) 239-6363

TCEQ Litigation Agenda Coordinator: Katherine McKenzie, Litigation Division, (512) 239-2575
TCEQ Enforcement Coordinator: Ronica Rodriguez Scott, Enforcement Division, (361)-881-6990

TCEQ Regional Contact: Brent Candler, Dallas/Fort Worth Regional Office, (817)-588-5800

Respondent Contact: Jerry M. Stell, 10633 Farm-to-Market Road 2153, Aubrey, Texas 76227-3047

Respondent's Attorney: N/A



Penalty Calculation Worksheet (PCW)

Policy Revision 5 (January 28, 2021) PCW Revision February 11 2021

DATES Assigned 18-Apr-2022

Screening 25-Apr-2022 **PCW** 3-May-2022 **EPA Due**

RESPONDENT/FACILITY INFORMATION Respondent Jerry M. Stell

Reg. Ent. Ref. No. RN103465167 Facility/Site Region 4-Dallas/Fort Worth Major/Minor Source Minor

CASE INFORMATION Enf./Case ID No. 62249 No. of Violations 1 **Docket No.** 2022-0508-WOC-E Order Type 1660 Media Program(s) All Occupational Licenses Government/Non-Profit No Multi-Media **Enf. Coordinator** Ronica Rodriguez Scott EC's Team Enforcement Team 5 Admin. Penalty \$ Limit Minimum Maximum \$5,000

Penalty Calculation Section **TOTAL BASE PENALTY (Sum of violation base penalties)** Subtotal 1 \$1,000 ADJUSTMENTS (+/-) TO SUBTOTAL 1 Subtotals 2-7 are obtained by multiplying the Total Base Penalty (Subtotal 1) by the indicated percentage. **Compliance History 0.0%** Adjustment Subtotals 2, 3, & 7 **\$0** Notes No adjustment for Compliance History. Culpability Subtotal 4 \$0 No 0.0% Enhancement Notes The Respondent does not meet the culpability criteria. **Good Faith Effort to Comply Total Adjustments** Subtotal 5 -\$100 Subtotal 6 \$0 0.0% Enhancement* **Economic Benefit** Total EB Amounts *Capped at the Total EB \$ Amount \$191 Estimated Cost of Compliance **SUM OF SUBTOTALS 1-7** Final Subtotal \$900 OTHER FACTORS AS JUSTICE MAY REQUIRE 32.3% Adiustment \$291 Reduces or enhances the Final Subtotal by the indicated percentage. Recommended enhancement to capture the avoided cost associated with Notes Violation No. 1 and Good Faith Efforts to comply offset. Final Penalty Amount \$1,191 STATUTORY LIMIT ADJUSTMENT Final Assessed Penalty \$1,191 0.0% \$0 DEFERRAL Reduction Adjustment Reduces the Final Assessed Penalty by the indicated percentage. Notes Deferral not offered for non-expedited settlement. **PAYABLE PENALTY** \$1,191

Policy Revision 5 (January 28, 2021) PCW Revision February 11, 2021

Screening Date 25-Apr-2022 Respondent Jerry M. Stell

Case ID No. 62249

Reg. Ent. Reference No. RN103465167

Media All Occupational Licenses

Enf. Coordinator Ronica Rodriguez Scott

Compliance History Worksheet							
>>	Compliance Hist Component	ory <i>Site</i> Enhancement (Subtotal 2) Number of	Number	Adjust.			
	NOVs	Written notices of violation ("NOVs") with same or similar violations as those in the current enforcement action (number of NOVs meeting criteria)	0	0%			
		Other written NOVs	0	0%			
		Any agreed final enforcement orders containing a denial of liability (<i>number of orders meeting criteria</i>)	0	0%			
	Orders	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	Any non-adjudicated final court judgments or consent decrees containing a denial of liability of this state or the federal government (number of judgments or consent decrees meeting criteria)	0	0%			
	Decrees	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	Convictions Any criminal convictions of this state or the federal government (number o counts)		0%			
	Emissions	Chronic excessive emissions events (number of events)	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 (number of audits for which notices were submitted)	0	0%			
	Addits	Disclosures of violations under the Texas Environmental, Health, and Safety Audit Privilege Act, 74th Legislature, 1995 (number of audits for which violations were disclosed)	0	0%			
		Environmental management systems in place for one year or more	No	0%			
	Other	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	N/A Adjustment Percentage (Subtotal 3) 0%					
>>	>> Compliance History Person Classification (Subtotal 7)						
	Unclassified Adjustment Percentage (Subtotal 7) 0%						
>> Compliance History Summary							
	Compliance History Notes No adjustment for Compliance History.						
Total Compliance History Adjustment Percentage (Subtotals 2, 3, & 7) 0%							
>> Final Compliance History Adjustment Final Adjustment Percentage *capped at 100% 0%							
		i mai Aujustinent Fercent	age capped	20 70	0 70		

Economic Benefit Worksheet							
Respondent	•						
Case ID No.							
Reg. Ent. Reference No.							V
медіа Violation No.	All Occupation 1	31 Licenses				Percent Interest Years of Depreciation	
						5.0	15
	Item Cost	Date Required	Final Date	Yrs	Interest Saved	Costs Saved	EB Amount
Item Description							
Delayed Costs							
Equipment				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Buildings				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other (as needed)				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Engineering/Construction				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Land				0.00	\$0	n/a	\$0
Record Keeping System				0.00	\$0 \$0	n/a n/a	\$0 \$0
Training/Sampling Remediation/Disposal				0.00	\$0 \$0	n/a	\$0
Permit Costs				0.00	\$0	n/a	\$0
Other (as needed)				0.00	\$0	n/a	\$0
Notes for DELAYED costs							
Avoided Costs	ANNU	ALIZE avoided c	osts before en			one-time avoided	
Disposal				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Personnel				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Inspection/Reporting/Sampling				0.00	\$0	\$0 *0	\$0
Supplies/Equipment Financial Assurance				0.00	\$0 \$0	\$0 \$0	\$0 \$0
ONE-TIME avoided costs	\$186	7-Aug-2021	11-Mar-2022	0.59	\$0 \$5	\$186	\$191
	\$100	7-Aug-2021	11-Mai-2022	0.00	\$0 \$0	\$100	\$0
Notes for AVOIDED costs Notes for AVOIDED costs							
Approx. Cost of Compliance		\$186			TOTAL		\$191

To request a more accessible version of this report, please contact the TCEQ Help Desk at (512) 239-4357.



Compliance History Report

Compliance History Report for CN601985120, RN103465167, Rating Year 2023 which includes Compliance History (CH) components from September 1, 2018, through August 31, 2023.

Customer, Respondent, CN601985120, Jerry M. Stell

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Rating: ----

or Owner/Operator:

Regulated Entity:

RN103465167, STELL, JERRY M

Classification: NOT APPLICABLE

Rating: N/A

Complexity Points:

N/A

Repeat Violator: N/A

CH Group:

14 - Other

Location: 2702 Tipps Road in Crossroads, Denton County, Texas

TCEQ Region: **REGION 04 - DFW METROPLEX**

ID Number(s):

Compliance History Period: September 01, 2018 to August 31, 2023 Rating Year: 2023 **Rating Date:** 09/01/2023

Date Compliance History Report Prepared: November 09, 2023 Agency Decision Requiring Compliance History: Enforcement

Component Period Selected: November 09, 2018 to November 09, 2023

TCEQ Staff Member to Contact for Additional Information Regarding This Compliance History.

Name: Ronica Rodriguez Scott Phone: (361) 881-6990

Site and Owner/Operator History:

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/operator of the site during the compliance period? NO

Components (Multimedia) for the Site Are Listed in Sections A - J

Final Orders, court judgments, and consent decrees:

B. Criminal convictions:

N/A

C. Chronic excessive emissions events:

D. The approval dates of investigations (CCEDS Inv. Track. No.):

E. Written notices of violations (NOV) (CCEDS Inv. Track. No.):

A notice of violation represents a written allegation of a violation of a specific regulatory requirement from the commission to a regulated entity. A notice of violation is not a final enforcement action, nor proof that a violation has actually occurred.

N/A

F. Environmental audits:

G. Type of environmental management systems (EMSs):

H. Voluntary on-site compliance assessment dates:

I. Participation in a voluntary pollution reduction program:

J. Early compliance:

N/A

Sites Outside of Texas:

N/A

Component Appendices

Appendix A

All NOVs Issued During Component Period 11/9/2018 and 11/9/2023

N/A

Appendix B

All Investigations Conducted During Component Period November 09, 2018 and November 09, 2023

Item 1 April 15, 2022** (1787185)

^{*} No violations documented during this investigation

^{**}Investigation applicable for the Compliance History Rating period between 09/01/2018 and 08/31/2023.

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY



IN THE MATTER OF AN	§	BEFORE THE
ENFORCEMENT ACTION	§	
CONCERNING	§	TEXAS COMMISSION ON
JERRY M. STELL;	§	
RN103465167	§	ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

DEFAULT ORDER

DOCKET NO. 2022-0508-WOC-E

On ______, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality ("Commission" or "TCEQ") considered the Executive Director's First Amended Report and Petition, filed pursuant to Tex. Water Code chs. 7 and 37, Tex. Health & Safety Code ch. 341, and the rules of the TCEQ, which requests appropriate relief, including the imposition of an administrative penalty. The respondent made the subject of this Order is Jerry M. Stell ("Respondent").

The Commission makes the following Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law:

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Respondent performed process control duties, as defined in 30 Tex. Admin. Code § 290.38(69), in the production, treatment, or distribution of public drinking water at 2702 Tipps Road in Crossroads, Denton County, Texas (the "Facility"), and is required to be licensed under Tex. Water Code chs. 37 and 30 Tex. Admin. Code ch. 30, Subchapter K. The Facility provides water for human consumption, has approximately 248 service connections, and serves at least 25 people per day for at least 60 days per year. As such, the Facility is a PWS, as defined in 30 Tex. Admin. Code § 290.38(73). Therefore, Respondent is subject to TCEQ jurisdiction pursuant to Tex. Water Code ch. 37 and Tex. Health & Safety Code ch. 341.
- 2. During a record review for the Facility conducted on and about January 13, 2022, an investigator documented that Respondent failed to have a current, valid water system operator's license prior to performing process control duties in production or distribution of public drinking water. Specifically, Respondent was performing the duties of a licensed operator with an expired license.
- 3. The Executive Director recognizes that Respondent ceased performing process control duties for the production and distribution of drinking water at the Facility, as of March 11, 2022.
- 4. The Executive Director filed the "Executive Director's First Amended Report and Petition Recommending that the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Enter an Enforcement Order Assessing an Administrative Penalty Against Jerry M. Stell" (the "EDFARP") in the TCEQ Chief Clerk's office on April 30, 2024.
- 5. A written response to the EDFARP was filed as an Answer in the TCEQ Chief Clerk's Office on behalf of Respondent on June 20, 2024, and the matter was referred to the State Office of Administrative Hearings ("SOAH") on July 23, 2024.
- 6. On August 14, 2024, the TCEQ Chief Clerk mailed notice of the preliminary hearing via certified mail, return receipt requested, and via first class mail, postage prepaid to Respondent.
- 7. On September 12, 2024, the Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ") convened the preliminary hearing. Respondent failed to appear, and the Executive Director requested that the ALJ enter a finding that Respondent was served with proper notice of the hearing and the matter be dismissed from the SOAH Docket and remanded to the Executive Director so that a Default Order may be entered by the Commission.

8. On September 16, 2024, the ALJ entered a finding that Respondent was served with proper notice of the hearing and remanded the matter to the Executive Director by SOAH Order No. 2 so that TCEQ may dispose of this case on a default basis.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- 1. As evidenced by Finding of Fact No. 1, Respondent is subject to the jurisdiction of the TCEQ pursuant to ch. 37, Tex. Health & Safety Code ch. 341, and the rules of the TCEQ.
- 2. As evidenced by Finding of Fact No. 2, Respondent failed to have a current, valid water system operator's license prior to performing process control duties in production or distribution of public drinking water, in violation of Tex. Water Code § 37.003, Tex. Health & Safety Code § 341.034(b), and 30 Tex. Admin. Code §§ 30.5(a) and 30.381(b).
- 3. As evidenced by Finding of Fact No. 5, Respondent's answer was filed as a written response to the EDFARP, as authorized by Tex. Water Code § 7.056 and 30 Tex. Admin. Code § 70.105, and the matter was referred to SOAH pursuant to 1 Tex. Admin. Code §§ 155.53(b) and 155.101(d) and 30 Tex. Admin. Code § 70.109.
- 4. As evidenced by Finding of Fact No. 6, Respondent was provided proper notice of the preliminary hearing in accordance with Tex. Gov't Code §§ 2001.051(1) and 2001.052, Tex Water Code § 7.058, 1 Tex. Admin. Code §§ 155.105(b), 155.401, and 155.501, and 30 Tex. Admin. Code §§ 1.11, 1.12, 39.405, 39.413, 39.425, and 80.6.
- 5. As evidenced by Findings of Fact Nos. 7 and 8, Respondent failed to appear for the preliminary hearing, and pursuant to Tex. Gov't Code § 2001.056(4) and 1 Tex. Admin. Code § 155.501(e), the ALJ dismissed the case from the SOAH docket so that the Commission may enter a Default Order against Respondent and assess the penalty recommended by the Executive Director pursuant to Tex. Water Code § 7.057 and 30 Tex. Admin. Code § 70.106(b).
- 6. Pursuant to Tex. Health & Safety Code § 341.049(a), the Commission has the authority to assess an administrative penalty against Respondent for violations of state statutes within TCEQ's jurisdiction, for violations of rules adopted under such statutes, or for violations of orders or permits issued under such statutes.
- 7. An administrative penalty in the amount of \$1,191 is justified by the facts recited in this Order, and considered in light of the factors set forth in Tex. Health & Safety Code § 341.049(b).
- 8. Tex. Water Code §§ 5.102 and 7.002 authorize the Commission to issue orders and make determinations necessary to effectuate the purposes of the statutes within its jurisdiction.

ORDERING PROVISIONS

NOW, THEREFORE, THE TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ORDERS that:

- 1. Respondent is assessed an administrative penalty in the amount of \$1,191 for violations of state statutes and rules of the TCEQ. The payment of this penalty and Respondent's compliance with all the requirements set forth in this Order resolve only the matters set forth by this Order in this action. The Commission shall not be constrained in any manner from requiring corrective actions or penalties for violations which are not raised here.
- 2. The penalty assessed by this Order shall be paid within 30 days after the effective date of this Order. All checks submitted to pay the penalty imposed by this Order shall be made out to TCEQ and shall be sent with the notation "Re: Jerry M. Stell; Docket No. 2022-0508-WOC-E" to:

Jerry M. Stell Docket No. 2022-0508-WOC-E Page 3

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

- 3. All relief not expressly granted in this Order is denied.
- 4. The provisions of this Order shall apply to and be binding upon Respondent.
- 5. The Executive Director may grant an extension of any deadline in this Order or in any plan, report, or other document submitted pursuant to this Order, upon a written and substantiated showing of good cause. All requests for extensions by Respondent shall be made in writing to the Executive Director. Extensions are not effective until Respondent receives written approval from the Executive Director. The determination of what constitutes good cause rests solely with the Executive Director.
- 6. If Respondent fails to comply with any of the Ordering Provisions in this Order within the prescribed schedules, and that failure is caused solely by an act of God, war, strike, riot, or other catastrophe, Respondent's failure to comply is not a violation of this Order. Respondent shall have the burden of establishing to the Executive Director's satisfaction that such an event has occurred. Respondent shall notify the Executive Director within seven days after Respondent becomes aware of a delaying event and shall take all reasonable measures to mitigate and minimize any delay.
- 7. The Executive Director may refer this matter to the Office of the Attorney General of the State of Texas ("OAG") for further enforcement proceedings without notice to Respondent if the Executive Director determines that Respondent has not complied with one or more of the terms or conditions in this Order.
- 8. The provisions of this Order are deemed severable, and, if a court of competent jurisdiction or other appropriate authority deems any provision of this Order unenforceable, the remaining provisions shall be valid and enforceable.
- 9. This Order shall terminate five years from its effective date or upon compliance with all the terms and conditions set forth in this Order, whichever is later.
- 10. The Chief Clerk shall provide a copy of this fully executed Order to each of the parties. By law, the effective date of this Order shall be the date the Order is final, as provided by 30 Tex. Admin. Code § 70.106(d) and Tex. Gov't Code § 2001.144.

SIGNATURE PAGE

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY				
For the Commission	Date			

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY



UNSWORN DECLARATION OF ALEXANDER R KEPCZYK

"On behalf of the Executive Director of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, the 'Executive Director's First Amended Report and Petition Recommending that the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Enter an Enforcement Order Assessing an Administrative Penalty Against Jerry M. Stell' (the "EDFARP") was filed in the TCEQ Chief Clerk's office on April 30, 2024.

A written response to the EDFARP was filed as an Answer in the TCEQ Chief Clerk's office on behalf of the Respondent on June 20, 2024, and the matter was referred to the State Office of Administrative Hearings ("SOAH") on July 23, 2024. On August 14, 2024, the TCEQ Chief Clerk mailed notice of the preliminary hearing via certified mail, return receipt requested, and via first class mail, postage prepaid to Respondent.

Respondent failed to appear on September 12, 2024 at that hearing and the Executive Director requested that the Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ") enter a finding that Respondent was served with proper notice of the hearing and the matter be remanded to the Executive Director pursuant to 1 Tex. Admin. Code § 155.501(e), which gives an ALJ the authority to remand the case back to the TCEQ for informal disposition on a default basis in accordance with Tex. Gov't Code § 2001.056.

The ALJ remanded the matter to the Executive Director by SOAH Order No. 2, issued on September 16, 2024, so that TCEQ may dispose of this case on a default basis."

"My name is Alexander R Kepczyk, and I am an employee of the following governmental agency: Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. I am executing this declaration as part of my assigned duties and responsibilities. I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct."

Executed in Travis County,
State of Texas,
on the 9th day of December, 2024

alexander Kepczyk

Declarant