

Executive Summary – Enforcement Matter – Case No. 62508
GPM Empire, LLC dba Shell 7544
RN102151800
Docket No. 2022-1026-PST-E

Order Type:

1660 Agreed Order

Findings Order Justification:

N/A

Media:

PST

Small Business:

No

Location(s) Where Violation(s) Occurred:

Shell 7544, 14040 Coit Road, Dallas, Dallas County

Type of Operation:

Underground storage tank ("UST") system and a convenience store with retail sales of gasoline

Other Significant Matters:

Additional Pending Enforcement Actions: No

Past-Due Penalties: No

Other: N/A

Interested Third-Parties: None

Texas Register Publication Date: April 21, 2023

Comments Received: No

Penalty Information

Total Penalty Assessed: \$13,775

Amount Deferred for Expedited Settlement: \$2,755

Total Paid to General Revenue: \$11,020

Total Due to General Revenue: \$0

Payment Plan: N/A

Compliance History Classifications:

Person/CN - Satisfactory

Site/RN - High

Major Source: No

Statutory Limit Adjustment: N/A

Applicable Penalty Policy: January 2021

Investigation Information

Complaint Date(s): N/A

Complaint Information: N/A

Date(s) of Investigation: April 20, 2022

Date(s) of NOE(s): May 27, 2022

Executive Summary – Enforcement Matter – Case No. 62508
GPM Empire, LLC dba Shell 7544
RN102151800
Docket No. 2022-1026-PST-E

Violation Information

1. Failed to monitor the USTs for releases at a frequency of at least once every 30 days [30 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 334.50(b)(1)(A) and TEX. WATER CODE § 26.3475(c)(1)].
2. Failed to report a suspected release to the TCEQ within 24 hours of discovery. Specifically, an Automatic Tank Gauge ("ATG") report dated January 31, 2022 for Tank No. 2 indicated a suspected release that was not reported [30 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 334.72].
3. Failed to investigate and confirm all suspected releases of regulated substances. Specifically, an ATG report dated January 31, 2022 for Tank No. 2 indicated a suspected release that was not investigated [30 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 334.74].

Corrective Actions/Technical Requirements

Corrective Action(s) Completed:

The Respondent implemented the following corrective measures:

- a. By October 12, 2022, conducted an investigation of the suspected release and submitted the Release Determination Report to the TCEQ; and
- b. By November 10, 2022, developed and implemented a process for reporting suspected releases timely.

Technical Requirements:

The Order will require the Respondent to:

- a. Within 30 days, implement a method of release detection for the USTs; and
- b. Within 45 days, submit written certification to demonstrate compliance with a.

Contact Information

TCEQ Attorney: N/A

TCEQ Enforcement Coordinator: Stephanie McCurley, Enforcement Division, Enforcement Team 3, MC 219, (512) 239-2607; Michael Parrish, Enforcement Division, MC 219, (512) 239-2548

Respondent: Chris Giacobone, Chief Operating Officer, GPM Empire, LLC, 8565 Magellan Parkway, Suite 400, Richmond, Virginia 23227
Don Bassell, Chief Financial Officer, GPM Empire, LLC, 8565 Magellan Parkway, Suite 400, Richmond, Virginia 23227

Respondent's Attorney: N/A



Penalty Calculation Worksheet (PCW)

Policy Revision 5 (January 28, 2021)

PCW Revision February 11, 2021

DATES	Assigned	31-May-2022			
	PCW	14-Nov-2022	Screening	15-Jun-2022	EPA Due

RESPONDENT/FACILITY INFORMATION					
Respondent	GPM Empire, LLC dba Shell 7544				
Reg. Ent. Ref. No.	RN102151800				
Facility/Site Region	4-Dallas/Fort Worth	Major/Minor Source	Minor		

CASE INFORMATION					
Enf./Case ID No.	62508	No. of Violations	3		
Docket No.	2022-1026-PST-E	Order Type	1660		
Media Program(s)	Petroleum Storage Tank	Government/Non-Profit	No		
Multi-Media		Enf. Coordinator	Stephanie McCurley		
		EC's Team	Enforcement Team 3		
Admin. Penalty \$	Limit Minimum	\$0	Maximum	\$25,000	

Penalty Calculation Section

TOTAL BASE PENALTY (Sum of violation base penalties)	Subtotal 1	\$13,750
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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
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Notes: No adjustment for compliance history.

Culpability	No	0.0%	Enhancement	Subtotal 4	\$0
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Notes: The Respondent does not meet the culpability criteria.

Good Faith Effort to Comply Total Adjustments	Subtotal 5	\$0
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Economic Benefit	0.0%	Enhancement*	Subtotal 6	\$0
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Total EB Amounts: \$129
 Estimated Cost of Compliance: \$2,625
 *Capped at the Total EB \$ Amount

SUM OF SUBTOTALS 1-7	Final Subtotal	\$13,750
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OTHER FACTORS AS JUSTICE MAY REQUIRE	0.2%	Adjustment	\$25
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Reduces or enhances the Final Subtotal by the indicated percentage.

Notes: Recommended adjustment to capture the avoided cost of compliance associated with Violation No. 2.

Final Penalty Amount	\$13,775
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STATUTORY LIMIT ADJUSTMENT	Final Assessed Penalty	\$13,775
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DEFERRAL	20.0%	Reduction	Adjustment	-\$2,755
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Reduces the Final Assessed Penalty by the indicated percentage.

Notes: Deferral offered for expedited settlement.

PAYABLE PENALTY	\$11,020
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Screening Date 15-Jun-2022

Docket No. 2022-1026-PST-E

PCW

Respondent GPM Empire, LLC dba Shell 7544

Policy Revision 5 (January 28, 2021)

Case ID No. 62508

PCW Revision February 11, 2021

Reg. Ent. Reference No. RN102151800

Media Petroleum Storage Tank

Enf. Coordinator Stephanie McCurley

Compliance History Worksheet

>> Compliance History Site Enhancement (Subtotal 2)

Component	Number of...	Number	Adjust.
NOVs	Written notices of violation ("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 judgments 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%
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)

No

Adjustment Percentage (Subtotal 3) 0%

>> Compliance History Person Classification (Subtotal 7)

Satisfactory Performer

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%

Screening Date 15-Jun-2022

Docket No. 2022-1026-PST-E

PCW

Respondent GPM Empire, LLC dba Shell 7544

Policy Revision 5 (January 28, 2021)

Case ID No. 62508

PCW Revision February 11, 2021

Reg. Ent. Reference No. RN102151800

Media Petroleum Storage Tank

Enf. Coordinator Stephanie McCurley

Violation Number 1

Rule Cite(s)

30 Tex. Admin. Code § 334.50(b)(1)(A) and Tex. Water Code § 26.3475(c)(1)

Violation Description

Failed to monitor the underground storage tanks ("USTs") for releases at a frequency of at least once every 30 days.

Base Penalty \$25,000

>> Environmental, Property and Human Health Matrix

OR

Release	Harm		
	Major	Moderate	Minor
Actual			
Potential	x		

Percent 15.0%

>> Programmatic Matrix

	Major	Moderate	Minor
Falsification			

Percent 0.0%

Matrix Notes

Human health or the environment will or could be exposed to pollutants that would exceed levels that are protective of human health or environmental receptors as a result of the violation.

Adjustment \$21,250

\$3,750

Violation Events

Number of Violation Events 1

56 Number of violation days

daily	
weekly	
monthly	
quarterly	x
semiannual	
annual	
single event	

Violation Base Penalty \$3,750

One quarterly event is recommended from the April 20, 2022 investigation date to the June 15, 2022 screening date.

Good Faith Efforts to Comply

0.0%

Reduction \$0

	Before NOE/NOV	NOE/NOV to EDPRP/Settlement Offer
Extraordinary		
Ordinary		
N/A	x	

Notes

The Respondent does not meet the good faith criteria for this violation.

Violation Subtotal \$3,750

Economic Benefit (EB) for this violation

Statutory Limit Test

Estimated EB Amount \$70

Violation Final Penalty Total \$3,757

This violation Final Assessed Penalty (adjusted for limits) \$3,757

Economic Benefit Worksheet

Respondent GPM Empire, LLC dba Shell 7544
Case ID No. 62508
Reg. Ent. Reference No. RN102151800
Media Violation No. Petroleum Storage Tank
 1

Percent Interest	Years of Depreciation
5.0	15

Item Description	Item Cost	Date Required	Final Date	Yrs	Interest Saved	Costs Saved	EB Amount
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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	n/a	\$0
Training/Sampling				0.00	\$0	n/a	\$0
Remediation/Disposal				0.00	\$0	n/a	\$0
Permit Costs				0.00	\$0	n/a	\$0
Other (as needed)	\$1,500	20-Apr-2022	27-Mar-2023	0.93	\$70	n/a	\$70

Notes for DELAYED costs

Estimated delayed cost to implement a method of release detection for the USTs at the Facility. The Date Required is the investigation date and the Final Date is the estimated date of compliance.

Avoided Costs

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

Disposal				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Personnel				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Inspection/Reporting/Sampling				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Supplies/Equipment				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Financial Assurance				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
ONE-TIME avoided costs				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other (as needed)				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0

Notes for AVOIDED costs

Approx. Cost of Compliance

\$1,500

TOTAL

\$70

Screening Date 15-Jun-2022 **Docket No.** 2022-1026-PST-E **PCW**
Respondent GPM Empire, LLC dba Shell 7544 *Policy Revision 5 (January 28, 2021)*
Case ID No. 62508 *PCW Revision February 11, 2021*
Reg. Ent. Reference No. RN102151800
Media Petroleum Storage Tank
Enf. Coordinator Stephanie McCurley

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" value="0.0%"/>
	Potential	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	

>> Programmatic Matrix

	Falsification	Major	Moderate	Minor	Percent
	<input type="text"/>	<input checked="" type="text" value="x"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="10.0%"/>

Matrix Notes:

Adjustment

Violation Events

Number of Violation Events Number of violation days

daily	<input type="text"/>
weekly	<input type="text"/>
monthly	<input type="text"/>
quarterly	<input type="text"/>
semiannual	<input type="text"/>
annual	<input type="text"/>
single event	<input checked="" type="text" value="x"/>

Violation Base Penalty

Good Faith Efforts to Comply Reduction

	Before NOE/NOV	NOE/NOV to EDPRP/Settlement Offer
Extraordinary	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Ordinary	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
N/A	<input checked="" type="text" value="x"/>	<input type="text"/>

Notes:

Violation Subtotal

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 GPM Empire, LLC dba Shell 7544
Case ID No. 62508
Reg. Ent. Reference No. RN102151800
Media Violation No. Petroleum Storage Tank
 2

Percent Interest	Years of Depreciation
5.0	15

Item Description	Item Cost	Date Required	Final Date	Yrs	Interest Saved	Costs Saved	EB Amount
------------------	-----------	---------------	------------	-----	----------------	-------------	-----------

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	n/a	\$0
Training/Sampling	\$100	20-Apr-2022	10-Nov-2022	0.56	\$3	n/a	\$3
Remediation/Disposal				0.00	\$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

Estimated delayed cost to develop and implement a process for reporting suspected releases timely. The Date Required is the investigation date and the Final Date is the date of compliance.

Avoided Costs

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

Disposal				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Personnel				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Inspection/Reporting/Sampling				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Supplies/Equipment				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Financial Assurance				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
ONE-TIME avoided costs				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other (as needed)	\$25	1-Feb-2022	15-Jun-2022	0.37	\$0	\$25	\$25

Notes for AVOIDED costs

Estimated avoided cost to report the suspected release. The Date Required is the date the suspected release should have been reported and the Final Date is the screening date.

Approx. Cost of Compliance

\$125

TOTAL

\$28

Screening Date 15-Jun-2022 **Docket No.** 2022-1026-PST-E **PCW**
Respondent GPM Empire, LLC dba Shell 7544 *Policy Revision 5 (January 28, 2021)*
Case ID No. 62508 *PCW Revision February 11, 2021*
Reg. Ent. Reference No. RN102151800
Media Petroleum Storage Tank
Enf. Coordinator Stephanie McCurley

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" value="15.0%"/>
	Potential	<input type="text" value="x"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	

>> Programmatic Matrix

Falsification	Major	Moderate	Minor	Percent
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="0.0%"/>

Matrix Notes

Adjustment

Violation Events

Number of Violation Events Number of violation days

daily	<input type="text"/>
weekly	<input type="text"/>
monthly	<input type="text"/>
quarterly	<input type="text" value="x"/>
semiannual	<input type="text"/>
annual	<input type="text"/>
single event	<input type="text"/>

Violation Base Penalty

Good Faith Efforts to Comply Reduction

	Before NOE/NOV	NOE/NOV to EDPRP/Settlement Offer
Extraordinary	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Ordinary	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
N/A	<input type="text" value="x"/>	<input type="text"/>

Notes

Violation Subtotal

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 GPM Empire, LLC dba Shell 7544
Case ID No. 62508
Reg. Ent. Reference No. RN102151800
Media Violation No. Petroleum Storage Tank
 3

Percent Interest	Years of Depreciation
5.0	15

Item Description	Item Cost	Date Required	Final Date	Yrs	Interest Saved	Costs Saved	EB Amount
------------------	-----------	---------------	------------	-----	----------------	-------------	-----------

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	n/a	\$0
Training/Sampling				0.00	\$0	n/a	\$0
Remediation/Disposal				0.00	\$0	n/a	\$0
Permit Costs				0.00	\$0	n/a	\$0
Other (as needed)	\$1,000	2-Mar-2022	12-Oct-2022	0.61	\$31	n/a	\$31

Notes for DELAYED costs

Estimated delayed cost (\$400 for tank and line tightness testing and \$600 for the Release Determination Report) to conduct an investigation of the suspected release and implement appropriate corrective measures. The Date Required is the date the suspected release investigation was due and the Final Date is the date of compliance.

Avoided Costs

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

Disposal				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Personnel				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Inspection/Reporting/Sampling				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Supplies/Equipment				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Financial Assurance				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
ONE-TIME avoided costs				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other (as needed)				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0

Notes for AVOIDED costs

Approx. Cost of Compliance

\$1,000

TOTAL

\$31



Compliance History Report

Compliance History Report for CN605828383, RN102151800, Rating Year 2021 which includes Compliance History (CH) components from September 1, 2016, through August 31, 2021.

Customer, Respondent, or Owner/Operator:	CN605828383, GPM Empire, LLC	Classification:	SATISFACTORY	Rating:	0.93
Regulated Entity:	RN102151800, Shell 7544	Classification:	HIGH	Rating:	0.00
Complexity Points:	4	Repeat Violator:	NO		
CH Group:	14 - Other				
Location:	14040 Coit Road in Dallas, Dallas County, Texas				
TCEQ Region:	REGION 04 - DFW METROPLEX				
ID Number(s):					
LEAKING PETROLEUM STORAGE TANKS REMEDIATION	PETROLEUM STORAGE TANK REGISTRATION				
ID NUMBER 120707	REGISTRATION 13529				
Compliance History Period:	September 01, 2016 to August 31, 2021	Rating Year:	2021	Rating Date:	09/01/2021
Date Compliance History Report Prepared:	August 29, 2022				
Agency Decision Requiring Compliance History:	Enforcement				
Component Period Selected:	August 29, 2017 to August 29, 2022				
TCEQ Staff Member to Contact for Additional Information Regarding This Compliance History.					
Name:	Stephanie McCurley			Phone:	(512) 239-2607

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? YES
- 3) Who is the current owner/operator?
Quik-Way Retail Associates II, Ltd. OWNER OPERATOR since 2/20/2008
Star Enterprises, Inc. OWNER OPERATOR since 1/17/2002
Gpm Empire, LLC OWNER OPERATOR since 10/7/2020
- 4) Who was/were the prior owner(s)/operator(s)?
KZAK ENTERPRISES, INC., OPERATOR, 12/27/2010 to 2/12/2017

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

A. Final Orders, court judgments, and consent decrees:

N/A

B. Criminal convictions:

N/A

C. Chronic excessive emissions events:

N/A

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

Item 1 August 06, 2019 (1557424)

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:

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



IN THE MATTER OF AN
ENFORCEMENT ACTION
CONCERNING
GPM EMPIRE, LLC DBA SHELL 7544
RN102151800

§ BEFORE THE
§
§ TEXAS COMMISSION ON
§
§ ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

AGREED ORDER DOCKET NO. 2022-1026-PST-E

I. JURISDICTION AND STIPULATIONS

On _____, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality ("the Commission" or "TCEQ") considered this agreement of the parties, resolving an enforcement action regarding GPM Empire, LLC dba Shell 7544 (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 together stipulate that:

1. The Respondent owns and operates, as defined in 30 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 334.2(78) and (75), an underground storage tank ("UST") system and a convenience store with retail sales of gasoline located at 14040 Coit Road in Dallas, Dallas County, Texas (the "Facility"). The UST system at the Facility is not exempt or excluded from regulation under the Texas Water Code or the rules of the Commission, and contains or contained a regulated petroleum substance as defined in the rules of the TCEQ.
2. The Executive Director and the Respondent agree that the TCEQ has jurisdiction to enter this Order pursuant to TEX. WATER CODE §§ 7.002, 7.051, and 7.073, and that the Respondent is subject to TCEQ's jurisdiction. The TCEQ has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to TEX. WATER CODE § 5.013 because it alleges violations of TEX. WATER CODE ch. 26 and the rules of the TCEQ.
3. The occurrence of any violation is in dispute and the entry of this Order shall not constitute an admission by the Respondent of any violation alleged in Section II ("Allegations"), nor of any statute or rule.
4. An administrative penalty in the amount of \$13,775 is assessed by the Commission in settlement of the violations alleged in Section II ("Allegations"). The Respondent paid \$11,020 of the penalty and \$2,755 is deferred contingent upon the Respondent's timely and satisfactory compliance with all the terms of this Order. The deferred amount shall be waived only upon full compliance with all the terms and conditions contained in this Order. If the Respondent fails to timely and satisfactorily comply with any of the terms or requirements contained in this Order, the Executive Director may demand payment of all or part of the deferred penalty amount.
5. The Executive Director and the Respondent agree on a settlement of the matters alleged in this enforcement action, subject to final approval in accordance with 30 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 70.10(a). 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.

6. 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 Order.
7. This Order represents the complete and fully integrated agreement of the parties. 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.
8. 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.
9. The Executive Director recognizes that the Respondent implemented the following corrective measures at the Facility:
 - a. By October 12, 2022, conducted an investigation of the suspected release and submitted the Release Determination Report to the TCEQ; and
 - b. By November 10, 2022, developed and implemented a process for reporting suspected releases timely.

II. ALLEGATIONS

During an investigation at the Facility conducted on April 20, 2022, an investigator documented that the Respondent:

1. Failed to monitor the USTs for releases at a frequency of at least once every 30 days, in violation of 30 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 334.50(b)(1)(A) and TEX. WATER CODE § 26.3475(c)(1).
2. Failed to report a suspected release to the TCEQ within 24 hours of discovery, in violation of 30 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 334.72. Specifically, an Automatic Tank Gauge ("ATG") report dated January 31, 2022 for Tank No. 2 indicated a suspected release that was not reported.
3. Failed to investigate and confirm all suspected releases of regulated substances requiring reporting under 30 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 334.72 (relating to Reporting of Suspected Releases) within 30 days, in violation of 30 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 334.74. Specifically, an ATG report dated January 31, 2022 for Tank No. 2 indicated a suspected release that was not investigated.

III. DENIALS

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

IV. ORDERING PROVISIONS

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

1. The Respondent is assessed a penalty as set forth in Section I, Paragraph No. 4. The payment of this penalty and the Respondent's compliance with all of the requirements set forth in this 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. Penalty payments shall be made payable to "TCEQ" and shall be sent with the notation "Re: GPM Empire, LLC dba Shell 7544, Docket No. 2022-1026-PST-E" to:

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

2. The Respondent shall undertake the following technical requirements:
 - a. Within 30 days after the effective date of this Order, implement a method of release detection for the USTs at the Facility, in accordance with 30 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 334.50; and
 - b. Within 45 days after the effective date of this Order, submit written certification, and include detailed supporting documentation including photographs, receipts, and/or other records to demonstrate compliance with Ordering Provision No. 2.a. The certification shall be signed by the Respondent and shall include the following certification language:

"I certify under penalty of law that I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted and all attached documents, and that based on my inquiry of those individuals immediately responsible for obtaining the information, I believe that the submitted information is true, accurate and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fines and imprisonment for knowing violations."

The certification shall be submitted to:

Enforcement Division, MC 149A
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
P.O. Box 13087
Austin, Texas 78711-3087

with a copy to:

Waste Section Manager
Dallas/Fort Worth Regional Office
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
2309 Gravel Drive
Fort Worth, Texas 76118-6951

3. All relief not expressly granted in this Order is denied.
4. The duties and provisions imposed by this Order shall apply to and be binding upon the Respondent. The Respondent is ordered to give notice of this Order to personnel who maintain day-to-day control over the Facility operations referenced in this Order.
5. If the 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, the Respondent's failure to comply is not a violation of this Order. The Respondent shall have the burden of establishing to the Executive Director's satisfaction that such an event has occurred. The Respondent shall notify the Executive Director within seven days after the Respondent becomes aware of a delaying event and shall take all reasonable measures to mitigate and minimize any delay.
6. 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 the Respondent shall be made in writing to the Executive Director. Extensions are not effective until the Respondent receives written approval from the Executive Director. The determination of what constitutes good cause rests solely with the Executive Director. Extension requests shall be sent to the Enforcement Division at the address listed above.
7. This 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 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.
8. This Order may be executed in separate and multiple counterparts, which together shall constitute a single instrument. Any page of this Order may be copied, scanned, digitized, converted to electronic portable document format ("pdf"), or otherwise reproduced and may be transmitted by digital or electronic transmission, including but not limited to facsimile transmission and electronic mail. Any signature affixed to this Order shall constitute an original signature for all purposes and may be used, filed, substituted, or issued for any purpose for which an original signature could be used. The term "signature" shall include manual signatures and true and accurate reproductions of manual signatures created, executed, endorsed, adopted, or authorized by the person or persons to whom the signatures are attributable. Signatures may be copied or reproduced digitally, electronically, by photocopying, engraving, imprinting, lithographing, electronic mail, facsimile transmission, stamping, or any other means or process which the Executive Director deems acceptable. In this paragraph exclusively, the terms: electronic transmission, owner, person, writing, and written, shall have the meanings assigned to them under TEX. BUS. ORG. CODE § 1.002.

9. The effective date of this Order is the date it is signed by the Commission. A copy of this fully executed Order shall be provided to each of the parties.

SIGNATURE PAGE

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

For the Commission

Date


For the Executive Director

6/16/2023

Date

I, the undersigned, have read and understand the attached Order. I am authorized to agree to the attached Order, 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:

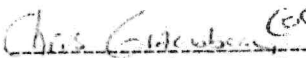
- A negative impact on compliance history;
- Greater scrutiny of any permit applications submitted;
- Referral of this case to the OAG for contempt, injunctive relief, additional penalties, and/or attorney fees, or to a collection agency;
- Increased penalties in any future enforcement actions;
- Automatic referral to the OAG 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

Date

3/14/23

 Don Bassell, CFO
Name (Printed or typed)
Authorized Representative of
GPM Empire, LLC dba Shell 7544

Title

If mailing address has changed, please check this box and provide the new address below:

Instructions: Send the original, signed Order with penalty payment to the Financial Administration Division, Revenue Operations Section at the address in Ordering Provision 1 of this Order.