**Order Type:** Default Order

**Media:** PST

**Small Business:** Yes

**Location Where Violation Occurred:** 201 North State Street, Bronte, Coke County

# Type of Operation:

a temporarily out-of-service underground storage tank ("UST") system and a tire repair shop with a former retail fueling center

Other Significant Matters: Additional Pending Enforcement Actions: Past-Due Penalties: Past-Due Fees: Other: Interested Third Parties:	None None None None None
Texas Register Publication Date:	May 30, 2025
Comments Received:	None

	Penalty Information
Total Penalty Assessed:	\$5,007
Total Paid to General Revenue:	\$0
Total Due to General Revenue:	\$5,007
<b>Compliance History Classifications:</b> Person/CN – Satisfactory Site/RN – Satisfactory	
Major Source:	No
Statutory Limit Adjustment:	None
Applicable Penalty Policy:	January 28, 2021
<u>Ir</u>	vestigation Information
Complaint Date:	N/A
Dates of Investigations:	February 10, 2022; February 14, 2023
Date of NOV:	N/A
Date of NOE:	April 11, 2023

# Violation Information

Failed to demonstrate acceptable financial assurance for taking corrective action and for compensating third parties for bodily injury and property damage caused by accidental releases arising from the operation of USTs [30 Tex. ADMIN. CODE § 37.815(a) and (b)].

# Corrective Actions/Technical Requirements

# **Corrective Action Completed:**

None

### **Technical Requirements:**

- 1. Within 30 days either provide financial assurance for all USTs at the Facility or empty the USTs of all regulated substances, conduct a site check, and perform any necessary corrective actions.
- 2. Within 45 days submit written certification to demonstrate compliance with Technical Requirement No. 1.
- 3. In lieu of Technical Requirement Nos. 1. and 2., within 180 days permanently remove the UST system from service, which includes the following actions:
  - a. Providing a Construction Notification to the TCEQ at least 30 days prior to any removal activities;
  - b. Employing a Licensed UST Contractor to perform all removal activities, including:
    - i. Removing the USTs from the ground, abandoning the USTs in-place, or conducting a permanent change-in-service;
    - ii. Emptying the USTs of all regulated substances and accumulated sludges or residues and purging the USTs of all residual vapors;
    - iii. Handling, transporting, and properly disposing of the empty USTs, regulated substances removed from the UST system, and any contaminated soils, backfill material, groundwater, wash water or other similar materials removed from the UST system or Facility;
    - iv. Determining whether there has been a release of regulated substance from the UST system, performing a comprehensive site assessment, reporting confirmed or suspected releases to the TCEQ, preparing a detailed written record of the release determination, and complying with all applicable corrective action requirements; and
  - c. Submitting a completely and accurately filled out registration to reflect the operational status of the UST system as permanently removed from service.
- 4. Unless Respondent complies with Technical Requirement Nos. 1. and 2., within 195 days submit written certification to demonstrate compliance with Technical Requirement No. 3.

# Litigation Information

Date Petition Filed:	October 8, 2024
Date of Service:	October 16, 2024
Date Answer Filed:	N/A

#### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY – ENFORCEMENT MATTER – CASE NO. 63971 Michael Smith RN101737369 Docket No. 2023-0597-PST-E

### **Contact Information**

**TCEQ Attorneys:** A'twar Wilkins, 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: Stephanie McCurley, Enforcement Division, (512) 239-2607

TCEQ Regional Contact: Matthew Perez, San Angelo Regional Office, (325) 655-9479

Respondent Contact: Michael Smith, P.O. Box 264, Bronte, Texas 76933

**Respondent's Attorney:** N/A

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STATEMENTAL O	Policy Re	Pe evision 5 (January 28	•	Calculatio	n Workst	neet (PC	-	vision Februar	y 11, 2021
DATES	Assigned				_		_		
	PCW	15-Aug-2023	Screening	g 24-Apr-2023	EPA Due				
RESPO	NDENT/FACILI	TY INFORMATI	ON						
_		Michael Smith							1
	g. Ent. Ref. No. ty/Site Region				Major/M	linor Source	Minor		-
Facili	ty/Site Region	6-3all Aligelo			Мајог/М	intor Source	MINU		
	NFORMATION						1		
En	f./Case ID No.	63971 2023-0597-PST-	<u> </u>		No. c	of Violations			-
Med		Petroleum Stora			Government	Order Type /Non-Profit			-
	Multi-Media		gerunk			•	Stephanie Mc	Curley	-
						EC's Team	Enforcement	Team 3	
Adr	min. Penalty \$ I	imit Minimum	\$0	Maximum	\$25,000				
			Dona	Ity Calculat	tion Socti	<u></u>			
TOTA		TV (Sum of		-		011	0	r	¢2 500
IUIA	L BASE PENA	LIY (Sum of	violation	n base penalt	les)		Subtotal 1		\$2,500
ADJU		/-) TO SUBTO							
	Subtotals 2-7 are ob Compliance His	, , ,	g the Total Base	e Penalty (Subtotal 1) 0.0%	, , ,	5	tals 2, 3, & 7		\$0
	compliance m	Story		0.0%	Adjustment	54510			φU
	Notes		No adjustn	nent for compliar	ice history.				
							J		
	Culpability	No		0.0%	Enhancement		Subtotal 4		\$0
	Notes	The Pe	spondent da	pes not meet the	culpability crite	ria			
	Notes		spondent de		calpublicy crite				
								r	+0
	Good Faith Effe	ort to Comply T	otal Adjust	iments			Subtotal 5		\$0
	Economic Bene	Total EB Amounts	\$2,705		Enhancement* 1 at the Total EB \$ /	Amount	Subtotal 6		\$0
	Estimated	Cost of Compliance	\$2,705 \$4,356	Capped		Amount			
						_			+2 500
SUM	OF SUBTOTA	LS 1-7				F	inal Subtotal		\$2,500
OTHE	R FACTORS A	AS JUSTICE M	1AY REOL	JIRE	100.3%		Adjustment		\$2,507
		Subtotal by the indic					1		
	Nataa	Recommended	enhancemei	nt to capture the	avoided cost o	f compliance			
	Notes		associ	ated with the vio	lation.				
	I					Final Pen	alty Amount		\$5,007
							-		
STATU	UTORY LIMIT		NT			Final Asse	ssed Penalty		\$5,007
DEFE						Deduction	Adiustasaut	-	¢O
		nalty by the indicated	d percentage.			Reduction	Adjustment		\$0
		, , in marcater							
	Notes	Defe	rral not offer	red for non-expe	dited settlemer	nt.			
							]		
ΡΔΥΛ	BLE PENALT	/							\$5,007
FAIA								L	φ <b>υ</b> ,007

Reg	Res Cas Ent. Refer Enf. Coo		sion 5 (January 28, 2021, evision February 11, 2021	
		Compliance History Worksheet		
>> Co		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 ( <i>number of NOVs meeting criteria</i> )	0	0%
		Other written NOVs	0	0%
		Any agreed final enforcement orders containing a denial of liability (number of orders meeting criteria)	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 ( <i>number of judgments or consent decrees meeting criteria</i> )	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	Any criminal convictions of this state or the federal government ( <i>number of counts</i> )	0	0%
	Emissions	Chronic excessive emissions events (number of events)	0	0%
	Audits	0	0%	
	Audits	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%
		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%
	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 Per	centage (Sub	ototal 2) 0%
>> Re	peat Violator	(Subtotal 3)		
	No		centage (Sub	ototal 3) 0%
>> Co	Satisfactory	ory Person Classification (Subtotal 7)           Performer         Adjustment Per	centage (Sul	ototal 7) 0%
>> Co	mpliance Hist		-sinage (Sal	<u> </u>
	Compliance History Notes	No adjustment for compliance history.		
>> Fina	al Compliance	Total Compliance History Adjustment Percentage (S History Adjustment	Subtotals 2,	<b>3, &amp; 7)</b> 0%
		Final Adjustment Percenta	age *capped	at 100% 0%

Screening Date 24-Apr-2023

PCW

		ening Date		Docket No. 2023-0597-PST-E	PCW			
			Michael Smith	Polic	/ Revision 5 (January 28, 2021)			
		ase ID No.		F	CW Revision February 11, 2021			
кеg.	Ent. Ref		RN101737369 Petroleum Storage Tank					
	Enf. C		Stephanie McCurley					
		tion Number						
		Rule Cite(s)						
			30 Tex.	Admin. Code § 37.815(a) and (b)				
				ptable financial assurance for taking corrective action				
	Violatio	n Description		parties for bodily injury and property damage cause				
		-	by accidental releases a	by accidental releases arising from the operation of petroleum underground storage tanks ("USTs").				
		I						
				Base Penalt	<b>y</b> \$25,000			
>> Env	vironme	ntal, Prope	rty and Human Health	Matrix				
			Harm					
OR		<b>Release</b> Actual		Minor				
ŪŇ		Potential		Percent 0.0%				
			,,,,,,,,,,,,					
>>Prog	gramma	tic Matrix	Major Madarata	Minor				
		Falsification	Major Moderate	Minor Percent 10.0%				
	Matria							
	Matrix Notes		100% of the rul	e requirement was not met.				
	Notes							
				Adjustment \$22,50	0			
					_			
					\$2,500			
Violatio	on Even	ts						
		Number of V	Violation Events					
		Number of v	/iolation Events <u>1</u>	65 Number of violation days				
			daily	]				
			weekly					
			monthly	Violation Page Denalt	<b>y</b> \$2,500			
			quarterly semiannual	Violation Base Penalt	<b>y</b> \$2,500			
			annual	]				
			single event x	]				
			One single	event is recommended.				
Good	aith Eff	orts to Com	ply 0.0%	Reductio	n \$0			
Good I			Before NOE/NOV	NOE/NOV to EDPRP/Settlement Offer	۹ <u>۵</u>			
			Extraordinary					
			Ordinary					
			N/A x	<u> </u>				
			Notes The Respor	ident does not meet the good faith criteria				
			140(05	for this violation.				
				Violation Subtota	\$2,500 \$2,500			
Econon	nic Bene	efit (EB) for	this violation	Statutory Limit Test				
		Estimate	ed EB Amount	\$2,705 Violation Final Penalty Tota	al \$5,007			
			i nis viola	ation Final Assessed Penalty (adjusted for limits	\$5,007			

	E	conomic	Benefit	Woi	rksheet		
Respondent	Michael Smith						
Case ID No.							
Reg. Ent. Reference No.		)					
	Petroleum Sto						Years of
		lage fallk				Percent Interest	
Violation No.	1						
						5.0	15
	Item Cost	Date Required	Final Date	Yrs	Interest Saved	Costs Saved	EB Amount
Item Description							
Delayed Costs							
Equipment	[	1		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
Lingingering/construction				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)	\$1,980	10-Feb-2022	11-Feb-2024	2.00	\$198	n/a	\$198
Notes for DELAYED costs	tł	ne initial investigat	tion date and the	e Final [	Date is the estimat	three USTs. The E ed date of compliar	ice.
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	\$1,980	10-Feb-2022	24-Apr-2023	1.20	\$131	\$2,376	\$2,507
ONE-TIME avoided costs			•	0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other (as needed)				0.00	\$0	\$0	\$0
Notes for AVOIDED costs	Estimated avo		· ·		ncial assurance for Final Date is the	three USTs. The I screening date.	Date required is
Approx. Cost of Compliance		\$4,356			TOTAL		\$2,705

The TCEQ is committed to accessibility.

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 CN606115558, RN101737369, Rating Year 2022 which includes Compliance History (CH) components from September 1, 2017, through August 31, 2022.

Customer, Respondent, or Owner/Operator:	CN606115558, Michael Sm	ith <b>Class</b> i	ification: SATISFACTO	DRY Rating: 2.67				
Regulated Entity:	RN101737369, Bronte Fac	ility Class	ification: SATISFACT	ORY Rating: 2.67				
<b>Complexity Points:</b>	2	Repea	t Violator: NO					
CH Group:	14 - Other							
Location:	201 North State Street in Bronte, Coke County, Texas							
TCEQ Region:	REGION 08 - SAN ANGELO	)						
ID Number(s): PETROLEUM STORAGE TAN REGISTRATION 24064	K REGISTRATION	PETROLEUM S NUMBER R081	STORAGE TANK NON R 01737369	EGISTERED ID				
Compliance History Peri	od: September 01, 2017 t	o August 31, 2022 <b>R</b>	ating Year: 2022	Rating Date: <u>09/01/2022</u>				
<b>Date Compliance History</b>	Report Prepared: Ju	une 14, 2023						
Agency Decision Requiri	ng Compliance History	Enforcement						
<b>Component Period Selec</b>	ted: June 14, 2018 to Ju	ne 14, 2023						
TCEQ Staff Member to Co	ontact for Additional I	nformation Regardi	ng This Compliance	History.				
Name: Stephanie McCu	ırley		<b>Phone:</b> (512) 239-2	607				
Site and Owner/Operation	<u>ator History:</u>							
<ol> <li>Has the site been in exister</li> <li>Has there been a (known) of</li> </ol>	· ·		•	YES YES				
3) Who is the current owner/o	, ,	Company, Inc. OWNER si MS, PAUL OWNER since						

SMITH, MIKE OWNER OPERATOR since 2/10/2022 SMITH, MICHAEL OWNER OPERATOR since 1/1/2022

SCATES, REMONA, OWNER OPERATOR, 8/1/2018 to 12/31/2021

SCATES, TOMMY W, OWNER, 5/23/2006 to 7/31/2018

4) Who was/were the prior owner(s)/operator(s)?

# 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.):  $$N\!/\!A$$

# 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.

# F. Environmental audits: N/A

- G. Type of environmental management systems (EMSs): N/A
- H. Voluntary on-site compliance assessment dates:  $$\rm N/A$$
- 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



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IN THE MATTER OF AN ENFORCEMENT ACTION CONCERNING MICHAEL SMITH; RN101737369 **BEFORE THE** 

TEXAS COMMISSION ON

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

# DEFAULT ORDER DOCKET NO. 2023-0597-PST-E

On \_\_\_\_\_\_, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality ("Commission" or "TCEQ") considered the Executive Director's Preliminary Report and Petition, filed pursuant to TEX. WATER CODE chs. 7 and 26 and the rules of the TCEQ, which requests appropriate relief, including the imposition of an administrative penalty and corrective action of the respondent. The respondent made the subject of this Order is Michael Smith ("Respondent").

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

# FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Respondent owns, as defined in 30 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 334.2, a temporarily-out-of-service underground storage tank ("UST") system and a tire repair shop with a former retail fueling center located at 201 North State Street in Bronte, Coke County, Texas (Facility ID No. 24064) (the "Facility"). The USTs at the Facility are not exempt or excluded from regulation under the Texas Water Code or the rules of the Commission, and they contain or contained a regulated petroleum substance as defined in the rules of the TCEQ.
- 2. During investigations conducted on and around February 10, 2022, and February 14, 2023, an investigator documented that Respondent failed to demonstrate acceptable financial assurance for taking corrective action and for compensating third parties for bodily injury and property damage caused by accidental releases arising from the operation of petroleum USTs.
- 3. The Executive Director filed the "Executive Director's Preliminary Report and Petition Recommending that the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Enter an Enforcement Order Assessing an Administrative Penalty Against and Requiring Certain Actions of Michael Smith" (the "EDPRP") in the TCEQ Chief Clerk's office on October 8, 2024.
- 4. By letter dated October 8, 2024, sent to Respondent's last known address via certified mail, return receipt requested, postage prepaid, the Executive Director served Respondent with notice of the EDPRP. According to the return receipt "green card," Respondent received notice of the EDPRP on October 16, 2024, as evidenced by the signature on the card.
- 5. More than 20 days have elapsed since Respondent received notice of the EDPRP. Respondent failed to file an answer and failed to request a hearing.

# CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. As evidenced by Finding of Fact No. 1, Respondent is subject to the jurisdiction of the TCEQ pursuant to TEX. WATER CODE ch. 26 and the rules of the TCEQ,

- 2. As evidenced by Finding of Fact No. 2, Respondent failed to demonstrate acceptable financial assurance for taking corrective action and for compensating third parties for bodily injury and property damage caused by accidental releases arising from the operation of USTs, in violation of 30 Tex. ADMIN. CODE § 37.815(a) and (b).
- 3. As evidenced by Findings of Fact Nos. 3 and 4, the Executive Director timely served Respondent with proper notice of the EDPRP, as required by Tex. WATER CODE § 7.055 and 30 Tex. ADMIN. CODE § 70.104(b)(1).
- 4. As evidenced by Finding of Fact No. 5, Respondent failed to file a timely answer as required by Tex. WATER CODE § 7.056 and 30 Tex. ADMIN. CODE § 70.105. Pursuant to Tex. WATER CODE § 7.057 and 30 Tex. ADMIN. CODE § 70.106, the Commission may enter a Default Order against Respondent and assess the penalty recommended by the Executive Director.
- 5. Pursuant to TEX. WATER CODE § 7.051, 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.
- 6. An administrative penalty in the amount of \$5,007 is justified by the facts recited in this Order, and considered in light of the factors set forth in TEX. WATER CODE § 7.053.
- 7. 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 \$5,007 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: Michael Smith; Docket No. 2023-0597-PST-E" to:

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. Respondent shall undertake the following technical requirements:
  - a. Within 30 days after the effective date of this Order, either provide financial assurance for all USTs at the Facility or empty the USTs of all regulated substances, conduct a site check, and perform any necessary corrective actions, in accordance with 30 Tex. ADMIN. CODE §§ 37.815 and 334.54.
  - b. Within 45 days after the effective date of this Order, submit written certification as described in Ordering Provision No. 3.e. to demonstrate compliance with Ordering Provision No. 3.a.

- c. In lieu of Ordering Provision Nos. 3.a. and 3.b., within 180 days after the effective date of this Order, permanently remove the UST system from service, in accordance with 30 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 334.55, which includes the following actions:
  - i. Providing a Construction Notification to the TCEQ at least 30-days prior to any removal activities;
  - ii. Employing a Licensed UST Contractor to perform all removal activities, including:
    - 1. Removing the USTs from the ground, abandoning the USTs inplace, or conducting a permanent change-in-service;
    - 2. Emptying the USTs of all regulated substances and accumulated sludges or residues and purging the USTs of all residual vapors;
    - 3. Handling, transporting, and properly disposing of the empty USTs, regulated substances removed from the UST system, and any contaminated soils, backfill material, groundwater, wash water or other similar materials removed from the UST system or Facility; and
    - 4. Determining whether there has been a release of regulated substance from the UST system, performing a comprehensive site assessment, reporting confirmed or suspected releases to the TCEQ, preparing a detailed written record of the release determination, and complying with all applicable corrective action requirements; and
  - iii. Submitting a completely and accurately filled out registration to reflect the operational status of the UST system as permanently removed from service, in accordance with 30 Tex. ADMIN. CODE § 334.7, to:

Petroleum Storage Tank Registration Program, MC 138 Texas Commission on Environmental Quality P.O. Box 13087 Austin, Texas 78711-3087

- d. Unless Respondent complies with Ordering Provision Nos. 3.a. and 3.b., within 195 days after the effective date of this Order, submit written certification as described in Ordering Provision No. 3.e. to demonstrate compliance with Ordering Provision No. 3.c.
- e. The certifications required by these Ordering Provisions shall be accompanied by detailed supporting documentation, including photographs, receipts, and/or other records, shall be signed by 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 based on my inquiry of those individuals immediately responsible for obtaining the information, I believe the submitted information is true, accurate and complete. I am aware there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fines and imprisonment for knowing violations."

The certification shall be submitted to:

Michael Smith Docket No. 2023-0597-PST-E Page 4

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

with a copy to:

Waste Section Manager San Angelo Regional Office Texas Commission on Environmental Quality 622 South Oakes, Suite K San Angelo, Texas 76903-7035

- 4. All relief not expressly granted in this Order is denied.
- 5. The provisions of this Order shall apply to and be binding upon Respondent. 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.
- 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 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. Extension requests shall be sent to the Enforcement Division at the address listed above.
- 7. 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.
- 8. 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.
- 9. 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.
- 10. 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.
- 11. 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.

Michael Smith Docket No. 2023-0597-PST-E Page 5

# SIGNATURE PAGE

# TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

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For the Commission

Date

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY



# UNSWORN DECLARATION OF A'TWAR WILKINS

"On behalf of the Executive Director of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, the 'Executive Director's Preliminary Report and Petition Recommending that the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Enter an Enforcement Order Assessing an Administrative Penalty Against and Requiring Certain Actions of Michael Smith' (the "EDPRP") was filed in the TCEQ Chief Clerk's office on October 8, 2024.

The EDPRP was mailed to Respondent's last known address on October 8, 2024, via certified mail, return receipt requested, postage prepaid. According to the return receipt "green card," Respondent received notice of the EDPRP on October 16, 2024, as evidenced by the signature on the card.

More than 20 days have elapsed since Respondent received notice of the EDPRP. Respondent failed to file an answer and failed to request a hearing."

"My name is A'twar Wilkins, 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 6th day of May, 2025

Declarant