

Executive Summary – Enforcement Matter – Case No. 64263
ESPINOZA STONE, INC.
RN104097969
Docket No. 2023-0878-WQ-E

Order Type:

1660 Agreed Order

Findings Order Justification:

N/A

Media:

WQ

Small Business:

Yes

Location(s) Where Violation(s) Occurred:

Espinoza Stone Pit 2, 3270 County Road 239, Georgetown, Williamson County

Type of Operation:

Aggregate production operation

Other Significant Matters:

Additional Pending Enforcement Actions: No

Past-Due Penalties: No

Other: N/A

Interested Third-Parties: None

Texas Register Publication Date: August 9, 2024

Comments Received: No

Penalty Information

Total Penalty Assessed: \$50,000

Amount Deferred for Expedited Settlement: \$10,000

Total Paid to General Revenue: \$10,000

Total Due to General Revenue: \$30,000

Payment Plan: 3 payments of \$10,000 each

Compliance History Classifications:

Person/CN - Satisfactory

Site/RN - Satisfactory

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: May 11, 2023

Date(s) of NOE(s): June 22, 2023

Executive Summary – Enforcement Matter – Case No. 64263
ESPINOZA STONE, INC.
RN104097969
Docket No. 2023-0878-WQ-E

Violation Information

Failed to maintain authorization to discharge stormwater associated with industrial activities. Specifically, authorization under Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System ("TPDES") Multi-Sector General Permit ("MSGP") No. TXR05BA55 expired on August 14, 2021, and the Respondent continued to operate [30 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 281.25(a)(4) and 40 CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS § 122.26(c)].

Corrective Actions/Technical Requirements

Corrective Action(s) Completed:

N/A

Technical Requirements:

The Order will require the Respondent to:

a. Within 30 days:

i. Develop and implement a stormwater pollution prevention plan to comply with the requirements of TPDES MSGP No. TXR050000; and

ii. Submit a Notice of Intent to obtain authorization to discharge stormwater.

b. Within 45 days, submit written certification to demonstrate compliance with a.

Contact Information

TCEQ Attorney: N/A

TCEQ Enforcement Coordinator: Samantha Smith, Enforcement Division, Enforcement Team 1, MC R-12, (512) 239-2099; Michael Parrish, Enforcement Division, MC 219, (512) 239-2548

Respondent: Jose J. Espinoza, President, ESPINOZA STONE, INC., P.O. Box 274, Jarrell, Texas 76537

Respondent's Attorney: N/A



Penalty Calculation Worksheet (PCW)

Policy Revision 5 (January 28, 2021)

PCW Revision February 11, 2021

DATES	Assigned	26-Jun-2023	Screening	5-Jul-2023	EPA Due	
	PCW	7-Dec-2023				

RESPONDENT/FACILITY INFORMATION	
Respondent	ESPINOZA STONE, INC.
Reg. Ent. Ref. No.	RN104097969
Facility/Site Region	11-Austin
Major/Minor Source	Minor

CASE INFORMATION				
Enf./Case ID No.	64263	No. of Violations	1	
Docket No.	2023-0878-WQ-E	Order Type	1660	
Media Program(s)	Water Quality	Government/Non-Profit	No	
Multi-Media		Enf. Coordinator	Samantha Smith	
		EC's Team	Enforcement Team 1	
Admin. Penalty \$	Limit Minimum	\$0	Maximum	\$25,000

Penalty Calculation Section

TOTAL BASE PENALTY (Sum of violation base penalties)	Subtotal 1	\$50,000
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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: \$350
 Estimated Cost of Compliance: \$2,725
 *Capped at the Total EB \$ Amount

SUM OF SUBTOTALS 1-7	Final Subtotal	\$50,000
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OTHER FACTORS AS JUSTICE MAY REQUIRE	0.0%	Adjustment	\$0
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Reduces or enhances the Final Subtotal by the indicated percentage.

Notes:

Final Penalty Amount	\$50,000
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STATUTORY LIMIT ADJUSTMENT	Final Assessed Penalty	\$50,000
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DEFERRAL	20.0%	Reduction	Adjustment	-\$10,000
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Reduces the Final Assessed Penalty by the indicated percentage.

Notes: Deferral offered for expedited settlement.

PAYABLE PENALTY	\$40,000
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Screening Date 5-Jul-2023

Docket No. 2023-0878-WQ-E

PCW

Respondent ESPINOZA STONE, INC.

Policy Revision 5 (January 28, 2021)

Case ID No. 64263

PCW Revision February 11, 2021

Reg. Ent. Reference No. RN104097969

Media Water Quality

Enf. Coordinator Samantha Smith

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 5-Jul-2023

Docket No. 2023-0878-WQ-E

PCW

Respondent ESPINOZA STONE, INC.

Policy Revision 5 (January 28, 2021)

Case ID No. 64263

PCW Revision February 11, 2021

Reg. Ent. Reference No. RN104097969

Media Water Quality

Enf. Coordinator Samantha Smith

Violation Number 1

Rule Cite(s) 30 Tex. Admin. Code § 281.25(a)(4) and 40 Code of Federal Regulations § 122.26(c)

Violation Description

Failed to maintain authorization to discharge stormwater associated with industrial activities. Specifically, authorization under Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System ("TPDES") Multi-Sector General Permit ("MSGP") No. TXR05BA55 expired on August 14, 2021, and the Respondent continued to operate.

Base Penalty \$25,000

>> Environmental, Property and Human Health Matrix

OR

Release	Harm		
	Major	Moderate	Minor
Actual			
Potential			

Percent 0.0%

>> Programmatic Matrix

Falsification	Major	Moderate	Minor
	X		

Percent 10.0%

Matrix Notes

100% of the rule requirement was not met.

Adjustment \$22,500

\$2,500

Violation Events

Number of Violation Events 20

600 Number of violation days

daily	
weekly	
monthly	X
quarterly	
semiannual	
annual	
single event	

Violation Base Penalty \$50,000

Twenty monthly events are recommended from the permit application grace period end date (November 12, 2021) to the screening date (July 5, 2023).

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 \$50,000

Economic Benefit (EB) for this violation

Statutory Limit Test

Estimated EB Amount \$350

Violation Final Penalty Total \$50,000

This violation Final Assessed Penalty (adjusted for limits) \$50,000

Economic Benefit Worksheet

Respondent ESPINOZA STONE, INC.
Case ID No. 64263
Reg. Ent. Reference No. RN104097969
Media Water Quality
Violation No. 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	\$225	12-Nov-2021	5-Jun-2024	2.56	\$29	n/a	\$29
Other (as needed)	\$2,500	12-Nov-2021	5-Jun-2024	2.56	\$321	n/a	\$321

Notes for DELAYED costs

Actual Permit Cost to submit a Notice of Intent to obtain authorization to discharge stormwater associated with industrial activities under TPDES MSGP No. TXR050000. Date Required is the end of the permit renewal grace period date. Final date is the estimated date of compliance.

Estimated Other cost to develop and implement a stormwater pollution prevention plan. Date Required is the end of the permit renewal grace period date. 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 \$2,725

TOTAL \$350

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 CN602447062, RN104097969, Rating Year 2023 which includes Compliance History (CH) components from September 1, 2018, through August 31, 2023.

Customer, Respondent, or Owner/Operator: CN602447062, ESPINOZA STONE, INC. **Classification:** SATISFACTORY **Rating:** 4.56
Regulated Entity: RN104097969, ESPINOZA STONE PIT 2 **Classification:** SATISFACTORY **Rating:** 17.14
Complexity Points: 6 **Repeat Violator:** NO
CH Group: 04 - Mining
Location: 3270 County Road 239, Georgetown, Williamson County, Texas 78633-4457
TCEQ Region: REGION 11 - AUSTIN

ID Number(s):

AIR NEW SOURCE PERMITS REGISTRATION 91362

PETROLEUM STORAGE TANK REGISTRATION

REGISTRATION 87882

EDWARDS AQUIFER PERMIT 11-06020202

EDWARDS AQUIFER PERMIT 11-06020202A

EDWARDS AQUIFER PERMIT 11-14032601

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

Date Compliance History Report Prepared: October 25, 2023

Agency Decision Requiring Compliance History: Enforcement

Component Period Selected: October 25, 2018 to October 25, 2023

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

Name: Samantha Smith

Phone: (512) 239-2099

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

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 December 21, 2020 (1693076)

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
ESPINOZA STONE, INC.
RN104097969

§ BEFORE THE
§ TEXAS COMMISSION ON
§ ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

AGREED ORDER DOCKET NO. 2023-0878-WQ-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 ESPINOZA STONE, 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 together stipulate that:

1. The Respondent owns and operates an aggregate production operation located at 3270 County Road 239 in Georgetown, Williamson County, Texas (the "Site"). The Site is near or adjacent to water in the state as defined in TEX. WATER CODE § 26.001(5).
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 \$50,000 is assessed by the Commission in settlement of the violations alleged in Section II ("Allegations"). The Respondent paid \$10,000 of the penalty and \$10,000 is deferred contingent upon the Respondent's timely and satisfactory compliance with all the terms of this Order and shall be waived only upon full compliance with all the terms and conditions of this Order.

The remaining amount of \$30,000 of the undeferred penalty shall be paid in three monthly payments of \$10,000 each. The first monthly payment shall be paid within 30 days after the effective date of this Order. The subsequent payments shall each be paid not later than 30 days following the due date of the previous payment until the penalty is paid in full. If the Respondent fails to comply with the payment requirements of this Order, including the payment schedule, the Executive Director may accelerate the maturity of the remaining installments, in which event the unpaid balance shall become immediately due and payable without demand or notice. The Respondent's failure to meet the payment schedule of this Order and/or the acceleration of any remaining balance constitutes the failure by the Respondent to timely and satisfactorily comply

with all the terms and conditions of this Order and 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.

II. ALLEGATIONS

During an investigation for the Site conducted on May 11, 2023, an investigator documented that the Respondent failed to maintain authorization to discharge stormwater associated with industrial activities, in violation of 30 TEX. ADMIN. CODE § 281.25(a)(4) and 40 CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS § 122.26(c). Specifically, authorization under Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System ("TPDES") Multi-Sector General Permit ("MSGP") No. TXR05BA55 expired on August 14, 2021, and the Respondent continued to operate.

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: ESPINOZA STONE, INC., Docket No. 2023-0878-WQ-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 the agreed order:
 - i. Develop and implement a stormwater pollution prevention plan to comply with the requirements of TPDES MSGP No. TXR050000; and
 - ii. Submit a Notice of Intent through the State of Texas Environmental Electronic Reporting System to obtain authorization to discharge stormwater, in accordance with the requirements of TPDES MSGP No. TXR050000.
 - 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 Nos. 2.a.i and 2.a.ii. 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:

Water Section Manager
Austin Regional Office
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
P.O. Box 13087
Austin, Texas 78711-3087

3. All relief not expressly granted in this Order is denied.

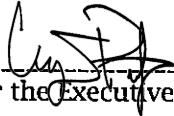
4. The duties and provisions imposed by this Order shall apply to and be binding upon the Respondent. The Respondent is ordered to give notice of this Order to personnel who maintain day-to-day control over the Site operations referenced in this Order.
5. If the Respondent fails to comply with any of 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

8/5/2024

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

07-30-24

Date

Jose J. Espinoza

Name (Printed or typed)

President

Title

Authorized Representative of
ESPINOZA STONE, INC.

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 I of this Order.