

STATE OF LOUISIANA

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

IN THE MATTER OF:

DAVIS PETROLEUM CORPORATION

AI # 171070

PROCEEDINGS UNDER THE LOUISIANA
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT
LA. R.S. 30:2001, ET SEQ.

* Settlement Tracking No.
* SA-AE-11-0057
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* Enforcement Tracking No.
* AE-PP-10-01868
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SETTLEMENT

The following Settlement is hereby agreed to between Davis Petroleum Corporation (“Respondent”) and the Department of Environmental Quality (“DEQ” or “the Department”), under authority granted by the Louisiana Environmental Quality Act, La. R.S. 30:2001, et seq. (“the Act”).

I

Respondent is a corporation that owns and/or operates a petroleum oil and gas production facility located in Lake Arthur, Jefferson Davis Parish, Louisiana (“the Facility”).

II

On March 24, 2011, the Department issued to Respondent a Notice of Potential Penalty, Enforcement No. AE-PP-10-01868, which was based upon the following findings of fact:

On or about January 10, 2011, a file review of Trahan Heirs No. 1 Production Facility-Lake Arthur Field, owned and/or operated by Davis Petroleum Corporation (Respondent), was performed to determine the degree of compliance with the Louisiana Environmental Quality Act (the Act) and

the Air Quality Regulations. The facility is located 4.8 miles northwest of Lake Arthur, Jefferson Davis Parish, Louisiana. The facility currently operates under air Permit No. 1360-00562-00 issued on June 23, 2010.

The following violations were noted during the course of the file review:

- A. On or about May 26, 2010, the Respondent submitted an application for air permit coverage which was dated May 25, 2010. The cover letter for the application stated that the facility was an "existing minor source oil and gas production facility that started operations on May 7, 2010." The Respondent's failure to submit a timely and complete permit application to the Department prior to construction, reconstruction, or modifications of the facility is a violation of LAC 33:III.501.C.1 and La. R.S. 30:2057(A)(2).
- B. According to the application for air permit coverage, the Respondent was operating the oil and gas facility that resulted in the emission of air contaminants without permit coverage. The failure to obtain approval from the permitting authority prior to operations on May 7, 2010, until issuance of Air Permit No. 1360-00562-00 on June 23, 2010, is a violation of LAC 33:III.501.C.2, La. R.S. 30:2057(A)(1) and 30:2057(A)(2)

III

Respondent denies it committed any violations or that it is liable for any fines, forfeitures and/or penalties.

IV

Nonetheless, Respondent, without making any admission of liability under state or federal statute or regulation, agrees to pay, and the Department agrees to accept, a payment in the amount of ONE THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED THIRTY-SEVEN AND 62/100 DOLLARS (\$1,337.62), of which Two Hundred Seventy-Nine and 84/100 Dollars (\$279.84) represents the Department's enforcement costs, in settlement of the claims set forth in this agreement. The total amount of money expended by Respondent on cash payments to the Department as described above, shall be considered a civil penalty for tax purposes, as required by La. R.S. 30:2050.7(E)(1).

V

Respondent further agrees that the Department may consider the permit record (s), the Notice of Potential Penalty and this Settlement for the purpose of determining compliance history in connection with any future enforcement or permitting action by the Department against Respondent, and in any such action Respondent shall be estopped from objecting to the above-referenced documents being considered as proving the violations alleged herein for the sole purpose of determining Respondent's compliance history.

VI

This agreement shall be considered a final order of the Secretary for all purposes, including, but not limited to, enforcement under La. R.S. 30:2025(G)(2), and Respondent hereby waives any right to administrative or judicial review of the terms of this agreement, except such review as may be required for interpretation of this agreement in any action by the Department to enforce this agreement.

VII

This settlement is being made in the interest of settling the state's claims and avoiding for both parties the expense and effort involved in litigation or an adjudicatory hearing. In agreeing to the compromise and settlement, the Department considered the factors for issuing civil penalties set forth in La. R. S. 30:2025(E) of the Act.

VIII

The Respondent has caused a public notice advertisement to be placed in the official journal of the parish governing authority in Jefferson Davis Parish, Louisiana. The advertisement, in form, wording, and size approved by the Department, announced the availability of this settlement for public view and comment and the opportunity for a public hearing. Respondent has submitted an

original proof-of-publication affidavit and an original public notice to the Department and, as of the date this Settlement is executed on behalf of the Department, more than forty-five (45) days have elapsed since publication of the notice.

IX

Payment is to be made within ten (10) days from notice of the Secretary's signature. If payment is not received within that time, this Agreement is voidable at the option of the Department. Payments are to be made by check, payable to the Department of Environmental Quality, and mailed or delivered to the attention of Accountant Administrator, Financial Services Division, Department of Environmental Quality, Post Office Box 4303, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, 70821-4303. Each payment shall be accompanied by a completed Settlement Payment Form (Exhibit A).

X

In consideration of the above, any claims for penalties are hereby compromised and settled in accordance with the terms of this Settlement.

XI

Each undersigned representative of the parties certifies that he or she is fully authorized to execute this Settlement Agreement on behalf of his or her respective party, and to legally bind such party to its terms and conditions.

DAVIS PETROLEUM CORPORATION

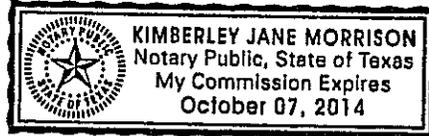
BY: Gregory P. Schneider
(Signature)

Gregory P. Schneider
(Printed)

TITLE: Vice President

THUS DONE AND SIGNED in duplicate original before me this 13th day of March, 2012, at Houston, TX.

Kimberley Jane Morrison
NOTARY PUBLIC (ID # _____)



(stamped or printed)

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Peggy M. Hatch Secretary

BY: CSNL

Cheryl Sonnier Nolan, Assistant Secretary
Office of Environmental Compliance

THUS DONE AND SIGNED in duplicate original before me this 21st day of March, 2012, at Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Debra King
NOTARY PUBLIC (ID # 20590)
Bar Roll #

Debra King
(stamped or printed)

Approved: CSNL
Cheryl Sonnier Nolan, Assistant Secretary