STATE OF LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

IN THE MATTER OF:
ARCH CHEMICALS, INC.
AI # 40246

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

SETTLEMENT

The following Settlement is hereby agreed to between Arch Chemicals, Inc. ("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 facility located in Westlake, Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana ("the Facility").

II

On August 29, 2013, the Department issued to Respondent a Consolidated Compliance Order & Notice of Potential Penalty, Enforcement No. AE-CN-13-00543 (Exhibit 1).

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 FIVE THOUSAND AND NO/100 DOLLARS ($5,000.00), of which Eight Hundred Seventy-Eight and 15/100 Dollars ($878.15) 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 inspection report(s), permit record(s), the Consolidated Compliance Order & 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

VIII

As required by law, the Department has submitted this Settlement Agreement to the Louisiana Attorney General for approval or rejection. The Attorney General’s concurrence is appended to this Settlement Agreement.

IX

The Respondent has caused a public notice advertisement to be placed in the official journal of the parish governing authority in Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana. The advertisement, in form and wording 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.

X

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).

XI

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

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.
ARCH CHEMICALS, INC.

BY: ________________

(Signature)

MARK A. KERN

(Printed)

TITLE: Plant Manager

THUS DONE AND SIGNED in duplicate original before me this 14th day of

February 1, 2020, at Westlake, Louisiana.

________________________

Brandy Hallman

NOTARY PUBLIC (ID #1353305)

(stamped or printed)

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
Chuck Carr Brown, Ph.D., Secretary

BY: ______________________

Lourdes Ituralde, Assistant Secretary
Office of Environmental Compliance

THUS DONE AND SIGNED in duplicate original before me this 6th day of

May 1, 2020, at Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

________________________

Perry Theriot

NOTARY PUBLIC (ID # 19781)

(stamped or printed)

Approved: ______________________

Lourdes Ituralde, Assistant Secretary

SA-AE-19-0040
CERTIFIED MAIL (7003 2260 0001 2748 2833)  
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

ARCH CHEMICALS, INC.  
c/o C T Corporation System  
Agent for Service of Process  
5615 Corporate Boulevard, Suite 400B  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70808

RE: CONSOLIDATED COMPLIANCE ORDER  
& NOTICE OF POTENTIAL PENALTY  
ENFORCEMENT TRACKING NO. AE-CN-13-00543  
AGENCY INTEREST NO. 40246

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to the Louisiana Environmental Quality Act (La. R.S. 30:2001, et seq.), the attached CONSOLIDATED COMPLIANCE ORDER & NOTICE OF POTENTIAL PENALTY is hereby served on ARCH CHEMICALS, INC. (RESPONDENT) for the violations described therein.

Compliance is expected within the maximum time period established by each part of the COMPLIANCE ORDER. The violations cited in the CONSOLIDATED COMPLIANCE ORDER & NOTICE OF POTENTIAL PENALTY could result in the issuance of a civil penalty or other appropriate legal actions.

Any questions concerning this action should be directed to Deonne Bodin at (225) 219-3760 or Deonne.Bodin@la.gov.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Celena J. Cage  
Administrator  
Enforcement Division

CJC/DMB/dmb  
Alt ID# 0520-00008  

EXHIBIT 1
STATE OF LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE

IN THE MATTER OF

ARCH CHEMICALS, INC.
CALCASIEU PARISH
ALT ID NO. 0520-00008

ENFORCEMENT TRACKING NO.
AE-CN-13-00543

AGENCY INTEREST NO.
40246

PROCEEDINGS UNDER THE LOUISIANA
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT,

CONSOLIDATED
COMPLIANCE ORDER & NOTICE OF POTENTIAL PENALTY

The following CONSOLIDATED COMPLIANCE ORDER & NOTICE OF POTENTIAL PENALTY is issued to ARCH CHEMICALS, INC. (RESPONDENT) by the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (the Department), under the authority granted by the Louisiana Environmental Quality Act (the Act), La. R.S. 30:2001, et seq., and particularly by La. R.S. 30:2025(C), 30:2050.2 and 30:2050.3(B).

FINDINGS OF FACT

I.

The Respondent owns and/or operates Arch Chemicals – Lake Charles Plant (the facility), a hydrazine production facility, located at 960 I-10 Service Road in Westlake, Calcasieu Parish, Louisiana. The facility currently operates under permit 2116 (M6) issued on May 26, 2009.

II.

On or about March 26-28 2013, inspections of the Respondent's facility were conducted to determine the degree of compliance with the Act and the Air Quality Regulations. While the Department's investigation is not complete, the following violations were noted during the course of the inspections and subsequent file review on June 19, 2013:

A. The Respondent failed to ensure the frequency of inspections and tests were consistent with good engineering practices (API). Vessels T89-500, E89-300,
T89-200, and C89-300 were past due on an October 2007 visual inspection date and past due on the required ultrasonic thickness testing that was due November 2012. The instrument inspections for PROC-35, 61 LT300, 500, 61 IT 310A, 61 TI 303 and 400B were four months past due for the annual testing in 2011. This is a violation of 40 CFR 68.73(d)(3), which language has been adopted as a Louisiana regulation in LAC 33:III.5901.A.

B. The Respondent's Management of Change (MOC) procedures failed to address the necessary time period for the change. The temporary MOC 20100315 JLI was assigned an expiration date of December 31, 2010, but was never closed. The change was made permanent without a MOC. This is a violation of 40 CFR 68.75(B)(4), which language has been adopted as a Louisiana regulation in LAC 33:III.5901.A.

C. The Respondent failed to maintain the data used to estimate the population and environmental receptors potentially affected in the Risk Management Plan. The Risk Management Plan update had the worst case and alternate case scenarios listed but did not explain how these factors were estimated. This is a violation of 40 CFR 68.39(e), which language has been adopted as a Louisiana regulation in LAC 33:III.5901.A. This violation was corrected during the inspection when further population census data was provided that explained how the population and environmental receptors were potentially affected.

D. The Respondent failed to obtain and evaluate information regarding two contractors' safety performance and programs when selecting the contractors. The facility has two contractors (Turner and Brand); no documentation was available at the facility. During the inspection documentation was obtained for Turner, but not for Brand. This is a violation of 40 CFR 68.87(b)(1), which language has been adopted as a Louisiana regulation in LAC 33:III.5901.A. This violation has been corrected. The evaluation documentation was provided for Brand.

E. The Respondent failed to train employees on relevant procedures. The Emergency Response Plan states the facility may respond to fire and hazardous materials emergencies, however, the employees did not receive training for either one. This is a violation of 40 CFR 68.95(a)(3), which language has been adopted as a Louisiana
regulation in LAC 33:III.5901.A. This violation was corrected when the emergency response plan was clarified to reflect the current training procedures.

COMPLIANCE ORDER

Based on the foregoing, the Respondent is hereby ordered:

I.

To submit to the Enforcement Division, within forty-five (45) days after the receipt of this COMPLIANCE ORDER, documentation for the late inspection and past due testing noted in FINDINGS OF FACT paragraph II.A.

II.

To immediately, upon receipt of this COMPLIANCE ORDER, institute procedures to ensure testing and inspections are performed timely.

III.

To immediately, upon receipt of this COMPLIANCE ORDER, institute procedures that ensure MOC procedures address necessary time periods for the change, in accordance with 40 CFR 68.75(B)(4).

IV.

To take, immediately upon receipt of this COMPLIANCE ORDER, any and all steps necessary to meet and maintain compliance with the Air Quality Regulations.

V.

To submit to the Enforcement Division, within thirty (30) days after receipt of this COMPLIANCE ORDER, a written report that includes a detailed description of the circumstances surrounding the cited violations and actions taken or to be taken to achieve compliance with the Order Portion of this COMPLIANCE ORDER. This report and all other reports or information required to be submitted to the Enforcement Division by this COMPLIANCE ORDER shall be submitted to:

Office of Environmental Compliance
Post Office Box 4312
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821-4312
Attn: Deonne Bodin
Re: Enforcement Tracking No. AE-CN-13-00543
Agency Interest No. 40246
THE RESPONDENT SHALL FURTHER BE ON NOTICE THAT:

I.

The Respondent has a right to an adjudicatory hearing on a disputed issue of material fact or of law arising from this COMPLIANCE ORDER. This right may be exercised by filing a written request with the Secretary no later than thirty (30) days after receipt of this COMPLIANCE ORDER.

II.

The request for an adjudicatory hearing shall specify the provisions of the COMPLIANCE ORDER on which the hearing is requested and shall briefly describe the basis for the request. This request should reference the Enforcement Tracking Number and Agency Interest Number, which are located in the upper right-hand corner of the first page of this document and should be directed to the following:

Department of Environmental Quality
Office of the Secretary
Post Office Box 4302
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821-4302
Attn: Hearings Clerk, Legal Division
Re: Enforcement Tracking No. AE-CN-13-00543
Agency Interest No. 40246

III.

Upon the Respondent's timely filing a request for a hearing, a hearing on the disputed issue of material fact or of law regarding this COMPLIANCE ORDER may be scheduled by the Secretary of the Department. The hearing shall be governed by the Act, the Administrative Procedure Act (La. R.S. 49:950, et seq.), and the Department's Rules of Procedure. The Department may amend or supplement this COMPLIANCE ORDER prior to the hearing, after providing sufficient notice and an opportunity for the preparation of a defense for the hearing.

IV.

This COMPLIANCE ORDER shall become a final enforcement action unless the request for hearing is timely filed. Failure to timely request a hearing constitutes a waiver of the Respondent's right to a hearing on a disputed issue of material fact or of law under Section 2050.4 of the Act for the violation(s) described herein.
V.

The Respondent's failure to request a hearing or to file an appeal or the Respondent's withdrawal of a request for hearing on this COMPLIANCE ORDER shall not preclude the Respondent from contesting the findings of facts in any subsequent penalty action addressing the same violation(s), although the Respondent is stopped from objecting to this COMPLIANCE ORDER becoming a permanent part of its compliance history.

VI.

Civil penalties of not more than twenty-seven thousand five hundred dollars ($27,500) for each day of violation for the violation(s) described herein may be assessed. For violations which occurred on August 15, 2004, or after, civil penalties of not more than thirty-two thousand five hundred dollars ($32,500) may be assessed for each day of violation. The Respondent's failure or refusal to comply with this COMPLIANCE ORDER and the provisions herein will subject the Respondent to possible enforcement procedures under La. R.S. 30:2025, which could result in the assessment of a civil penalty in an amount of not more than fifty thousand dollars ($50,000) for each day of continued violation or noncompliance.

VII.

For each violation described herein, the Department reserves the right to seek civil penalties in any manner allowed by law, and nothing herein shall be construed to preclude the right to seek such penalties.

NOTICE OF POTENTIAL PENALTY

I.

Pursuant to La. R.S. 30:2050.3(B), you are hereby notified that the issuance of a penalty assessment is being considered for the violation(s) described herein. Written comments may be filed regarding the violation(s) and the contemplated penalty. If you elect to submit comments, it is requested that they be submitted within ten (10) days of receipt of this notice.

II.

Prior to the issuance of additional appropriate enforcement action(s), you may request a meeting with the Department to present any mitigating circumstances concerning the violation(s). If you would like to have such a meeting, please contact Deonne Bodin at (225) 219-3760 within ten (10) days of receipt of this NOTICE OF POTENTIAL PENALTY.
III.

The Department is required by La. R.S. 30:2025(E)(3)(a) to consider the gross revenues of the Respondent and the monetary benefits of noncompliance to determine whether a penalty will be assessed and the amount of such penalty. Please forward the Respondent’s most current annual gross revenue statement along with a statement of the monetary benefits of noncompliance for the cited violation(s) to the above named contact person within ten (10) days of receipt of this NOTICE OF POTENTIAL PENALTY. Include with your statement of monetary benefits the method(s) you utilized to arrive at the sum. If you assert that no monetary benefits have been gained, you are to fully justify that statement.

IV.

This CONSOLIDATED COMPLIANCE ORDER & NOTICE OF POTENTIAL PENALTY is effective upon receipt.

Baton Rouge, Louisiana, this 29 day of ______, 2013.

Cheryl Sonnier Nolan
Assistant Secretary
Office of Environmental Compliance

Copies of a request for a hearing and/or related correspondence should be sent to:

Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality
Office of Environmental Compliance
Enforcement Division
P.O. Box 4312
Baton Rouge, LA 70821-4312
Attention: Deonne Bodin