

STATE OF LOUISIANA

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

IN THE MATTER OF:

THERESA VALLARIE

AI # 193080

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

* **Settlement Tracking No.**
* **SA-SE-24-0008**
*
* **Enforcement Tracking No.**
* **SE-CN-19-00697**
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SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

The following Settlement Agreement is hereby agreed to between Theresa Vallarie (“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 an individual that owns and/or operates a new and used tire shop located in Opelousas, St. Landry Parish, Louisiana (“the Facility”).

II

On January 2, 2020, the Department issued to Respondent a Consolidated Compliance Order & Notice of Potential Penalty, Enforcement Tracking No. SE-CN-19-00697 (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 SEVEN THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED AND NO/100 DOLLARS (\$7,500.00), of which Eight Hundred Sixty-Eight and 17/100 Dollars (\$868.17) represents the Department's enforcement costs, in settlement of the claims set forth in this Settlement 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 Agreement 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 Settlement 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 Settlement Agreement in any action by the Department to enforce this Settlement Agreement.

VII

This Settlement Agreement 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 Agreement, the Department considered the factors for issuing civil penalties set forth in La. R. S. 30:2025(E) of the Act.

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 St. Landry Parish, Louisiana. The advertisement, in form and wording approved by the Department, announced the availability of this Settlement Agreement 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 Agreement is executed on behalf of the Department, more than forty-five (45) days have elapsed since publication of the notice.

X

An initial payment of \$937.50 is to be made within thirty (30) days from notice of the Secretary's signature. The remaining \$6,562.50 is to be paid over a period of thirty-six (36) consecutive months in the amount of \$182.29 per month, with the last payment submitted for the amount of \$182.35, due on the 15th of each month. If payment is not received within that time, this Settlement Agreement is voidable at the option of the Department. The Respondent shall provide its tax identification number when submitting payment. 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 attached hereto.

XI

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

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.

THERESA VALLARIE

BY:

Theresa Vallarie
(Signature)

Theresa Vallarie
(Printed)

TITLE: owner

THUS DONE AND SIGNED in duplicate original before me this 27 day of January, 20 25, at Lafayette, LA.

William Bertrand
NOTARY PUBLIC (ID # 78339)

William Bertrand
Notary Public ID#78339
State of Louisiana
My Commission is for Life

(stamped or printed)

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
Aurelia S. Giacometto, Secretary

BY:

Jerry Lang
Jerrie "Jerry" Lang, Assistant Secretary
Office of Environmental Compliance

THUS DONE AND SIGNED in duplicate original before me this 19th day of February, 20 25, at Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Deidra Johnson
NOTARY PUBLIC (ID # 51205)

DEIDRA JOHNSON
NOTARY PUBLIC
EAST BATON ROUGE PARISH
LOUISIANA
NOTARY ID NO. 51205

(stamped or printed)

Approved:

Jerry Lang
Jerrie "Jerry" Lang, Assistant Secretary

JOHN BEL EDWARDS
GOVERNOR



CHUCK CARR BROWN, Ph.D.
SECRETARY

State of Louisiana
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE

January 2, 2020

CERTIFIED MAIL (7017 3040 0000 2465 1026)
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

THERESA VALLARIE
P.O. Box 454
Opelousas, LA 70571

**RE: CONSOLIDATED COMPLIANCE ORDER
& NOTICE OF POTENTIAL PENALTY
ENFORCEMENT TRACKING NO. SE-CN-19-00697
AGENCY INTEREST NO. 193080**

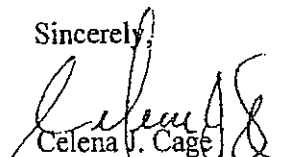
Dear Madam:

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 **THERESA VALLARIE (RESPONDENT)** for the violations described therein.

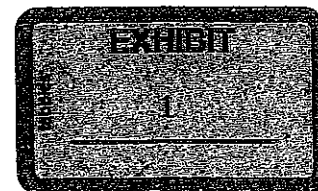
Compliance is expected within the maximum time period established by each part of the **COMPLIANCE ORDER**. The violations cited in the **CONSOLIDATED COMPLIANCE ORDER & NOTICE OF POTENTIAL PENALTY** could result in the issuance of a civil penalty or other appropriate legal actions.

Any questions concerning this action should be directed to Ashley Manuel at (225) 219-3794 or Ashley.Manuel@la.gov.

Sincerely,


Celena J. Cage
Administrator
Enforcement Division

CJC/AMM/amm
Alt ID No. R-16415
Attachment



**STATE OF LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE**

IN THE MATTER OF

**THERESA VALLARIE
ST. LANDRY PARISH
ALT ID NO. R-16415**

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

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*
* **ENFORCEMENT TRACKING NO.**
*
* **SE-CN-19-00697**
*
* **AGENCY INTEREST NO.**
*
* **193080**
*

**CONSOLIDATED
COMPLIANCE ORDER & NOTICE OF POTENTIAL PENALTY**

The following **CONSOLIDATED COMPLIANCE ORDER & NOTICE OF POTENTIAL PENALTY** is issued to **THERESA VALLARIE (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 a new and used tire shop known to the Department as Northside Rim Shop located at 106 East Martin Luther King Drive in Opelousas, St. Landry Parish, Louisiana (facility). The facility is registered with the Department and has been assigned alternate identification number R-16415.

II.

On or about May 1, 2015, the Department issued Compliance Order (CO) SE-C-14-01047 to the Respondent. The CO was delivered to the Respondent via certified mail on or about May 21, 2015. The Respondent did not appeal the action; therefore, CO SE-C-14-01047 is a final action, not subject to further review. In a response dated July 12, 2016, the Respondent requested sixty (60) days to remove the tires and to register as an authorized tire generator.

III.

On or about July 2, 2019, the Respondent met with the Department following an inspection performed on or about June 27, 2019. The Respondent stated tires were sold in years 2017-2019, but waste tire fees and/or fee reports were not remitted to the Department. Additionally, the Respondent stated rats destroyed the sales invoices, and she does not know the location of the waste tire manifests. The Department requested records to be submitted by July 9, 2019. As of September 13, 2019, the Department has not received the requested records.

IV.

On or about December 27, 2017 and June 27, 2019, the Department conducted inspections and a subsequent file review of the above referenced facility on September 13, 2019, to determine the degree of compliance with the Act and the Solid Waste Regulations. While the investigation by the Department is not yet complete, the following violations were noted during the course of the inspections and file review:

- A. The Respondent failed to submit waste tire fee and waste tire fee reports to the Department on a monthly basis, including submitting fee reports for months which no fees were collected, in violation of **COMPLIANCE ORDER SE-C-14-01047**, LAC 33:VII.10519.D, and LAC 33:VII.10537.A. Specifically, the Respondent has not submitted any waste tire fees and fee reports to the Department since the commencement of business. The Respondent began selling tires on March 15, 2012.
- B. The Respondent failed to keep and preserve records necessary to readily determine the amount of fees due, including a complete record of the quantity of tires sold, together with tire sales invoices, purchase invoices, inventory records, and copies of each monthly waste tire fee report for a minimum of five (5) years, in violation of LAC 33:VII.10519.D.4, LAC 33:VII.10519.D.3, and LAC 33:VII.10509.H. Specifically, the Respondent failed to maintain the required records. During the July 2, 2019 meeting, the Respondent stated vermin destroyed the sales invoices. She also stated waste tire fees and fee reports have not been submitted to the Department. The Department requested records to be provided by July 9, 2019. As of September 13, 2019, the Department has not received any records.
- C. The Respondent failed to maintain records of completed manifests, in accordance with LAC 33:VII.10534.B.8, in violation of **COMPLIANCE ORDER SE-C-14-01047**, LAC 33:VII.10519.H, and LAC 33:VII.10537.A. Specifically, during the July 2, 2019

meeting, the Respondent stated she does not know the location of the waste tire manifests. The Respondent also stated waste tires have not been picked up from the facility since 2016.

COMPLIANCE ORDER

Based on the foregoing, the Respondent is **hereby ordered**:

I.

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

II.

To submit, immediately upon receipt of this **COMPLIANCE ORDER**, all past due Monthly Waste Tire Fee Reports (form WT-02) to the Department. The Respondent shall also institute procedures to ensure the Monthly Waste Tire Fee Reports (form WT-02) are submitted to the Department on a monthly basis on or before the twentieth (20th) day of each month, including months in which no fees were collected, in accordance with LAC 33.VII.10519.D.

III.

To institute, immediately upon receipt of this **COMPLIANCE ORDER**, procedures to ensure all required records, including completed manifests, purchase invoices, waste tire fee reports, sales invoices, inventory records, and shipping records are maintained for a minimum for five (5) years and made available for inspection at the facility, unless an alternate storage location has been approved by the Department in writing.

IV.

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. 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: Ashley Manuel
Re: Enforcement Tracking No. SE-CN-19-00697
Agency Interest No. 193080

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. SE-CN-19-00697
Agency Interest No. 193080

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 Division of Administrative Law (DAL) Procedural Rules. 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 estopped 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 Ashley Manuel at (225) 219-3794 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. If the Respondent chooses not to submit the requested most current annual gross revenues statement within ten (10) days, it will be viewed by the Department as an admission that the Respondent has the ability to pay the statutory maximum penalty as outlined in La. R.S. 30:2025.

IV.

The Department assesses civil penalties based on LAC 33:I.Subpart1.Chapter7. To expedite closure of this **NOTICE OF POTENTIAL PENALTY** portion, the Respondent may offer a settlement amount to resolve any claim for civil penalties for the violation(s) described herein. The Respondent may offer a settlement amount, but the Department is under no obligation to enter into settlement negotiations. The decision to proceed with a settlement is at the discretion of the Department. The settlement offer amount may be entered on the attached "**CONSOLIDATED COMPLIANCE ORDER AND NOTICE OF POTENTIAL PENALTY REQUEST TO CLOSE**" form. The Respondent must include a justification of the offer. **DO NOT** submit payment of the offer amount with the form. The Department will review the settlement offer and notify the Respondent as to whether the offer is or is not accepted.

V.

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


Baton Rouge, Louisiana, this 0rd day of January, ~~2022~~ 2023



Lourdes Iturralde
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: Ashley Manuel

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE ENFORCEMENT DIVISION POST OFFICE BOX 4312 BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70821-4312		CONSOLIDATED COMPLIANCE ORDER & NOTICE OF POTENTIAL PENALTY REQUEST TO CLOSE		
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Enforcement Tracking No.	SE-CN-19-00697	Contact Name	Ashley Manuel
Agency Interest (AI) No.	193880	Contact Phone No.	(225) 219-3794
Alternate ID No.	R-45415		
Respondent:	Theresa Vallone	Facility Name:	Northside Run Shop
	P.O. Box 454	Physical Location:	106 East Martin Luther King Drive
	Opelousas, LA 70571	City, State, Zip:	Opelousas, LA 70570
		Parish:	St. Landry

STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE	Date Completed	Copy Attached?
A written report was submitted in accordance with Paragraph IV of the "Order" portion of the COMPLIANCE ORDER.		
All necessary documents were submitted to the Department in accordance with Paragraph II of the "Order" portion of the COMPLIANCE ORDER.		
All necessary documents were submitted to the Department within 45 days of receipt of the COMPLIANCE ORDER in accordance with Paragraph(s) 7 of the "Order" portion of the COMPLIANCE ORDER.	N/A	N/A
All necessary documents were submitted to the Department within 90 days of receipt of the COMPLIANCE ORDER in accordance with Paragraph(s) 7 of the "Order" portion of the COMPLIANCE ORDER.	N/A	N/A
All items in the "Findings of Fact" portion of the COMPLIANCE ORDER were addressed and the facility is being operated to meet and maintain the requirements of the "Order" portion of the COMPLIANCE ORDER. Final compliance was achieved as of _____.		

SETTLEMENT OFFER (OPTIONAL)

(Check the applicable option)

	The Respondent is not interested in entering into settlement negotiations with the Department with the understanding that the Department has the right to assess civil penalties based on LAC 33:1 Subpart 1, Chapter 7.
	In order to resolve any claim for civil penalties for the violations in NOTICE OF POTENTIAL PENALTY (SE-CN-19-00697), the Respondent is interested in entering into settlement negotiations with the Department and would like to set up a meeting to discuss settlement procedures.
	In order to resolve any claim for civil penalties for the violations in NOTICE OF POTENTIAL PENALTY (SE-CN-19-00697), the Respondent is interested in entering into settlement negotiations with the Department and offers to pay \$ _____ which shall include LDEQ enforcement costs and any monetary benefit of non-compliance. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monetary component = \$ _____ • Beneficial Environmental Project (BEP) component (optional) = \$ _____ • DO NOT SUBMIT PAYMENT OF THE OFFER WITH THIS FORM- the Department will review the settlement offer and notify the Respondent as to whether the offer is or is not accepted.
	The Respondent has reviewed the violations noted in NOTICE OF POTENTIAL PENALTY (SE-CN-19-00697) and has attached a justification of its offer and a description of any BEPs if included in settlement offer.

CERTIFICATION STATEMENT

I certify, under provisions in Louisiana and United States law that provide criminal penalties for false statements, that based on information and belief formed after reasonable inquiry, the statements and information attached and the compliance statement above, are true, accurate, and complete. I also certify that I do not owe outstanding fees or penalties to the Department for this facility or any other facility I own or operate. I further certify that I am either the Respondent or an authorized representative of the Respondent.

Respondent's Signature	Respondent's Printed Name	Respondent's Title
Respondent's Physical Address	Respondent's Phone #	Date
MAIL COMPLETED DOCUMENT TO THE ADDRESS BELOW:		
Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality Office of Environmental Compliance Enforcement Division P. O. Box 4312 Baton Rouge, LA 70821 Attn: Ashley Manuel		