

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT AND RELEASE

This SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT AND RELEASE (hereinafter "Agreement") is entered into between the STATE OF CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD (hereinafter "ARB") 1001 I Street, Sacramento, California 95814, and Hoover Egg Company (hereinafter "HEC"), 33700 Wildwood Canyon Road, Yucaipa, California 92399.

I. RECITALS

- (1) Health and Safety Code (H&SC) section 39650-39675 mandates the reduction of the emissions of substances that have been determined to be toxic air contaminants (TACs). In 1998, following an exhaustive 10-year scientific assessment process, the Air Resources Board identified particulate matter (PM) from diesel-fueled engines as a toxic air contaminant. Transport Refrigeration Units (TRUs) are powered by diesel fueled engines that emit toxic particulate matter. TRUs are regulated under Title 13 California (CCR) section 2477.1 through 2477.21.
- (2) CCR, Title 13, section 2477.5 (a) provides that no owner/operator shall operate a TRU or TRU generator or (gen) set in California unless it meets in-use emission performance standards established in section 2477.5.
- (3) The ARB Enforcement Division has documented that HEC, failed to bring their fleet of TRUs in compliance with the in-use performance standard.
- (4) Title 13 CCR, section 2477.5 (e)(1)(A) requires that on or before January 31, 2009 (delayed until July 31, 2009), owner/operators of all California-based TRUs and TRU gen sets subject to this regulation shall apply for an ARB identification number for all California-based TRUs or TRU gen sets operated by the operator by submitting an application to ARB.
- (5) Title 13 CCR, section 2477.5 (e)(1)(F) requires that within 30 days of receipt of the ARB-issued IDN, owners/operators of California-based TRUs and TRU gen sets permanently affix or paint the IDN to both sides of the TRU chassis housing.
- (6) ARB Enforcement Division has documented that HEC failed to bring the TRUs it operates in California into compliance with the in-use performance standards before the deadlines set forth in the regulation, failed to submit a TRU Operator Report by the July 31, 2009 deadline, failed to register their TRUs in the ARBER database by the July 31, 2009 deadline, and failed to affix the ARB IDN to both sides of the TRUs in their fleet within 30 days of receipt of the ARB IDN.

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- (7) Failure to bring the TRU fleet in compliance with applicable in-use emission standards, failure to apply for and affix ARB IDNs and failure to submit an operator report are violations of state law resulting in penalties. HSC, section 39674, authorizes civil penalties of up to ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) for each day that the violation occurs.
- (8) *H&SC* section 44011.6 established the Heavy Duty Vehicle Inspection Program (HDVIP). It authorizes ARB to inspect on-road heavy-duty vehicles for excessive smoke emissions and engine tampering and to issue citations, accordingly. The program also requires the vehicle owner to repair its engines that exceed the prescribed ARB smoke opacity standards, perform a post-repair opacity test, and submit proof of repairs and any assessed penalties under the regulations of the Heavy-Duty Smoke Inspection Program, Chapter 3.5, Sections 2180-2188, Title 13, California Code of Regulations (CCR).
- (9) *H&SC* section 43701 provides that ARB shall adopt regulations that require owners or operators of heavy-duty diesel motor vehicles to perform regular inspections of their vehicles for excess smoke emissions.
- (10) Title 13, CCR sections 2190 et seq. were adopted under the authority of *H&SC* section 43701 and, with limited exceptions which are not applicable here, apply to all heavy-duty diesel powered vehicles with gross vehicle weight ratings greater than 6,000 pounds which operate on the streets or highways within the State of California.
- (11) Title 13, CCR sections 2190 et seq. authorize the Periodic Smoke Inspection Program (PSIP) which requires the owners and operators of California based vehicle fleets of two or more heavy duty diesel motor vehicles with gross vehicle weight ratings greater than 6,000 pounds which operate on the streets or highways within the State of California to conduct annual smoke opacity inspections of their vehicles that are four years older than the model year of the vehicle's engine.
- (12) Title 13, CCR section 2192(a) requires inter alia that the owner of the vehicle "[t]est the vehicle for excessive smoke emissions periodically according to the inspection intervals specified in section 2193(a), (b), and (c)", "[m]easure the smoke emissions for each test...", "[r]ecord the smoke test opacity levels and other required test information as specified in section 2194..." and "[k]eep the records specified in section 2194 for two years after the date of inspection."

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- (13) H&SC section 43016 states, "Any person who violates any provision of this part, or any order, rule, or regulation of the state board adopted pursuant to this part, and for which violation there is not provided in this part any other specific civil penalty or fine, shall be subject to a civil penalty of not to exceed five hundred dollars (\$500.00) per vehicle."
- (14) The ARB considers testing, measuring, recording, and recordkeeping to be critical components in reducing excessive smoke emissions from these heavy-duty vehicles.
- (15) ARB contends HEC failed to test, measure, record, and maintain records of smoke emissions from its fleet of heavy duty diesel vehicles for 2009 and 2010 in violation of Title 13, CCR Sections 2190 et seq.
- (16) The ARB, has documented that HEC failed to provide evidence that their vehicles have emission control labels (ECL) attached to the engines of heavy-duty diesel vehicles in its fleet in violation of title HSC, section 44011.6, and title 13 CCR section 2183, et seq. Civil penalties for violation of the regulation covering emission control labels have been set per title 13, CCR section 2185 (a)(2)(B) at \$300 per vehicle per violation.
- (17) In order to resolve these alleged violations, HEC has taken, or agreed to take, the actions enumerated below under "RELEASE". Further, the ARB accepts this Agreement in termination and settlement of this matter.
- (18) In consideration of the foregoing, and of the promises and facts set forth herein, the parties desire to settle and resolve all claims, disputes, and obligations relating to the above-listed violations, and voluntarily agree to resolve this matter by means of this Agreement. Specifically, the ARB and HEC agree as follows:

II. TERMS & RELEASE

In consideration of the ARB not filing a legal action against HEC, for the alleged violations referred to above, and HEC payment of the penalties set forth in Section 1 below, the ARB and HEC agree as follows

- (1) Upon execution of this Agreement, the sum of three thousand, eight hundred dollars (\$3,800.00) shall be paid on behalf of HEC no later than June 24, 2013, as follows:

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- \$2,850.00 to the **California Air Pollution Control Fund**
- \$950.00 to the **Peralta College Foundation**

Please submit the signed settlement agreement and checks to:

Mr. Aldo Chaney, Air Pollution Specialist
Air Resources Board, Enforcement Division
9480 Telstar Ave., Suite 4
El Monte, CA 91731

- (2) Upon execution of this Agreement, HEC shall pay a civil penalty of \$3,800.00. Payment shall be made in check form as described below, and payments shall be made in 3 monthly payments beginning on **April 26, 2013**.

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Payment Due Date:		In the Amount of and Paid to:
(1)	April 26, 2013	\$950.00 paid to Peralta Colleges Foundation
(2)	May 28, 2013	\$1,425.00 paid to California Air Pollution Control Fund
(3)	June 28, 2013	\$1,425.00 paid to California Air Pollution Control Fund

- (3) **Effect of Untimely Payment.** If any payment is more than 15 days late, the entire remaining balance becomes immediately due and payable. In addition, if the Attorney General files a civil action to enforce this settlement agreement, HEC shall pay all costs of investigating and prosecuting the action, including expert fees, reasonable attorney's fees, and costs.
- (4) It is further agreed that the penalties described in "Terms and Release", paragraph 1 are punitive in nature, rather than compensatory. Furthermore, the penalty is intended to deter and punish HEC for violations of state environmental statutes, and these penalties are payable to and for the benefit of ARB, a governmental unit. Therefore, it is agreed that these penalties imposed on HEC by ARB arising from the facts described in recital paragraphs 1 – 16 are non-dischargeable under 11

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United States Code § 523 (a)(7), which provides an exception from discharge for any debt to the extent such debt is for a fine, penalty or forfeiture payable to and for benefit of governmental unit, and is not compensation for actual pecuniary loss, other than certain types of tax penalties.

- (5) HEC shall not violate Health and Safety Code Sections 43701 et seq. and 44011.6 et seq., title 13, CCR, Sections 2180 et seq., 2190 et seq., and 2485 et seq.
- (6) HEC shall comply with one or both of the following options to attend the California Council on Diesel Education and Technology (CCDET I) class, (SAE J1667 Snap Acceleration Smoke Test Procedure for Heavy-Duty Diesel Powered Vehicles) as described on the ARB webpage at <http://www.arb.ca.gov/enf/hdvip/ccdet/ccdet.htm>. This class is conducted by various California Community Colleges and instructs attendees on compliance with the PSIP, ECL and the HDVIP.
 - (a) HEC shall have the fleet maintenance manager (or equivalent) and all staff performing opacity tests for compliance with PSIP and the HDVIP attend the CCDET I class. Proof of CCDET I completion shall be provided to ARB within one year of the date of this Agreement and be maintained in each applicable employee's file for the term of his or her employment.
 - (b) If HEC uses a contractor to perform the annual smoke opacity testing required under the PSIP, in addition to having the fleet maintenance manager (or equivalent) attend the CCDET I course, HEC shall obtain proof that the contractor's staff conducting the smoke opacity tests completed the CCDET course within the past four years. This proof of CCDET completion shall be provided to ARB with PSIP records as required by this Agreement and be maintained with the annual PSIP records.
- (7) HEC shall comply with one or both of the following options to attend the CCDET II class (Diesel Exhaust After Treatment and Maintenance), described on the ARB's webpage <http://www.arb.ca.gov/enf/hdvip/ccdet/ccdet.htm>. This class is conducted by various California Community Colleges and instructs attendees on California's emission regulations and the proper care and maintenance of exhaust after treatment systems (EATS).

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- (a) HEC shall have the fleet maintenance manager (or equivalent) and all staff responsible for maintenance of EATS attend the CCDET II class. Proof of CCDET II completion shall be provided to ARB within one year of the date of this Agreement and also be maintained in each applicable employee's file for the term of his or her employment.
 - (b) In case HEC uses a contractor for the maintenance of DEATS, in addition to having the fleet maintenance manager (or equivalent) attend the CCDET II course; HEC shall obtain proof that the contractor's staff maintaining the DEATS device(s) completed the CCDET II course within the last four years. This proof of the CCDET II completion shall be provided by HEC to the ARB within six months of the date of this settlement and be maintained with the DEATS installation and maintenance records.
- (8) HEC shall submit copies of all PSIP compliance records for the two years after the close of the audit to the ARB by January 31 of the following year. Copies shall be addressed to the attention of Mr. Aldo Chaney, Air Pollution Specialist, ARB Enforcement Division, 9480 Telstar Avenue, Suite 4, El Monte, CA 91731. The ARB reserves the right to visit any HEC fleet location at any time to conduct compliance audits for the HDVIP and PSIP, or any other applicable ARB program.
 - (9) HEC shall complete Low NOx Software Upgrades (reflash) on all applicable heavy duty diesel engines operating in California and report back to the ARB, within 45 days of this Agreement.
 - (10) Each 1974 or newer diesel powered heavy-duty commercial vehicle in the HEC fleet shall comply with the Emission Control Label (ECL) requirements set forth in the CCR, Title 13, section 2183 (c).
 - (11) HEC shall instruct all employees who operate diesel fueled commercial vehicles to comply with the idling regulations set forth in CCR, Title 13, section 2485, within 45 days of the execution of this agreement.
 - (12) Within 45 days of the execution of this Agreement, HEC shall bring its fleet of TRUs operating in California in compliance with the applicable in-use performance standards as required by Title 13, CCR, section 2477 (e) (1) (A) (1).

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HEC shall submit the proof of compliance with the TRU ATCM to ATCM to Mr. Aldo Chaney, Air Pollution Specialist, ARB Enforcement Division, 9480 Teistar Avenue, Suite 4, El Monte, CA 91731.

- (13) HEC shall not violate the TRU ATCM, as codified in Title 13 CCR, section 2477.
- (14) HEC shall not violate the Truck and Bus regulation as codified in Title 13 CCR, section 2025 et seq.
- (15) This Agreement shall apply to and be binding upon HEC, and its officers, directors, receivers, trustees, employees, successors and assignees, subsidiary and parent corporations and upon ARB and any successor agency that may have responsibility for and jurisdiction over the subject matter of this Agreement.
- (16) This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement and understanding between ARB and HEC concerning the subject matter hereof, and supersedes and replaces all prior negotiations and agreements between ARB and HEC concerning the subject matter hereof.
- (17) No agreement to modify, amend, extend, supersede, terminate, or discharge this Agreement, or any portion thereof, is valid or enforceable unless it is in writing and signed by all parties to this Agreement.
- (18) Severability. Each provision of this Agreement is severable, and in the event that any provision of this Agreement is held to be invalid or unenforceable, the remainder of this Agreement remains in full force and effect.
- (19) This Agreement shall be interpreted and enforced in accordance with the laws of the State of California, without regard to California's choice-of-law rules.
- (20) This Agreement is deemed to have been drafted equally by the Parties; it will not be interpreted for or against either party on the ground that said party drafted it.

(21) **SB 1402 Statement**

Senate Bill 1402 (Dutton, Chapter 413, statutes of 2010) requires the ARB to provide information on the basis for the penalties it seeks (see Health and Safety Code section 39619.7). This information, which is provided throughout this settlement agreement, is summarized here.

The manner in which the penalty amount was determined, including a per unit or per vehicle penalty.

Penalties must be set at levels sufficient to discourage violations. The penalties in this matter were determined in consideration of all relevant circumstances, including the eight factors specified in Health and Safety Code section 42403 and 43024.

TRU Violations

The per unit penalty for the TRU violations involved in this case is a maximum of \$1,000 per unit per day for strict liability violations or \$10,000 per unit per day for negligent or intentional violations pursuant to H&SC section 39674. The penalty obtained for the TRU violations involved in this case is \$1,500.00 or \$500.00 each for 3 non-compliant units. After considering all factors specified in 43024, the penalty reflects the fact that these were unintentional first time violations, financial hardship was considered and that HEC cooperated with the investigation.

PSIP Violations

The per vehicle penalty for the PSIP violations involved in this case is a maximum of \$500 per vehicle per violation per year. The penalty obtained for the PSIP violations involved in this case is \$250.00 per violation for 8 PSIP violations for a penalty of \$2,000.00 after considering all factors specified in 43024. The penalty reflects that fact these were unintentional first time violations, financial hardship was considered and that HEC cooperated with the investigation.

ECL Violations

The per vehicle penalty for the labeling violations involved in this case is \$300 per vehicle per violation. The penalty obtained for the ECL violations involved in this case is \$150.00 per violation for 2 ECL violations for a penalty of \$300.00 after consideration of all factors specified in 43024.

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The penalty reflects that fact these were unintentional first time violations, financial hardship was considered and that HEC cooperated with the investigation

The provision of law the penalty is being assessed under and why that provision is most appropriate for that violation.

TRU Violations

The penalty provision being applied for the TRU ATCM (Title 13, CCR, section 2477) violations in this case is H&SC section 39674 because the TRU ATCM is a Toxic Air Contaminant Control Measure adopted pursuant to authority contained in H&SC section 39002, et seq., 39650-39675 and because HEC failed to bring TRUs in its fleet into compliance by the deadlines set forth in the TRU ATCM.

PSIP Violations

The penalty provision being applied to the PSIP violations is H&SC section 43016 because HEC failed to test, measure, record and maintain records of smoke emissions from its fleet of heavy duty diesel vehicles for years 2009 and 2010 in violation of the PSIP regulation in Title 13, CCR sections 2190 et seq. for 8 violations. Since the PSIP regulation was adopted pursuant to authority granted in Part 5 of Division 26 of the H&SC and since there is no specific penalty or fine provided for PSIP violations in Part 5, H&SC section 43016 is applicable penalty provision.

ECL Violations

The penalty provision being applied for the ECL Program (Title 13, CCR, section 2180 et seq.) violations is Health and Safety Code section 44011.6 because HEC failed to affix emission control labels as required by Title 13, CCR section 2183 (c). The penalty for each of the two labeling violations is provided in Title 13, CCR, section 2185 (a)(2)(B).

Is the penalty being assessed under a provision of law that prohibits the emission of pollution at a specified level, and, if so a quantification of excess emissions, if it is practicable to do so.

TRU Violations

The provisions cited above do prohibit emissions above a specified level of g/hp-hr. However, since the hours of operation of the non-compliant TRUs involved and their individual emission rates are not known, it is not practicable to quantify the excess emissions.

PSIP Violations

The provisions cited above do prohibit emissions above a specified opacity level. However, since the hours of operation of the non-compliant trucks involved and their individual emission rates are not known, it is not practicable to quantify the excess emissions.

ECL Violations

The penalty is not being assessed under a provision of law that prohibits the emission of pollution at a specified level.

- (22) HEC acknowledges that ARB has complied with SB 1402 in prosecuting or settling this case. Specifically, ARB has considered all relevant facts, including those listed at HSC section 43024, has explained the manner in which the penalty amount was calculated (including a per unit or per vehicle penalty, if appropriate), has identified the provision of law under which the penalty is being assessed and has considered and determined that this penalty is being assessed under a provision of law that prohibits the emission of pollutants at a specified level. However, since the hours of operation of the non-compliant TRUs and trucks involved and their individual emission rates are not known, it is not practicable for ARB to quantify the excess emissions.
- (23) Penalties were determined based on the unique circumstances of this matter, considered together with the need to remove any economic benefit from noncompliance, the goal of deterring future violations and obtaining swift compliance, the consideration of past penalties in similar cases negotiation, and the potential costs and risk associated with litigating these particular violations. The penalty reflects violations extending over a number of days considered together with the complete circumstances of this case.

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The penalty was discounted in this matter based on the fact that this was a first time violation and the violator made unusually diligent efforts to comply and to cooperate with the investigation. Penalties in future cases might be smaller or larger on a per unit basis.

- (24) The penalty in this case was based in part on confidential business information provided by HEC that is not retained by ARB in the ordinary course of business. The penalty in this case was also based on confidential settlement communications between ARB and HEC that ARB does not retain in the ordinary course of business either. The penalty also reflects ARB's assessment of the relative strength of its case against HEC, the desire to avoid the uncertainty, burden and expense of litigation, obtain swift compliance with the law and remove any unfair advantage that HEC may have secured from its actions.
- (25) Now therefore, in consideration of the payment by HEC, in the amount of three thousand, eight hundred dollars (\$3,800.00), ARB hereby releases HEC and its principals, officers, agents, predecessors and successors from any and all claims that ARB may have based on the facts and allegations described in recital paragraphs (1) -- (16) above. The undersigned represent that they have the authority to enter into this Agreement.

California Air Resources Board

By: 

Name: James R. Ryden

Title: Chief, Enforcement Division

Date: 5-10-13

Hoover Egg Company

By: 

Name: James A Hoover

Title: Partner

Date: 4-24-13