

**ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT,
DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**

IN THE MATTER OF:

AFIN: 88-00341

LIS No. 23-081

RK HALL, LLC
d/b/a RK HALL CONSTRUCTION, LTD
-TEXARKANA EAST ASPHALT PLANT #50
3205 DIVISION STREET
TEXARKANA, AR 71854

CONSENT ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

This Consent Administrative Order (CAO) is issued pursuant to the authority delegated under the federal Clean Air Act, 42 U.S.C. § 7401 *et seq.*, and the federal regulations issued thereunder. In addition, this CAO is issued pursuant to the authority of the Arkansas Water and Air Pollution Control Act (the Act), Ark. Code Ann. § 8-4-101 *et seq.*, Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission (APC&EC) Rule 7, APC&EC Rule 8, APC&EC Rule 18, and APC&EC Rule 19.

The issues herein having been settled by agreement of RK Hall, LLC d/b/a RK Hall Construction, LTD (Respondent) and the Chief Administrator of the Division of Environmental Quality (DEQ), it is hereby agreed and stipulated that the following FINDINGS OF FACT and ORDER AND AGREEMENT be entered.

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent owns and operates a hot mix asphalt facility located at 3205 Division Street in Texarkana, Miller County, Arkansas.
2. The Air Permit referenced in this CAO is 1731-AR-4 (the Permit). The Permit was

issued on June 28, 2011.

3. Ark. Code Ann. § 8-4-217(a)(3) provides:

(a) It shall be unlawful for any person to:

...

(3) Violate any provisions of this chapter or of any rule or order adopted by the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission under this chapter or of a permit issued under this chapter by DEQ;

4. Ark. Code Ann. § 8-4-103(c)(1)(A) provides, “Any person that violates any provision of this chapter and rules, permits, or plans issued pursuant to this chapter may be assessed an administrative civil penalty not to exceed ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) per violation.”

5. Pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 8-4-103(c)(1)(B) as referenced by Ark. Code Ann. § 8-4-304, “Each day of a continuing violation may be deemed a separate violation for purposes of penalty assessment.”

6. On December 12, 2022, DEQ personnel performed a routine compliance inspection at the facility.

7. Specific Condition 22 of the Permit states that Respondent shall test the asphalt plant exhaust stack within 180 days of issuance of the initial permit and every five years thereafter.

8. During the inspection, it was revealed that Respondent failed to perform the every five year test of the asphalt plant exhaust stack. Respondent performed initial testing for the asphalt plant exhaust stack in 2016; therefore, the next test was due within five years, before the end 2021. Such a failure violates Specific Condition 22 of the Permit and therefore violates Ark. Code Ann. § 8-4-217(a)(3) as referenced by Ark. Code Ann. § 8-4-304.

9. In correspondence dated January 10, 2023, DEQ informed Respondent of the compliance issues identified during the December 12, 2022 inspection. This was intended to provide Respondent with the opportunity to review the violations and submit any additional

information Respondent deemed appropriate regarding the compliance issues.

10. In correspondence dated March 8, 2023, DEQ informed Respondent that formal enforcement action was proceeding regarding this matter.

11. On April 24, 2023, Respondent submitted a test protocol for testing to be conducted on May 3, 2023.

12. On June 13, 2023, DEQ proposed the CAO.

13. In correspondence dated June 15, 2023, Respondent requested revisions to the proposed CAO.

14. On July 31, 2023, Respondent submitted a stack test report.

15. In correspondence dated August 1, 2023, DEQ informed Respondent that it had evaluated the stack test report submitted on July 31, 2023, for testing conducted on May 3, 2023.

It was determined that Respondent was in compliance with the Permit at the time of testing.

ORDER AND AGREEMENT

WHEREFORE, Respondent, neither admitting nor denying the factual and legal allegations contained in this CAO, and DEQ do hereby agree and stipulate as follows:

1. This CAO addresses all violations referenced in the FINDINGS OF FACT.
2. In compromise and full settlement of the violations specified in the FINDINGS OF FACT, Respondent agrees to pay a civil penalty of **TWO THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED FORTY DOLLARS (\$2,640.00)**, or one-half of the penalty, **ONE THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED TWENTY DOLLARS (\$1,320.00)** if this CAO is signed and returned to Air Enforcement Section, DEQ, 5301 Northshore Drive, North Little Rock, Arkansas 72118-5317, prior to 4:00 p.m. on **October 18, 2023**. Payment is due within thirty (30) calendar days after the

effective date of this CAO. Such payment shall be made payable to:

DEQ, Fiscal Division
5301 Northshore Drive
North Little Rock, Arkansas 72118-5317.

In the event that Respondent fails to pay the civil penalty within the prescribed time, DEQ shall be entitled to attorneys' fees and costs associated with collection.

3. All applicable submissions required by this CAO are subject to approval by DEQ. In the event of any deficiency, Respondent shall, within fifteen (15) calendar days of notification by DEQ, submit any additional information requested. Failure to respond adequately to the notice of deficiency within fifteen (15) calendar days constitutes a failure to meet a deadline and is subject to the civil penalties established in the following Paragraph.

4. Failure to meet the limits, requirements, or deadlines of this CAO or the applicable approved schedules provided for herein constitutes a violation of this CAO. If Respondent fails to meet any limits, requirements, or deadlines, Respondent shall pay, on demand, to DEQ civil penalties according to the following schedule:

- | | |
|--|----------------|
| (a) First day through the fourteenth day: | \$100 per day |
| (b) Fifteenth day through the thirtieth day: | \$500 per day |
| (c) More than thirty days: | \$1000 per day |

Stipulated penalties shall be paid within thirty (30) calendar days of receipt of DEQ's demand to Respondent for such penalties. These stipulated penalties may be imposed for delay in scheduled performance and shall be in addition to any other remedies or sanctions that may be available to DEQ by reason of Respondent's failure to comply with the requirements of this CAO. DEQ reserves its rights to collect other penalties and fines pursuant to its enforcement authority in lieu of the stipulated penalties set forth above.

5. If any event, including, but not limited to, an occurrence of nature, causes or may

cause a delay in the achievement of compliance by Respondent with the requirements or deadlines of this CAO, Respondent shall notify DEQ in writing as soon as reasonably possible after it is apparent that a delay will result, but in no case after the due dates have passed. The notification shall describe in detail the anticipated length of the delay, the precise cause of the delay, the measures being taken and to be taken to minimize the delay, and the timetable by which those measures will be implemented.

6. DEQ may grant an extension of any provision of this CAO, provided that Respondent requests such an extension in writing and provided that the delay or anticipated delay has or will be caused by circumstances beyond the control of and without the fault of Respondent. The time for performance may be extended for a reasonable period, but in no event longer than the period of delay resulting from such circumstances. The burden of proving that any delay is caused by circumstances beyond the control of and without the fault of Respondent and the length of the delay attributable to such circumstances shall rest with Respondent. Failure to notify DEQ promptly, as provided in the previous Paragraph of the ORDER AND AGREEMENT, shall be grounds for a denial of an extension.

7. This CAO is subject to public review and comment in accordance with Ark. Code Ann. § 8-4-103(d), and therefore is not effective until thirty (30) calendar days after public notice of the CAO is given. DEQ retains the right and discretion to rescind this CAO based on comments received within the thirty (30) day public comment period.

8. As provided by APC&EC Rule 8, this matter is subject to being reopened upon Commission initiative or in the event a petition to set aside this CAO is granted by the Commission.

9. Nothing contained in this CAO shall relieve Respondent of any obligations imposed by any other applicable local, state, or federal laws. Except as specifically provided

herein, nothing contained in this CAO shall be deemed in any way to relieve Respondent of responsibilities contained in the permit.

10. Nothing in this CAO shall be construed as a waiver by DEQ of its enforcement authority over alleged violations not specifically addressed herein. In addition, this CAO neither exonerates Respondent from any past, present, or future conduct that is not expressly addressed herein, nor relieves Respondent of the responsibilities for obtaining any necessary permits.

11. By virtue of the signature appearing below, the individual represents that he or she is a Managing Member of Respondent, being duly authorized to execute and bind Respondent to the terms contained herein. Execution of this CAO by an individual other than a Managing Member of Respondent shall be accompanied by a resolution granting signature authority to said individual as duly ratified by the governing body of the entity.

SO ORDERED THIS 20th DAY OF OCTOBER, 2023.



CALEB J. OSBORNE
DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY, DIRECTOR
CHIEF ADMINISTRATOR, ENVIRONMENT
ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND CONTENT:

RK HALL, LLC
d/b/a RK HALL CONSTRUCTION, LTD

BY: CHAD STONE Chad Stone (Signature)

CHAD STONE (Typed or printed name)

TITLE: EHS, South Region Dir.

DATE: 10/13/2023