



STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
TATE REEVES
GOVERNOR
MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
CHRIS WELLS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

October 23, 2024

CERTIFIED MAIL # 7019 1120 0000 4785 6520

Mr. J. Scott Middleton, Jr.
Cottonseed Co Op Corporation
PO Box 9
Jonestown, Mississippi 38639

Re: Cottonseed Co Op Corporation
Agreed Order No. 7375 24

Dear Mr. Middleton:

Enclosed you will find a copy of Agreed Order No. 7375 24, which has been executed by the Executive Director of the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality, Chris Wells, on behalf of the Mississippi Commission on Environmental Quality.

The enclosed Order assesses a civil penalty. The first penalty payment, when due, should be made by check payable to the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality and returned in the enclosed, self-addressed envelope. All future installment payments should be mailed to the MDEQ Accounts Receivable at P.O. Box 2339, Jackson, MS 39225.

If you have any questions regarding your obligations under the enclosed order, please contact Geoffrey Martin at (601) 961-5024.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michelle Clark".

Michelle Clark, P.E., BCEE, Chief
Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Division

Enclosure
cc: Geoffrey Martin

Agency Interest No. 2052
ENF20240001

OFFICE OF POLLUTION CONTROL

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AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

BEFORE THE MISSISSIPPI COMMISSION
ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

MISSISSIPPI COMMISSION ON
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

COMPLAINANT

VS.

ORDER NO. 7375 24

COTTONSEED CO-OP CORPORATION
100 MILL STREET
JONESTOWN, MISSISSIPPI 38639

RESPONDENT

AGREED ORDER

COME NOW the Mississippi Commission on Environmental Quality (Commission), acting through the staff and Executive Director of the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ), Complainant, and Cottonseed Co-Op Corporation, Respondent, in the above captioned cause and agree as follows:

1.

By letter dated January 25, 2023, Respondent was contacted by Complainant and notified of the following violations of Title V Operating Permit No. 0540-00019 (the Permit) that were discovered during a Compliance Evaluation Inspection on November 30, 2022, at Respondent's Cottonseed Oil Mill (the Facility) located at 100 Mill Street, Jonestown, Mississippi in Coahoma County:

- A. Respondent exceeded the compliance ratio of 1.00 from December 2020 through November 2022 in violation of Condition 3.B.15 which states, "For Emission Point AG-000, the permittee shall calculate a compliance ratio comparing actual HAP loss to allowable HAP loss in accordance with the equations and information provided in 40 CFR 63.2840(a)."
- B. Respondent failed to conduct stack testing on the cyclones during the Permit issued by the Mississippi Environmental Quality Permit Board on June 11, 2013 with an

expiration date of May 31, 2018, in violation of Condition 5.B.1 which states, “The permittee shall stack test all cyclones for each process area (AC-000, AD-000, AE-000, AF-000, and AG-000) identified in Section 2 of this permit in accordance with the frequency and methods identified in Table 5.B ...Stack testing shall be performed on a rotating basis with a frequency where all cyclones are tested by the expiration date of the permit. For process areas that utilize similar cyclones handling identical process/waste streams, the permittee may stack test a representative unit. (Ref: 11 Miss. Admin. Code Pt 2, R. 6.3.A(3).)”

On or about January 30, 2023, Respondent ceased operations related to seed processing and solvent extraction at the Facility.

By letter dated July 12, 2024, Respondent submitted to MDEQ a True Minor Determination and a request to withdraw its Title V Operating Permit renewal application. Respondent demonstrated that Emission Point AG-000 is currently disconnected and unable to operate.

On August 5, 2024, MDEQ determined the Facility was a True Minor Source and administratively withdrew the Title V Operating Permit renewal application received on January 27, 2023.

2.

In lieu of a formal enforcement hearing concerning the violations listed above, Complainant and Respondent agree to settle this matter as follows:

- A. Respondent agrees to pay and Complainant agrees to accept a civil penalty in the amount of \$57,400.00. Respondent shall pay this penalty to MDEQ in four (4) equal installments of \$14,350.00, due on November 28, 2024; December 28, 2024; January 28, 2025; and February 28, 2025. The settlement payments shall be submitted to:

Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality

Attn: Accounts Receivable

P.O. Box 2339

Jackson, MS 39225

3.

Nothing in this Agreed Order shall limit the rights of MDEQ or the Commission in the event Respondent fails to comply with this Agreed Order. The Agreed Order shall be strictly construed to apply to those matters expressly resolved herein.

4.


Nothing contained in this Agreed Order shall limit the rights of MDEQ or the Commission to take enforcement or other actions against Respondent for violations not addressed herein and for future violations of environmental laws, rules, and regulations.

5.

Respondent understands and acknowledges that it is entitled to an evidentiary hearing before the Commission pursuant to Miss. Code Ann. § 49-17-31, and that it has made an informed waiver of that right.

ORDERED, this the 23rd day of October, 2024.

MISSISSIPPI COMMISSION ON
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

BY: 
CHRIS WELLS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT
OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

AGREED, this the 17TH day of OCTOBER, 2024.

COTTONSEED CO-OP CORPORATION

BY: 
J. SCOTT MIDDLETON, JR.
PRESIDENT

STATE OF Mississippi
COUNTY OF Coahoma

PERSONALLY appeared before me, the undersigned authority in and for the jurisdiction aforesaid, the within named J. SCOTT MIDDLETON, JR., who first being duly sworn, did state upon his oath and acknowledge to me that he is the PRESIDENT of COTTONSEED CO-OP CORPORATION and is authorized to sign and enter this Agreement.

SWORN AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME, this the 17 day of October, 2024.




NOTARY PUBLIC

My Commission expires: _____