

ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

IN THE MATTER OF:

AFIN: 30-00086

LIS No. 18-100

ACME BRICK COMPANY
- OUACHITA PLANT
1615 GRIGSBY FORD ROAD
MALVERN, AR 72104

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) Regulation 7, APC&EC Regulation 8, APC&EC Regulation 18, and APC&EC Regulation 19.

The issues herein having been settled by agreement of Acme Brick Company – Ouachita Plant (Respondent) and the Director of the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ), 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 clay brick manufacturing facility located at 1615 Grigsby Ford Road in Malvern, Hot Spring County, Arkansas.
2. The investigation noted in this CAO covered Air Permit 1343-AR-4 (the Permit).

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The Permit was issued on May 2, 2011, and was still in effect at the time of investigation.

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, regulation, or order adopted by the Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission under this chapter or of a permit issued under this chapter by the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality.

4. Ark. Code Ann. § 8-4-103(c)(1)(A) as referenced by Ark. Code Ann. §§ 8-4-304 and 8-4-311 authorizes ADEQ to assess an administrative civil penalty not to exceed ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) per violation for any violation of any provision of the Act and any regulation or permit issued pursuant to the Act.

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 May 11, 2018, Respondent submitted an Upset Condition Reporting Form detailing an equipment malfunction at its Tunnel Kiln with Dry Scrubber (SN-06). The report stated that on May 10, 2018, visible emissions from SN-06 alerted Respondent to a potential problem. An investigation of SN-06 revealed that a large percentage of the bag filters were damaged. This malfunction resulted in exceedances of the Permit emission rate limits for hydrogen fluoride (HF) and hydrochloric acid (HCL). Calculated emission rates were included in the report, but a final accounting of the degree of the exceedances would be made upon the correction of the malfunction.

7. In its May 11, 2018 submittal, Respondent described the actions it was taking to correct the malfunction that included placing an immediate order for new bag filters.

8. In correspondence dated June 1, 2018, Respondent updated the ADEQ on its actions to correct the malfunction since its occurrence, which included having its vendor onsite to conduct a root cause analysis.

9. On July 18, 2018, Respondent submitted an updated Upset Condition Reporting Form in which it was reported that the malfunction was corrected on July 15, 2018. The included final calculated emission rates for the duration of the malfunction were at rates that exceed the Permit emission rate limits for HF and HCl. Such acts violate Specific Condition 2 of the Permit and therefore violate Ark. Code Ann. § 8-4-217(a)(3) as referenced by Ark. Code Ann. § 8-4-304. See Table 1.

Pollutant	Permit Emission Rate Limit (lb/hr)	Calculated Emission Rate (lb/hr)
HF	0.95	7.15
HCl	0.80	0.86

10. In correspondence dated July 20, 2018, ADEQ informed Respondent that formal enforcement action is proceeding in the case in which Respondent exceeded emission rate limits of the Permit.

ORDER AND AGREEMENT

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

1. This CAO addresses all violations contained 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 **FIVE THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED**

DOLLARS (\$5,400.00), or one-half of the penalty, **TWO THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$2,700.00)** if this CAO is signed and returned to Air Enforcement Section, ADEQ, 5301 Northshore Drive, North Little Rock, Arkansas 72118-5317, prior to 4:00 p.m. on **December 1, 2018**. Payment is due within thirty (30) calendar days of the effective date of this CAO. Such payment shall be made payable to:

ADEQ, 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, ADEQ shall be entitled to attorneys' fees and costs associated with collection.

3. All applicable submissions required by this CAO are subject to approval by ADEQ. In the event of any deficiency, Respondent shall, within fifteen (15) calendar days of notification by ADEQ, submit any additional information requested. Failure to adequately respond 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 said CAO. If Respondent fails to meet any limits, requirements, or deadlines, Respondent shall pay, on demand, to ADEQ 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 ADEQ's demand to Respondent for such penalties. These stipulated penalties may be imposed for delay in

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scheduled performance and shall be in addition to any other remedies or sanctions which may be available to ADEQ by reason of Respondent's failure to comply with the requirements of this CAO. ADEQ 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 ADEQ 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. ADEQ 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 ADEQ 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

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of the CAO is given. ADEQ retains the right and discretion to rescind this CAO based on comments received within the thirty-day public comment period.

8. As provided by APC&EC Regulation 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, nor, except as specifically provided herein, shall this CAO 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 ADEQ of its enforcement authority over alleged violations not specifically addressed herein. In addition, this CAO does not exonerate Respondent from any past, present, or future conduct which is not expressly addressed herein, nor does it relieve 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 an Officer of Respondent, being duly authorized to execute and bind Respondent to the terms contained herein. Execution of this CAO by an individual other than an Officer of Respondent shall be accompanied by a resolution granting signature authority to said individual as duly ratified by the governing body of the entity.

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SO ORDERED THIS 18 DAY OF December, 2018.

Becky W. Keogh
BECKY W. KEOGH, DIRECTOR

ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND CONTENT:

ACME BRICK COMPANY
- OUACHITA PLANT

BY: Ed Watson (Signature)

Ed Watson (Typed or printed name)

TITLE: Sr VP

DATE: 11/11/18

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