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**CERCLA SECTION 122(h)(1) CASHOUT SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT  
FOR ABILITY TO PAY PERIPHERAL PARTIES**

IN THE MATTER OF:	)	SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT
	)	
Davis Refining Superfund Site	)	U.S. EPA Region 4
Tallahassee, Leon County, Florida	)	CERCLA Docket No.
	)	CERCLA-04-2006-3775
Clayton T. Tullos, and	)	
Big Bend Used Oil, Inc.,	)	PROCEEDING UNDER SECTION
	)	122(h)(1) OF CERCLA
SETTLING PARTIES	)	42 U.S.C. § 9622(h)(1)
_____)		

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**I. JURISDICTION**

1. This Settlement Agreement is entered into pursuant to the authority vested in the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") by Section 122(h)(1) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, as amended ("CERCLA"), 42 U.S.C. § 9622(h)(1), which authority has been delegated to the Regional Administrators of the EPA by EPA Delegation No. 14-14-D. This Settlement Agreement is also



entered into pursuant to the authority of the Attorney General of the United States to compromise and settle claims of the United States, which authority, in the circumstances of this Settlement Agreement, has been delegated to the Deputy Assistant Attorney General of the Environment and Natural Resources Division ("ENRD") by ENRD Directive No. 16-99 IIA.

2. This Settlement Agreement is made and entered into by EPA, Clayton T. Tullos, and Big Bend Used Oil, Inc. ("Settling Parties"). Settling Parties consent to and will not contest the authority of the United States to enter into this Settlement Agreement or to implement or enforce its terms.

## **II. BACKGROUND**

3. This Settlement Agreement concerns the Davis Refining Superfund Site ("Site") located in Tallahassee, Leon County, Florida. EPA alleges that the Site is a facility as defined by Section 101(9) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9601(9).

4. In response to the release or threatened release of hazardous substances at or from the Site, EPA undertook response actions at the Site pursuant to Section 104 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9604.

5. In performing response actions at the Site, EPA incurred response costs.

6. EPA alleges that Settling Parties are responsible parties pursuant to Section 107(a) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9607(a), and are jointly and severally liable for response costs incurred at the Site.

7. EPA has reviewed the Financial Information submitted by Settling Parties to determine whether Settling Parties are financially able to pay response costs incurred at the Site. Based upon this Financial Information, EPA has determined that Settling Parties have limited financial ability to pay for response costs incurred at the Site. EPA is willing to settle with Settling Parties for \$2,000 based on Settling Parties' limited financial ability to pay for liability toward Site costs.

8. EPA and Settling Parties recognize that this Settlement Agreement has been negotiated in good faith and that this Settlement Agreement is entered into without the admission or adjudication of any issue of fact or law. The actions undertaken by Settling Parties in accordance with this Settlement Agreement do not constitute an admission of any liability. Settling Parties do not admit, and retain the right to controvert in any subsequent proceedings other than proceedings to implement or enforce this Settlement Agreement, the validity of the facts or allegations contained in this Section.

### **III. PARTIES BOUND**

9. This Settlement Agreement shall be binding upon EPA and upon Settling Parties and their heirs, successors and assigns. Any change in ownership or corporate or other legal status of Settling Parties, including but not limited to any transfer of assets or real or personal property, shall in no way alter Settling Parties' responsibilities under this Settlement Agreement. Each signatory to this Settlement Agreement certifies that he or she is authorized to enter into the terms and conditions of this Settlement Agreement and to bind legally the party represented by him or her.

### **IV. STATEMENT OF PURPOSE**

10. By entering into this Settlement Agreement, the mutual objective of the Parties is to avoid difficult and prolonged litigation by allowing Settling Parties to make a cash payment to address their alleged civil liability for the Site as provided in the Covenant Not to Sue by EPA in Section VIII, subject to the Reservations of Rights by EPA in Section IX.

### **V. DEFINITIONS**

11. Unless otherwise expressly provided herein, terms used in this Settlement Agreement which are defined in CERCLA or in regulations promulgated under CERCLA shall have the meaning assigned to them in CERCLA or in such regulations. Whenever terms listed below are used in this Settlement Agreement or in any appendix attached hereto, the following definitions shall apply:

a. "Settlement Agreement" shall mean this Settlement Agreement and any attached appendices. In the event of conflict between this Settlement Agreement and any appendix, the Settlement Agreement shall control.

b. "CERCLA" shall mean the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, as amended, 42 U.S.C. § 9601, *et seq.*

c. "Day" shall mean a calendar day. In computing any period of time under this Settlement Agreement, where the last day would fall on a Saturday, Sunday, or federal holiday, the period shall run until the close of business of the next working day.

d. "Effective Date" shall mean the effective date of this Settlement Agreement as provided by Section XVI.

e. "EPA" shall mean the United States Environmental Protection Agency and any successor departments, agencies, or instrumentalities of the United States.

f. "Financial Information" shall mean those financial documents identified in

Appendix A.

g. "Interest" shall mean interest at the rate specified for interest on investments of the Hazardous Substance Superfund established by 26 U.S.C. § 9507, compounded on October 1 of each year, in accordance with 42 U.S.C. § 9607(a). The applicable rate of interest shall be the rate in effect at the time the interest accrues. The rate of interest is subject to change on October 1 of each year.

h. "Paragraph" shall mean a portion of this Settlement Agreement identified by an Arabic numeral or a lower case letter.

i. "Parties" shall mean EPA and Settling Parties.

j. "Section" shall mean a portion of this Settlement Agreement identified by a roman numeral.

k. "Settling Parties" shall mean Clayton T. Tullos and Big Bend Used Oil, Inc.

l. "Site" shall mean the Davis Refining Superfund Site, encompassing approximately 7.38 acres, located at 2606 Springhill Road, Tallahassee, Leon County, Florida

m. "United States" shall mean the United States of America, including its departments, agencies, and instrumentalities.

## **VI. PAYMENT OF RESPONSE COSTS**

12. Within 30 days after the Effective Date of this Settlement Agreement as defined by Paragraph 32, Settling Parties shall pay to the EPA Hazardous Substance Superfund a sum of Two Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents (\$2,000.00). Payment shall be made by certified or cashier's check made payable to "EPA Hazardous Substance Superfund." The check, or a letter accompanying the check, shall reference the name and address of Settling Parties, the Site name, the EPA Region and Site/Spill ID # A4J9, and the EPA docket number for this action, and shall be sent to:

*If sending via U.S. Mail:*

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Superfund Payments - Region 4  
Cincinnati Finance Center  
P.O. Box 979076  
St. Louis, MO 63197-9000

If sending via Wire Transfer:

Wire transfers should be directed to the Federal Reserve Bank of New York

Federal Reserve Bank of New York

ABA = 021030004

Account = 68010727

SWIFT address = FRNYUS33

33 Liberty Street

New York, NY 10045

Field Tag 4200 of the Fedwire message should read "D 68010727 Environmental Protection Agency"

At the time of payment, Settling Parties shall also send notice that payment has been made to EPA in accordance with Section XIV (Notices and Submissions). Such notice shall reference the EPA Region and Site/Spill ID # A4J9 and the EPA docket number for this action.

13. The total amount to be paid by Settling Parties pursuant to Paragraph 12 shall be deposited by EPA in the EPA Hazardous Substance Superfund.

**VII. FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT**

14. Interest on Late Payments. If Settling Parties fail to make any payment required by Paragraph 12 by the required due date, Interest shall accrue on the unpaid balance through the date of payment.

15. Stipulated Penalty.

a. If any amounts due under Paragraph 12 are not paid by the required date, Settling Parties shall be in violation of this Settlement Agreement and shall pay to EPA, as a stipulated penalty, in addition to the Interest required by Paragraph 14, \$100.00 per violation per day that such payment is late.

b. Stipulated penalties are due and payable within 30 days of the date of demand for payment of the penalties by EPA. All payments to EPA under this Paragraph shall be identified as "stipulated penalties" and shall be made by certified or cashier's check made payable to "EPA Hazardous Substance Superfund." The check, or a letter accompanying the check, shall reference the name and address of Settling Parties, the Site name, the EPA Region and Site/Spill ID # A4J9, and the EPA docket number for this action, and shall be sent to the addresses listed in Paragraph 12 above.

c. At the time of each payment, Settling Parties shall send notice that such payment has been made to EPA in accordance with Section XIV (Notices and Submissions). Such notice shall identify the Region and Site-Spill ID # A4J9 and the EPA Docket Number for this action.

d. Penalties shall accrue as provided above regardless of whether EPA has notified Settling Parties of the violation or made a demand for payment, but need only be paid upon demand. All penalties shall begin to accrue on the day after payment is due and shall continue to accrue through the date of payment. Nothing herein shall prevent the simultaneous accrual of separate penalties for separate violations of this Settlement Agreement.

16. In addition to the Interest and Stipulated Penalty payments required by this Section and any other remedies or sanctions available to the United States by virtue of Settling Parties' failure to comply with the requirements of this Settlement Agreement, if Settling Parties fail or refuse to comply with any term or condition of this Settlement Agreement, it shall be subject to enforcement action pursuant to Section 122(h)(3) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9622(h)(3). If the United States brings an action to enforce this Settlement Agreement, Settling Parties shall reimburse the United States for all costs of such action, including but not limited to costs of attorney time.

17. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Section, EPA may, in its unreviewable discretion, waive payment of any portion of the stipulated penalties that have accrued pursuant to this Settlement Agreement. Settling Parties' payment of stipulated penalties shall not excuse Settling Parties from payment as required by Paragraph 12 or from performance of any other requirements of this Settlement Agreement.

#### **VIII. COVENANT NOT TO SUE BY EPA**

18. Except as specifically provided in Section IX (Reservations of Rights by EPA), EPA covenants not to sue or to take administrative action against Settling Parties pursuant to Sections 106 and 107(a) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 9606 and 9607(a), with regard to the Site. With respect to present and future liability, this covenant shall take effect upon receipt by EPA of all amounts required by Section VI (Payment of Response Costs) and any amount due under Section VII (Failure to Comply with Settlement Agreement). This covenant not to sue is conditioned upon the satisfactory performance by Settling Parties of their obligations under this Settlement Agreement. This covenant not to sue is also conditioned upon the veracity and completeness of the Financial Information and insurance information provided to EPA by Settling Parties. If the Financial Information or insurance information is subsequently determined by EPA to be false or, in any material respect, inaccurate, Settling Parties shall forfeit all payments made pursuant to this Settlement Agreement and the covenant not to sue shall be null and void. Such forfeiture shall not constitute liquidated damages and shall not in any way foreclose EPA's right to pursue any other causes of action arising from Settling Parties' false or materially inaccurate

information. This covenant not to sue extends only to Settling Parties and does not extend to any other person.

### **IX. RESERVATIONS OF RIGHTS BY EPA**

19. EPA reserves, and this Settlement Agreement is without prejudice to, all rights against Settling Parties with respect to all matters not expressly included within the Covenant Not to Sue by EPA in Paragraph 18. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Settlement Agreement, EPA reserves all rights against Settling Parties with respect to:

- a. liability for failure of Settling Parties to meet a requirement of this Settlement Agreement;
- b. criminal liability;
- c. liability for damages for injury to, destruction of, or loss of natural resources, and for the costs of any natural resource damage assessments;
- d. liability arising from the past, present, or future disposal, release or threat of release of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant outside of the Site.

20. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Settlement Agreement, EPA reserves, and this Settlement Agreement is without prejudice to, the right to reinstitute or reopen this action, or to commence a new action seeking relief other than as provided in this Settlement Agreement, if the Financial Information provided by Settling Parties, or the financial certification made by Settling Parties in Paragraph 28, is false or, in any material respect, inaccurate.

21. Nothing in this Settlement Agreement is intended to be nor shall it be construed as a release, covenant not to sue, or compromise of any claim or cause of action, administrative or judicial, civil or criminal, past or future, in law or in equity, which EPA may have against any person, firm, corporation or other entity not a signatory to this Settlement Agreement.

### **X. COVENANT NOT TO SUE BY SETTLING PARTY**

22. Settling Parties agree not to assert any claims or causes of action against the United States, or its contractors or employees, with respect to the Site or this Settlement Agreement, including but not limited to:

- a. any direct or indirect claim for reimbursement from the EPA Hazardous Substance Superfund established by 26 U.S.C. § 9507, based on Sections 106(b)(2), 107, 111, 112, or 113 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 9606(b)(2), 9607, 9611, 9612, or 9613, or any other provision of law;

b. any claim arising out of response actions at or in connection with the Site, including any claim under the United States Constitution, the Florida Constitution, the Tucker Act, 28 U.S.C. § 1491, the Equal Access to Justice Act, 28 U.S.C. § 2412, as amended, or at common law; or

c. any claim against the United States pursuant to Sections 107 and 113 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 9607 and 9613, relating to the Site.

Except as provided in Paragraph 24 (Waiver of Claims) and Paragraph 27 (Waiver of Claim-Splitting Defenses), these covenants not to sue shall not apply in the event the United States brings a cause of action or issues an order pursuant to the reservations set forth in Paragraph 19(c) - (d), but only to the extent that Settling Parties' claims arise from the same response action or response costs that the United States is seeking pursuant to the applicable reservation.

23. Nothing in this Settlement Agreement shall be deemed to constitute approval or preauthorization of a claim within the meaning of Section 111 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9611, or 40 C.F.R. 300.700(d).

24. Settling Parties agree not to assert any claims or causes of action that they may have for all matters relating to the Site, including for contribution, against any other person. This waiver shall not apply with respect to any defense, claim, or cause of action that a Settling Parties may have against any person if such person asserts a claim or cause of action relating to the Site against such Settling Parties.

#### **XI. EFFECT OF SETTLEMENT/CONTRIBUTION**

25. Except as provided in Paragraph 24, nothing in this Settlement Agreement shall be construed to create any rights in, or grant any cause of action to, any person not a Party to this Settlement Agreement. EPA reserves any and all rights (including, but not limited to, any right to contribution), defenses, claims, demands, and causes of action that it may have with respect to any matter, transaction, or occurrence relating in any way to the Site against any person not a Party hereto. Nothing in this Settlement Agreement diminishes the right of the United States pursuant to Section 113(f)(2) and (3) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9613(f)(2)-(3), to pursue any such persons to obtain additional response costs or response action and to enter into settlements that give rise to contribution protection pursuant to Section 113(f)(2).

26. The Parties agree that this Settlement Agreement constitutes an administrative settlement for purposes of Section 113(f)(2) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9613(f)(2), and that Settling Parties are entitled, as of the Effective Date, to protection from contribution actions or claims as provided by Sections 113(f)(2) and 122(h)(4) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 9613(f)(2) and 9622(h)(4), for "matters addressed" in this Settlement Agreement. The "matters addressed" in this Settlement Agreement are all response actions taken or to be taken and all response costs incurred or to be incurred, at or in connection with the Site, by the United States. The "matters



addressed" in this Settlement Agreement do not include those response costs or response actions as to which EPA has reserved its rights under this Settlement Agreement (except for claims for failure to comply with this Settlement Agreement), in the event that EPA asserts rights against Settling Parties coming within the scope of such reservations. In the event that a Settling Party's waiver of claims becomes inapplicable in accordance with Paragraph 24, the Parties further agree that this Settlement Agreement constitutes an administrative settlement pursuant to which Settling Parties have resolved their liability to the United States, as of the Effective Date, for purposes of Section 113(f)(3)(B) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9613(f)(3)(B), for "matters addressed" as defined above.

27. In any subsequent administrative or judicial proceeding initiated by the United States for injunctive relief, recovery of response costs, or other relief relating to the Site, Settling Parties shall not assert, and may not maintain, any defense or claim based upon the principles of waiver, *res judicata*, collateral estoppel, issue preclusion, claim-splitting, or other defenses based upon any contention that the claims raised by the United States in the subsequent proceeding were or should have been addressed in this Settlement Agreement; provided, however, that nothing in this Paragraph affects the enforceability of the Covenant Not to Sue by EPA set forth in Section VIII.

## **XII. CERTIFICATION**

28. Settling Parties hereby certify that, to the best of their knowledge and belief, after thorough inquiry, they have:

a. not altered, mutilated, discarded, destroyed or otherwise disposed of any records, reports, or information relating to their potential liability regarding the Site since notification of potential liability by the United States or the State of Florida or the filing of a suit against them regarding the Site and that they have fully complied with any and all EPA requests for documents or information regarding the Site and Settling Parties' financial circumstances

pursuant to Sections 104(e) and 122(e) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 9604(e) and 9622(e), or Section 3007 of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6927;

b. submitted to EPA Financial Information that fairly, accurately, and materially sets forth its financial circumstances, and that those circumstances have not materially changed between the time the Financial Information was submitted to EPA and the time Settling Parties execute this Settlement Agreement; and

c. fully disclosed the existence of any insurance policies that may cover claims relating to cleanup of the Site, and have submitted all available insurance information, including all available policies and other information relative to insurance coverage of claims relating to cleanup of the Site;

d. made a reasonable inquiry and determined that they have no insurance that is likely to provide coverage for the response costs at issue in this civil action; and

e. not received any insurance proceeds relative to the Site, nor do any of the Settling Parties anticipate submitting any insurance claims or recovering any insurance proceeds in the future relative to claims of environmental liability at the Site.

### **XIII. NOTICES AND SUBMISSIONS**

29. Whenever, under the terms of this Settlement Agreement, notice is required to be given or a document is required to be sent by one Party to another, it shall be directed to the individuals at the addresses specified below, unless those individuals or their successors give notice of a change to the other Party in writing. Written notice as specified herein shall constitute complete satisfaction of any written notice requirement of this Settlement Agreement with respect to EPA and Settling Parties.

#### **As to EPA:**

Lisa Ellis  
Office of Environmental Accountability - 13<sup>th</sup> floor  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Region 4  
61 Forsyth Street, SW  
Atlanta, GA 30303

and

Paula V. Painter  
Environmental Protection Specialist  
SEIMB, Superfund Division  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Region 4  
61 Forsyth Street, SW  
Atlanta, GA 30303

#### **As to Settling Party:**

Clayton T. Tullos  
Big Bend Used Oil, Inc.  
c/o William E. Bubsey, Esq.  
McCord, Bubsey & Ketchum. LLP  
210 South Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32301

#### **XIV. INTEGRATION/APPENDICES**

30. This Settlement Agreement and its appendices constitute the final, complete and exclusive agreement and understanding between the Parties with respect to the settlement embodied in this Settlement Agreement. The Parties acknowledge that there are no representations, agreements, or understandings relating to the settlement other than those expressly contained in this Settlement Agreement. The following appendices are attached to and incorporated into this Settlement Agreement:

Appendix A is a list of the financial documents submitted to EPA by Settling Parties for purposes of reducing Settling Parties' financial liability for response costs spent at the Site due to hardship and an inability to pay.

#### **XV. PUBLIC COMMENT**

31. This Settlement Agreement shall be subject to a public comment period of not less than 30 days pursuant to Section 122(i) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9622(i). In accordance with Section 122(i)(3) of CERCLA, the United States may modify or withdraw its consent to this Settlement Agreement if comments received disclose facts or considerations which indicate that this Settlement Agreement is inappropriate, improper, or inadequate.

#### **XVI. EFFECTIVE DATE**

32. The Effective Date of this Settlement Agreement shall be the date upon which EPA issues written notice that the public comment period pursuant to Paragraph 31 has closed and that comments received, if any, do not require modification of or withdrawal by the United States from this Settlement Agreement.

IT IS SO AGREED:

Settling Parties

By: Clayton T. Tullos  
Clayton T. Tullos

3-3-09  
Date

By: Clayton T. Tullos  
Big Bend Used Oil, Inc.

3-3-09  
Date

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

By: Anita L. Davis  
Anita L. Davis, Chief

6/9/09  
Date

Superfund Enforcement and Information Management Branch  
Superfund Division  
Region 4  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

By: Ellen M. Mahan  
Ellen M. Mahan  
Deputy Chief, EES  
Environment and Natural Resources Division

6/9/09  
Date

Esperanza Anderson  
Esperanza Anderson  
Trial Attorney  
Environmental Enforcement Section  
Environment and Natural Resources Division

6/9/09  
Date