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94-10-14

OVER 160 PARTIES AGREE TO PAY FOR CLEANUP AT PSC RESOURCES, INC. SUPERFUND SITE

Boston - The EPA, the Department of Justice, and the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office announced today that 165 parties have agreed to pay over \$6 million to cover past costs and the cost of cleaning up the PSC Resources, Inc. Superfund Site in Palmer, Mass. This innovative agreement will expedite cleanup of the site and reduce transaction costs.

"This settlement is a fine example of what can happen when we apply common sense to our common problems," said John DeVillars, regional administrator for EPA-New England. "By coming to the table, we've minimized two of the difficulties involved in the cleanup of Superfund sites. First, by speeding up the process, the community will reap the benefits of a clean environment much sooner. And second, we've eliminated pointless transaction costs to small parties. This agreement makes great sense for both the environment and the economy."

Eleven performing settling defendants, along with six Federal agencies, agreed to repay most of EPA's and the Commonwealth's past response costs. In addition, the New Jersey Department of Transportation, and at least 143 de minimis parties have joined the settlement and have agreed to pay their share of the cleanup costs.

This settlement, lodged today in the Federal District Court for the District of Massachusetts, also includes a creative settlement mechanism to maximize the number of small parties involved in this settlement which will limit transaction costs. The new approach saved these small parties costs that otherwise would have been incurred during third party contribution litigation.

"The negotiation of today's settlement shows how government and the private sector can work in partnership to accept responsibility and promptly clean-up hazardous wastes," said Lois J. Schiffer, U.S. Assistan Attorney General for Environment and Natural Resources. "It is also a victory for the Administration's efforts to cut litigation costs for smaller parties to Superfund cases."

"The cleanup of hazardous waste at this site will reduce future risks to the environment in Palmer," said Massachusetts Attorney General Scott Harshbarger. "In this settlement, the defendants have agreed to pay for the costs of the cleanup, at no cost to the taxpayer. The cleanup of the Superfund sites is a top priority for this office."

"We are pleased that all the parties have stepped up to the plate in this matter," said Secretary of MA Environmental Affairs Trudy Coxe, "and we now can move on to the actual cleanup of the site."

The settling parties will pay for the entire cost of the cleanup, estimated to be \$3.4 million in the 1992 Record of Decision. They have also agreed to pay approximately \$3.2 million dollars for past costs. Moreover, the settling parties will repay 100 percent of the first \$500,000 of the governments' oversight costs as well as 50 percent of oversight costs above this amount.

The cleanup plan will prevent the further spread of hazardous wastes into the environment. The plan will include the following: (1) decontamination, demolition and disposal of property structures, (2) treatment and discharge of lagoon surface water, (3) stabilization and solidification of property soils and sediments, (4) construction of a permeable cap, a two-foot layer of sand and gravel overlain by 12 inches of soil, over the stabilized soils and sediments, and (5) ground water monitoring. Design of the cleanup plan has already begun and will take approximately a year and a half.

After filing of the complaint and the Consent Decree, notice will be published in the Federal Register. After a 30-day comment period, the settlement, if approved by the court, will become final. The settling parties are listed on the attached pages.

Performing Settling Defendants

American Annuity Group, Inc.
American Optical Corporation
Easco Hand Tools, Inc.
Hasbro, Inc.
Monsanto Company
Parker-Hannifin Corporation
Sears, Roebuck and Co.
Smith & Wesson Corp.
TRW Inc.
The Uniroyal Goodrich Tire Company
Zecco, Inc.

Federal Agencies

United States General Services Administration United States Air Force United States Army United States Coast Guard United States Navy United States Postal Service

PSC RESOURCES DE MINIMIS SETTLING DEFENDANTS

AMF Reece, Inc. A.R. Sandri, Inc. American Airlines American Saw & Manufacturing Company Town of Amherst Amherst-Pelham Regional School District Avery Dennison Corp. Balise Motor Sales Company Bancroft Motors, Inc. Bedard Bros. Auto Sales Berkshire Industries, Inc. Boch Oldsmobile, Inc. Boch Toyota, Inc. Boston Edison Bridgestone/Firestone, Inc. Butler Automatic Inc. Central Chevrolet, Inc. Central Motors, Inc. Chevron U.S. A., Inc. Clark & White, Inc. Coca-Cola Bottling Co. of New York Community Service Stations, Inc. Connecticut Valley Artesian Well Co., Inc. Coombs Motor Company Cooper Industries Cummins North Atlantic, Inc. Town of Dalton Dave Russell Ford Dedham Nissan, Inc.

Dedham Super Service, Inc.

DePalma AMC Jeep Co.

Desjardin Auto

Drake Petroleum Company, Inc.

The duMont Corp.

Edward H. Spencer, Inc.

Energy Retailers, Inc.

Exxon Corporation

Falls Machine Screw Co., Inc.

Foundry Street Garage

Friendly Ice Cream Corp.

GKN North America for Presmet Corp.

City of Gardner

General Dynamics

General Electric Company

The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company

Town of Greenfield

H.P. Hood Inc.

Hertz Corp.

Holmain Investments Ltd.

College of Holy Cross

Houser Buick, Inc.

Housing Associates of Worcester

IMO Industries Inc.

Ingersoll-Rand Company

Jarvis Caster Group

John Glass Ford, Inc.

Johnson Ford-Lincoln-Mercury-Nissan, Inc.

Kimberly-Clark Corp.

Kraft General Foods, Inc.

Laidlaw Transit, Inc.

Lechmere, Inc.

Leicester Die & Tool, Inc.

City of Leominster

Lily Transportation Corp.

Lindberg Heat Treating Co.

Massachusetts Air National Guard

Massachusetts Army National Guard

Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority

Massachusetts Department of Highways

Massachusetts Department of Mental

Retardation for Belchertown School

Massachusetts Department of State Police

Massachusetts Port Authority

Massachusetts Turnpike Authority

Massachusetts Water Resources Authority

University of Massachusetts

Marane Oil Corp.

Town of Medfield

Metropolitan District Commission

Milbury Motor Company, Inc.

Morgan Construction Co.

New England Door Closer, Inc.

New England Power Company

New England Telephone Norton Company Orr Cadillac-Pontiac, Inc. Package Machine Company Parts Fours, Inc. Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical High School District Pepsi-Cola Metropolitan Bottling Co., Inc. Pete's Chrysler Plymouth-Subaru, Inc. Pioneer Valley Sales & Services, Inc. Plastican, Inc. Plymouth Rock Transportation Corp. Premark International, Inc. Proctor & Gamble Manufacturing Co. Protano's Service Station Quamco, Inc. RHI Holdings, Inc. Ragsdale Chevrolet, Inc. Raytheon Company The Republican Company Roadway Express, Inc. Roy Bros., Inc. Ryder Truck Rental S.J. McNeilly Oldsmobile, Inc.

Salamone Toyota Sarat Ford Sales, Inc. Schultz Lubricants, Inc. Schmidt Equipment, Inc. Seneca Foods Sherman Oil Company Signature Flight Support Corporation Spartan Saw Works, Inc. Sunnyside Motor Company TNT Red Star Express, Inc. Texaco, Inc. Textron Inc. Tom Connelly Pontiac, Inc. Transportation Leasing Co. Tyler Equip., Corp. U.S. Tsubaki, Inc. Unisorb United Parcel Services, Inc. United Technologies Corporation United Technologies Automotive, Inc. Van Brode Group, Inc. Varney's Garage, Inc. Walden Industrial Supply Co., Inc. Walter C. Cranston & Son, Inc. Warner & Swasey Company Waste Management of Massachusetts, Inc. Town of West Springfield City of Westfield Westfield Coatings Corp. Westinghouse Electric Corp.

Town of Weston Witco Corp Woolworth Corporation City of Worcester Worcester Polytechnic Institute Wyman-Gordan Company Zero Corporation

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