

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

Office of General Counsel, Region 4

1130 North Westcott Road, Schenectady, New York 12306-2014

Phone: (518) 357-2048 • Fax: (518) 357-2087

Website: www.dec.ny.gov



Joe Martens
Commissioner

CERTIFIED - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

7011 1570 0003 0363 3727

September 27, 2013

Doninick Buonavolonta
Polar Bear Trucking, Inc.
50 Industrial PL
Middletown, NY 10940

Re: Order on Consent
R4-2013-0709-93

Dear Mr. Buonavolonta:

Enclosed please find a copy of the fully executed Order on Consent referenced above.

This will also acknowledge receipt of \$6000 the civil penalty pursuant to Paragraph I.

Sincerely,

Karen S. Lavery
Assistant Regional Attorney
Region 4

Enclosure

cc: G. McPherson

STATE OF NEW YORK
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

In the Matter of Violations
of Environmental Conservation Law,
Article 19

Order on Consent
File No. R4-2013-0709-93

-by-

Polar Bear Trucking, Inc.
50 Industrial Pl
Middletown, NY 10940

Respondent

WHEREAS:

1. New York State Department of Environmental Conservation ("Department") has administrative jurisdiction to safeguard the air resources of the state pursuant to ECL Article 19.
2. Respondent, Polar Bear Trucking, Inc. owns/operates a New York-based trucking company that hauls bulk petroleum and is located at 50 Industrial Pl, Middletown, New York.
3. On July 1, 2013, Respondent delivered fuel to the gas station located at Shoprite Supermarkets, Inc. located at 1730 Central Ave, Colonie, New York ("site").

First Violation

4. On July 1, 2013, Department staff observed that the fuel truck=s Stage I vapor return line was not connected as the gasoline product was being unloaded.
5. Regulations at 6 NYCRR 230.2 (f)(4) require that "*owners and/or operators of gasoline storage tanks, gasoline transport vehicles and gasoline dispensing sites subject to stage I and/or stage II vapor collection or vapor control system requirements must:... connect and ensure proper operation of the stage I and/or stage II vapor collection and control systems whenever gasoline is being loaded, unloaded or dispensed.*"
6. Respondent violated regulations at 6 NYCRR 230.2 (f)(4) by failing to connect the vapor return line while unloading gasoline product.

Second and Third Violations

7. On July 1, 2013, Department staff observed Respondent's fuel truck with a placard showing that a passing vapor pressure test occurred December of 2012. The driver provided paperwork showing that the vapor pressure test for the tanker was performed and passed on January 4, 2013.

8. Regulations at 6 NYCRR 230.6(b) provide that “*a copy of the most recent pressure-vacuum test results, in a form acceptable to the commissioner, must be kept with the gasoline transport vehicle.*”

9. Regulations at 6 NYCRR 230.4(a)(3) “*no owner or operator of a gasoline transport vehicle subject to this Part will allow said vehicle to be filled or emptied unless the gasoline transport vehicle displays a marking, near the U.S. Department of Transportation certificate plate, in letters and numerals at least two inches high, which reads: NYS DEC and the date on which the gasoline transport vehicle was last tested.*”

10. Respondent violated regulations at 6 NYCRR 230.6(b) and 6 NYCRR 230.4(a)(3) as a result of the discrepancy between the passing vapor pressure test on the fuel truck’s placard and the paperwork provided by the driver.

Civil Penalty

11. ECL Section 71-2103(1) provides that: “...” *any person who violates any provision of article nineteen or any code, rule or regulation which was promulgated pursuant thereto;... shall be liable, in the case of a first violation, for a penalty not less than three hundred seventy-five dollars nor more than fifteen thousand dollars for said violation and an additional penalty of not to exceed fifteen thousand dollars for each day during which such violation continues. In addition thereto, such person may be enjoined from continuing such violation as hereinafter provided.*”

Waiver of Hearing

12. Respondent has affirmatively waived its right to notice and hearing in the manner provided by law, and have consented to the issuing and entering of this Order and agrees to be bound by the terms, provisions and conditions contained herein.

NOW, having considered this matter and being duly advised, it is **ORDERED** that:

I. With respect to the aforesaid alleged violation, a civil penalty in the amount of TEN THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$10,000) is hereby assessed against the Respondent of which SIX THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$6,000) shall be payable to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation by money order, or certified check at the time this Order is signed, notarized and returned to the Department.

The balance (\$4,000) shall be suspended so long as Respondent shall comply with the Schedule of Compliance.

In the event that Respondent fails to comply with the requirements of this Order the entire suspended portion of the penalty shall become due and payable upon written notice to Respondent without prejudicing the Department from seeking further appropriate penalties for violations of this Order by Respondent.

II. Pursuant to ECL Section 71-0301, the Commissioner specifically reserves the right to exercise summary abatement authority.

III. This Order is binding upon the Respondent, its agents, employees, successors, assigns and to all persons and firms, and corporations acting subordinate thereto.

IV. No change or modification to this Order shall be made or be effective except as may be specifically set forth in writing by the Commissioner or Regional Director. Such application shall be made to the Regional Director.

V. For the purpose of insuring compliance with this Order, duly authorized representatives of this Department shall be permitted access to the site in question in order to inspect and/or require such tests as may be deemed necessary to determine the status of Respondent's compliance herewith.

VI. The effective date of this Order shall be the date upon which it is signed on behalf of the Department.

VII. Respondent shall indemnify and hold the Department, the State of New York, and their representatives and employees harmless for all claims, suits, actions, damages and costs of every name and description arising out of or resulting from the fulfillment or attempted fulfillment of the provisions hereof by Respondent, its employees, its servants, its agents, its successors or its assigns.

VIII. Except as specifically provided in this Order, nothing contained in this Order shall be construed as barring, diminishing, adjudicating or in any way affecting:

A. Any legal or equitable rights or claims, actions, proceedings, suits, causes of action or demands whatsoever that the State may have against Respondent for any other violations of the ECL, rules or regulations promulgated thereunder or permits issued thereunder;

B. Any legal or equitable rights or claims, actions, proceedings, suits, causes of action or demands whatsoever that the State may have against anyone other than Respondent, its agents, its servants, its employees, its successors and its assigns;

C. Whatever right the Department has to bring any action or proceeding against Respondent and/or any of Respondent's employees, servants, agents, successors, and assigns with respect to claims for natural resource damages; and

D. Respondent's right to assert all available defenses to any claims, actions, proceedings, suits, causes of actions or demands made or commenced by the State or the Department provided, however, that Respondent waives all legal or equitable rights claims, actions, proceedings, appeals, suits, causes of action, defenses or demands whatsoever that it may have to a judicial review of the validity and binding effect of this Order and whether or not this Order has been entered into voluntarily by Respondent.

IX. Compliance with the terms and conditions of this Order shall be in full civil settlement of the violations alleged in this Order.

X. Whenever the Department's approval of a submittal under the terms of this Order is required, the Department shall review such submittal to determine whether it was prepared, and whether the work done to generate the data and other information in the submittal was done, in accordance with this Order and applicable state and federal regulations and laws and generally accepted technical and scientific principles. The Department shall notify Respondent in writing of its approval or disapproval of the submittal. All Department-approved submittals shall be incorporated into and become an enforceable part of Order.

(1) If the Department disapproves a submittal, its notice shall specify the reasons for disapproval. Respondent shall make a revised submittal to the Department within twenty (20) days after receiving written notice of disapproval that specifically addresses all of the Department's stated reasons for disapproving the first submittal.

(2) After receipt of the revised submittal from Respondent, the Department shall notify Respondent in writing of its approval or disapproval. If the Department approves the revised submittal, it shall be incorporated into and become an enforceable part of this Order. If the Department disapproves the revised submittal, it shall notify the Respondent in writing and specify its reasons. This shall be considered a violation of the Order. The Respondent reserves its right to contest the alleged violation.

XI. If more than one Respondent is a signatory to this Order, use of the term "Respondent" in this Order shall be deemed to refer to each Respondent identified in the Order.

DATED: 7/27, 2013
Rotterdam, New York

Joseph J. Martens
Commissioner
New York State Department of
Environmental Conservation

BY:

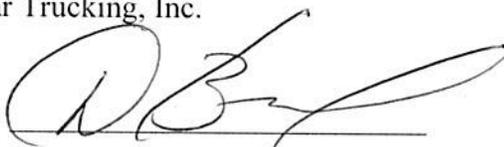


Eugene J. Kelly
Regional Director
Region 4

CONSENT BY RESPONDENT

Respondent hereby consents to the issuing and entering of this Order, waives its right to notice and hearing herein and agrees to be bound by the provisions, terms and conditions contained herein.

Polar Bear Trucking, Inc.

SIGNED: 

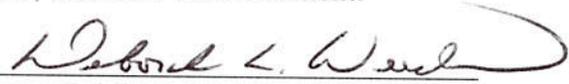
TITLE: GENERAL MANAGER

DATE: 9-23-2013

STATE OF New York)

COUNTY OF Orange) ss.:

On the 23rd day of September in the year 2013 before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for the State, personally appeared Dominick Buonsaluto, personally known to me or proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the individual whose name is subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he executed the same in his capacity, and that by his signature on the instrument, the individual, or the person upon behalf of which the individual acted, executed the instrument.



Notary Public
Qualified in the County of: Orange
My Commission Expires:

DEBORAH L. WEIDEN
Notary Public, #4899804
of New York, County of Orange
Commission Expires 07/06/15

SCHEDULE OF COMPLIANCE

1. Respondent shall immediately, upon receipt of this Order, inform all gasoline transport vehicle drivers employed at Polar Bear Trucking, Inc., to properly connect Stage 1 vapor collection devices, as described in 6 NYCRR 230.2(f)(4), at all times gasoline is being delivered.
2. Within 30 days of the effective date of this Order, Respondent shall insure that the most recent pressure-vacuum test results are kept with the gasoline transport vehicle at all times.
3. Within 45 days of the effective date of this Order, Respondent shall submit to the Department, a copy of its training plan and all other programs undertaken to ensure compliance with 6 NYCRR Part 230.