

STATE OF NEW YORK
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

In the Matter of the Violations
of the Environmental Conservation Law
("ECL") Article 33 and
Title 6, Part 325 of the Official
Compilation of Codes, Rules and
Regulations of the State of
New York ("6 NYCRR"),

- by -

ORDER ON CONSENT
File No. R4-2009-0703-113

Albany Country Club
301 Wormer Road
Voorhesville, NY 12186

Respondent

WHEREAS:

1. The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) is the State agency with jurisdiction over the environmental law and policy of the State pursuant to §3-301 of the Environmental Conservation Law (ECL), among other authorities. In particular, DEC is and has been responsible for the regulation of the use, and for the enforcement of the provisions of law governing the use of pesticides in the State, pursuant to ECL Article 33 and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder at Title 6 of the Official Compilation of Codes, Rules and Regulations of the State of New York (6 NYCRR), Part 325.
2. Respondent, Albany Country Club, 301 Wormer Road, Voorhesville, New York, owns and operates a golf course ("facility").
3. Respondent is a person as defined in ECL §33-0101 (33).
4. On June 17, 2009, Department staff conducted an inspection of the facility and observed one of Respondent's agents applying pesticides.

First Violation

5. At the time of the June 17, 2009 inspection, the applicator did not have a copy of the pesticide label in his possession while he was applying the product.

6. Regulations at 6 NYCRR Part 325.2 (d) provide that “*during pesticide use, the certified applicator, certified technician or commercial pesticide apprentice must have in their custody a copy of the label for each pesticide being used. The certified applicator, certified technician or commercial pesticide apprentice must make each label available for inspection upon request of the department.*”

7. Respondent violated regulations at 6 NYCRR 325.2 (d) by the applicator’s failure to have a copy of the pesticide label, for the pesticide that he was applying, in his possession at the time that he was applying the product.

Second Violation

8. At the time of the June 17, 2009 inspection, Respondent was unable to produce training records for his employees as apprentices.

9. Regulations at 6 NYCRR 325.10 (a) provide that:

(a) Each individual engaged in the commercial application of pesticides who is not a certified applicator or technician is considered a pesticide apprentice. An apprentice must be at least 16 years of age. An apprentice is required to receive 40 hours of pesticide use experience under the supervision of a certified applicator and receive a minimum of 8 hours of instruction on the requirements in section 325.18 of this Part, before such apprentice can apply general use pesticides under the off-site direct supervision of a certified applicator. It is the responsibility of the certified pesticide applicator or registered business to determine and so state that an apprentice is competent to perform applications.

(b) For specific applications that are infrequent and narrow in scope, and where there is little risk associated with the application, a certified commercial pesticide applicator may request, and the department may approve on a case-by-case basis, amended training requirements for such special circumstances.

(c) Documentation that a certified commercial pesticide applicator observed and instructed the apprentice as required in subdivision 325.10(a) of this Part must be maintained by the certified commercial pesticide applicator or registered business for three years. Such documentation must be made available to the department upon request. Documentation must include the following:

(1) name and address of apprentice;

(2) date(s) of instruction or observation;

(3) content of training and certification category;

(4) instructor's name and certification identification number; and

(5) an evaluation concluding that the apprentice is competent to perform pesticide applications.

(d) A copy of the documentation required in paragraph 325.10(c) of this Part must be made available to the apprentice if requested.

10. Respondent violated regulations at 6 NYCRR 325.10 (a) by failing to maintain apprentice training records/documentation for employees who were trained as apprentices.

Civil Penalty

11. Regulations at ECL § 71-2901 (1) provide, *inter alia*, that “any person who violates any provisions of Article 33 of that chapter, or any rule, regulation or order issued thereunder, shall be liable for a civil penalty not to exceed \$5,000 for a first violation, and an additional penalty of up to \$10,000 for each subsequent violation.”

Waiver of Hearing

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

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

I. With respect to the aforesaid violations, a civil penalty in the amount of FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS(\$500) is hereby assessed against the Respondent. Payment of the civil penalty is due upon the return of a signed and notarized copy of this Order to the Department. The civil penalty shall be paid by certified or bank check made payable to the NYS DEC.

II. The provisions of this Order shall be deemed to bind Respondent, its agents, employees, and all persons, firms, corporations acting under or for them.

III. The terms of this Order shall not be construed to prohibit the Commissioner or his duly authorized representative from exercising any summary abatement powers, either at common law or as granted pursuant to statute or regulation.

IV. Respondent shall indemnify and hold harmless the Department, the State of New York, and his representatives and employees 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, his directors, officers, employees, servants, agents, successors or assigns.

V. No change in this Order shall be made or become effective except as set forth by a written order of the Commissioner or the Commissioner’s designee.

VI. Respondent shall allow duly authorized representatives of the DEC access to the site without proper notice, at such times as may be desirable or necessary in order for the DEC to inspect and determine the status of Respondent’s compliance with this Order, the ECL and regulations promulgated thereunder.

VII. The Schedule of Compliance is incorporated into the Order and is enforceable thereunder.

VIII. All communications except where otherwise specifically directed should be sent to:

For Department:
Regional Pesticide Specialist
New York State Department
of Environmental Conservation
Region 4
1130 N. Westcott Road
Schenectady, New York 12306

IX. This Order is deemed effective on the date signed by the Department.

X. 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 Respondents, 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 waive 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.

XI. A. 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 plans and reports shall be incorporated into and become an enforceable part of this Order.

B. 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 thirty (30) 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. The Department reserves its right to take whatever action it deems necessary after the second disapproval of a submittal.

XII. Compliance with the terms and conditions of this Order, including the Schedule of Compliance, shall be in full civil settlement of the violations alleged in this Order.

DATED: _____, 2009
Rotterdam, New York

Alexander B. Grannis
Commissioner
New York State Department of
Environmental Conservation

BY:

Eugene J. Kelly
Regional Director
Region 4

CONSENT BY RESPONDENT
Albany Country Club

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

BY: _____ TITLE: _____

STATE OF NEW YORK)
) ss.:
COUNTY OF _____)

On the ____ day of _____ in the year 200__, before me, the undersigned,
personally appeared _____,
(Full name)

personally known to me who, being duly sworn, did depose and say that he/she/they reside at

(Full mailing address)

and that he/she/they is (are) the _____
(President or other officer or director or attorney in fact duly appointed)
of the _____
(Full legal name of corporation)

the corporation described in and which executed the above instrument; and that he/she/they signed his/her/their name(s) thereto by the authority of the board of directors of said corporation.

Notary Public, State of New York

SCHEDULE OF COMPLIANCE

1. Respondent shall immediately begin documenting apprentice training records and submit to the Department for review, a copy of those records.