

**NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION**

Office of General Counsel, Region 4  
1130 North Westcott Road, Schenectady, NY 12306-2014  
P: (518) 357-2048 | F: (518) 357-2087  
www.dec.ny.gov

CERTIFIED - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED  
7015 0640 0000 2327 0315

November 2, 2015

Thomas D. O' Connor  
Mohawk Fine Papers Inc.  
465 Saratoga Street  
Cohoes, NY 12047

Re: Order of Consent  
R4-2015-0918-112

Dear Mr. O' Connor:

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

This will also acknowledge receipt of \$2,750 the civil penalty pursuant to Paragraph I.

Sincerely,



Karen S. Lavery  
Assistant Regional Attorney  
Region 4

Enclosure

cc: M. Barrie



Department of  
Environmental  
Conservation

**STATE OF NEW YORK  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION**

---

In the Matter of the Alleged  
Violations of Article 17 of the  
Environmental Conservation Law  
and Title 6 of the Official  
Compilation of Codes,  
Rules and Regulations of  
the State of New York,

Order on Consent  
R4-2015-0918-112

- by-

Mohawk Fine Papers Inc.  
465 Saratoga Street  
Cohoes, NY 12047

Respondent

---

WHEREAS:

Jurisdiction

1. The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC or Department) is the State agency with jurisdiction over the environmental law and policy of the State pursuant to 3-0301 of the Environmental Conservation Law (ECL). In particular, DEC is and has been responsible for the protection of the water resources of the State, pursuant to ECL Article 17 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 750, et seq.
2. Respondent, Mohawk Fine Papers Inc., owns and operates a paper manufacturer located at 108 Smith Blvd, Albany, NY 12202.
3. Respondent is a "person" as that term is defined at 6 NYCRR 750-1.2(a)(64).
4. The Multi-Sector General Permit ("MSGP") identifies categories of industrial activities consistent with Standard Industrial Classification ("SIC") codes, industrial activity codes, as needing a stormwater permit.
5. This facility is mainly a warehouse where they do not own or perform maintenance on the vehicles. However, they do perform commercial printing at this facility which would require MSGP coverage under Sector X. The primary SIC code is Sector P Land Transportation and Warehousing.
6. Therefore, Respondent failed to have MSGP coverage under Sector X with primary SIC code of Sector P Land Transportation and Warehousing.

### Civil Penalty

7. ECL Section 71-1929 provides for a civil penalty of up to \$37,500 per day for a violation of any provision of Titles 1 through 11 inclusive and title 19 of Article 17, or the rules, regulations, orders or determinations of the Commissioner promulgated thereto. Injunctive relief is also available.

### Waiver of Hearing

8. Respondent affirmatively waives its right to a hearing in the manner provided by law, consents to the issuance and entry of this Order on Consent and agrees to be bound by the terms, provisions, and conditions contained herein.

NOW, being duly advised and having considered this matter, **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:**

#### I. Civil Penalty

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

With respect of the aforesaid alleged violations, a civil penalty in the amount of THREE THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$3,750) of which TWO THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$2,750) 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, ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$1,000), shall be suspended so long as Respondent shall comply with the Schedule of Compliance.

Payment of the above penalties shall not in any way alter Respondent's obligation to complete performance under the terms of this Order.

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. Settlement and Reservation of Rights

A. Upon completion of all obligations created in this Order, this Order settles only all claims for civil and administrative penalties concerning SPDES permit violations that pre-date the effective date of the Order and the violations described in the Motion for Summary Order.

B. Except as provided in Subparagraph III.A of this Order, nothing contained in this Order

shall be construed as barring, diminishing, adjudicating or in any way affecting any of the civil, administrative, or criminal rights of the Department or of the Commissioner or his designee (including, but not limited to, nor exemplified by, the rights to recover natural resources damages and to exercise any summary abatement powers) or authorities with respect to any party, including Respondent.

III. Schedule of Compliance

The attached Schedule of Compliance is incorporated into the Order on Consent.

IV. Force Majeure

Respondent shall not be in default of compliance with this Order if it is unable to comply with any provision of this Order solely because of an action of a national government or court, or an act of nature, war, strike, riot or catastrophe, as to any of which the negligence or willful misconduct of Respondent was not a proximate cause. Respondent shall notify DEC in writing immediately upon obtaining knowledge of any such event. Relief under this clause shall not be available if Respondent fails to timely comply with the notice requirement set out in this paragraph.

V. Communications

All communications required herein shall be made to:

DEC Region 4  
1130 North Westcott Road  
Schenectady, NY 12306  
Attn: Regional Water Engineer

VI. Access

Respondent shall allow duly authorized representatives of DEC and NYC DEP access to the facility referred to in this Order without prior notice, at such times as may be desirable or necessary in order for DEC and NYC DEP to inspect and determine the status of Respondent's compliance with this Order or the ECL.

VII. Indemnification

Respondent shall indemnify and hold DEC, New York State, and their representatives and employees harmless for all claims, suits, 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 directors, officers, employees, servants, agents, successors or assigns.

## VIII. Review of Submittals

1. All documents which Respondent must submit pursuant to this Order are subject to Department approval.
2. The Department shall review each of the submittals Respondent makes pursuant to this Order 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 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 this Order; and Respondent shall implement them in accordance with their respective schedules and terms, as approved.
3.
  - a. If the Department disapproves a submittal, it shall so notify Respondent in writing and shall specify the reasons for its disapproval. Within the time frame set forth in that written notification, Respondent shall make a revised submittal to the Department that addresses and resolves all of the Department's stated reasons for disapproving the first submittal.
  - b. After receipt of the revised submittal, the Department shall notify Respondent in writing of its approval or disapproval. If the revised submission is not approvable as submitted, the Department, at its option, may disapprove it or may approve it on condition that Respondent accept such modifications as may be specified by Department to make it approvable. If Respondent does not accept such modifications, the revised submission will be disapproved. If the Department disapproves the revised submittal, Respondent shall be in violation of this Order. If the Department approves the revised submittal, it shall be incorporated into and become an enforceable part of this Order.
4. Respondent shall modify and/or amplify and expand a submittal upon the Department's direction to do so if the Department determines, as a result of reviewing data generated by an activity required under this Order or as a result of reviewing any other data or facts, that further work is necessary. The Department agrees that any modifications it specifies will be reasonable and consistent with customary engineering standards.

## IX. Binding Effect

The provisions of this Order shall inure to the benefit of and be binding upon the Department and Respondent.

## X. Modification

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.

XI. Entire Order

The provisions of this Order constitute the complete and entire Order issued to the Respondent concerning resolution of the violations identified herein. No term, condition, understanding or agreement purporting to modify or vary any term hereof shall be binding unless made in writing and subscribed by the party to be bound, pursuant to Paragraph X of this Order. No informal oral or written advice, guidance, suggestion or comment by the Department regarding any report, proposal, plan, specification, schedule, comment or statement made or submitted by Respondent shall be construed as relieving Respondent of its obligations to obtain such formal approvals as may be required by this Order.

XII. Effective Date

The effective date of this Order shall be the date it is signed by the Department.

DATED: November 2, 2015  
Rotterdam, New York

Basil Seggos  
Commissioner Designee  
New York State Department of  
Environmental Conservation

BY:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Keith Goertz  
Regional Director  
Region 4

CONSENT BY RESPONDENT

Respondent hereby consents to the issuance and entry of the foregoing Order, waives its rights to a hearing herein as provided by law, and agrees to be bound by the provisions, terms and conditions contained herein.

Mohawk Fine Papers Inc.

BY: R. D. O'Connell

TITLE: Chairman & CEO

DATE: 10/26/15

STATE OF NEW YORK )

)ss.:

COUNTY OF Rensselaer

On the 26 day of OCTOBER in the year 2015 before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for the State, personally appeared THOMAS O'CONNOR 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.

Danielle Harding  
Notary Public  
Qualified in the County of:  
My Commission Expires:

Danielle Harding  
Notary Public State of New York  
County of Rensselaer  
Lic. #01HA6237934  
Comm. Exp. 03/28/2019



### Schedule of Compliance

1. Within 60 days of the effective date of this Order, Respondent shall prepare a SWPPP which provides for compliance with the terms of the MSGP and upon completion of the SWPPP. Respondent shall submit a complete Notice of Intent to the Department under the MSGP or submit a certification in accordance with Part I Section G of the MSGP for a Conditional Exclusion for No Exposure. A copy of the SWPPP shall be provided to the Department.