



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

April 1, 2011

Contact:

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ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE CENTER GIVES NOTICE OF INTENT TO SUE CHEMICAL FACILITY ON VENTURA RIVER FOR CLEAN WATER ACT VIOLATIONS

Lawsuit to Be Filed Against Multi-Chem Group LLC's Ventura Facility for Violations of its Storm Water Permit

Ventura, CA – Environmental Defense Center (“EDC”) today notified Multi-Chem Group LCC (“Multi-Chem”), a Texas-based corporation, of its intent to sue the facility for violations of the federal Clean Water Act. The notice letter alleges that the facility is in violation of the substantive and procedural requirements of the state’s General Industrial Storm Water Permit, and may be illegally discharging polluted storm water into the Ventura River. The Ventura Multi-Chem facility is located in an environmentally important and sensitive area, directly on the banks of the lower Ventura River.

Storm water is among the top sources of water contamination as significant quantities of pollution enter our waterways during rain events. Under the General Permit, industrial facilities are prohibited from discharging pollutants including total suspended solids, oil and grease, and toxic chemicals and metals in excess of applicable limits. In order to ensure such limits are met, the facilities are required to monitor, sample and report storm water discharge. Despite the fact that Multi-Chem has been enrolled under the General Permit for four years, the facility has apparently never submitted any of its required monitoring and sampling reports.

“The bottom line is that we don’t know what’s being discharged from this facility when it rains because the facility has shirked its responsibilities to monitor and report. Most concerning is that the facility is producing hazardous waste onsite, evidenced by oil or solvent soaked absorbent pads and contaminated soils, and is storing hazardous waste in containers in poor condition,” stated Nicholas Patton, EDC Legal Fellow. “What’s happening to these and other pollutants when it rains?”

The Ventura River and its tributaries drain the 235 square mile Ventura River Watershed; approximately half of this watershed lies within the Los Padres National Forest. The river empties at the top of the County’s most popular surf break, Surfers’ Point (aka C Street), and is home to a number of endangered species including the Tidewater Goby, Red-legged Frog, Arroyo Toad and Southern Steelhead Trout.

Little information is publicly available regarding the nature of Multi-Chem’s operations. According to the company’s website, Multi-Chem “offers oilfield products, gas well treatments, and pipeline solutions designed to enhance production.” www.multichem.org. The company

identifies its Ventura facility as being a distributor of chemicals including acids, industrial and heavy chemicals, dyestuffs, industrial salts, rosin, and turpentine. In January of this year, the County of Ventura's Environmental Health Division identified Multi-Chem as a hazardous waste generator, suggesting that the Multi-Chem facility may engage in chemical mixing and other operations beyond mere distributorship.

Under the CWA, potential litigants must file a 60-day notice of intent to sue before lawsuits can be filed alleging that a facility is in violation of the Act. While EDC is committed to pursuing legal remedies if necessary, it is EDC's hope that submission of the notice will prompt Multi-Chem to comply with its mandatory permit requirements without court intervention. "Our goal," expressed Patton, "is to prevent pollution in the Ventura River."

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The Environmental Defense Center protects and enhances the local environment through education, advocacy, and legal action and works primarily within Santa Barbara, Ventura and San Luis Obispo counties. Since 1977, EDC has empowered community based organizations to advance environmental protection. Program areas include protecting coast and ocean resources, open spaces and wildlife, and human and environmental health.

Multi-Chem Group LLC Violates Clean Water Act

LEARN THE FACTS

Citizen Enforcement Action Against Multi-Chem Group LLC Ventura Facility for Storm Water Violations of the Clean Water Act

OVERVIEW

The Environmental Defense Center (EDC) is a non-profit, public interest law firm that protects and enhances coastal and ocean resources, open spaces and wildlife, and human and environmental health through education, advocacy and legal action primarily within Ventura, Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo Counties. EDC has filed a Notice of Violations and Intent to File Suit against Multi-Chem Group LLC Ventura Facility to compel compliance with the Clean Water Act (CWA).

ABOUT THE MULTI-CHEM FACILITY

Location

Multi-Chem is located in an environmentally important and sensitive area, directly on the banks of the lower Ventura River. The Ventura River and its tributaries drain the 235 square mile Ventura River Watershed, approximately half of this watershed lies within the Los Padres National Forest. The river empties at the top of the county's most popular surf break, Surfers' Point (aka C Street).

Operation

According to the company's website, Multi Chem "offers oilfield products, gas well treatments, and pipeline solutions designed to enhance production." www.multichem.org. The company identifies its Ventura facility as falling under Standard Industrial Classification Code 5169, consisting of "wholesale distributors of chemicals and allied products not included in another classification," including "acids, industrial and heavy chemicals, dyestuffs, industrial salts, rosin, and turpentine." As the County of Ventura's Environmental Health Division has recently identified Multi-Chem has a hazardous waste generator, EDC also believes the Multi-Chem facility engages in chemical mixing and other operations beyond mere distributorship.



Chemical barrels at Multi-Chem's facility

STORM WATER CITIZEN ENFORCEMENT ACTION

Storm water is among the top sources of water contamination, as significant quantities of pollution enter our waterways during rain events. To combat this problem, industrial facilities like Multi-Chem are required by the state to enroll in an applicable permit, here the General Industrial Storm Water Permit, which requires the facility to, among other things, monitor, sample and report storm water discharge. Discharges in violation of the permit are a violation of the CWA. Importantly, the CWA grants citizens the right to file a civil enforcement suit against a corporation to enforce permit conditions.



Multi-Chem Group LLC Violates Clean Water Act

LEARN THE FACTS

NOTICE OF VIOLATION AND INTENT TO FILE SUIT

On March 31, 2011, EDC sent Multi-Chem a Notice of Violations and Intent to File Suit (Notice of Intent Letter). The Notice of Intent Letter sets forth Multi-Chem's violations of the CWA as result of its failure to properly monitor, sample and report discharge results. In fact, Multi-Chem has yet to submit any of these required documents since its enrollment in the permit. Under the CWA, the first legally required step in the citizen suit enforcement process is filing the Notice of Intent Letter. Once the Notice of Intent Letter is filed, Multi-Chem has 60 days to comply with the CWA, or face a civil lawsuit by EDC.

REASON'S FOR EDC'S ACTION

Since Multi-Chem's enrollment in the General Industrial Storm Water Permit in November of 2006, it has consistently failed to comply with some of the essential and most basic permit requirements. Specifically, the company has never sampled and reported discharge to the Regional Water Board, an annual requirement. Multi-Chem's proximity to the Ventura River, storage of hazardous materials and generation of hazardous waste on-site further reinforce the need for public intervention to compel compliance with the CWA. Unless a permit holder monitors discharges as required by the permit, it will be difficult if not impossible for state and federal officials charged with enforcement of the CWA to know whether or not the permit holder is discharging polluted effluent in excess of the permit's maximum levels.

EDC CONTACT INFO

For more information about this case, please contact Nicholas Patton (Legal Fellow), Brian Segee (Staff Attorney) or Linda Krop (Chief Counsel) at 805.963.1622. For information about the EDC, or to support our efforts, please see www.EnvironmentalDefenseCenter.org



April 1, 2011

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Attn: Managing Agent of Facility

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Re: NOTICE OF INTENT TO SUE PURSUANT TO THE CLEAN WATER ACT

Dear Multi-Chem Representatives:

This letter constitutes Environmental Defense Center's (EDC) notice of intent to sue Multi-Chem Group LLC (Multi-Chem), as owner and operator of the facility located at or about 4285-4287 Crooked Palm Road, Ventura, CA, for violations of the federal Clean Water Act (CWA), 33 U.S.C. § 1251 *et seq.* Although this facility is located in California, Multi-Chem, according to EDC's best knowledge and information, is incorporated in Texas and headquartered in Louisiana.

Specifically, this letter gives notice under the CWA of our intent to seek redress for violations of Section 402 of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. 1342, of the General Permit No. CAS000001, *Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges of Storm Water Associated with Industrial Activities Excluding Construction Activities*, as adopted by the California State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) via Order No. 97-03-DWQ on April 17, 1997 (General Permit). In violation of the CWA, Multi-Chem repeatedly has violated and continues to violate the express terms of the Permit. Indeed, since submitting its Notice of Intent (NOI) to enroll in the General Permit in November 2006, there is no evidence Multi-Chem has complied with *any* of the Permit's reporting and monitoring requirements. These self-reporting requirements, which serve as the General Permit's primary mechanism for gauging compliance with pollutant effluent limitations intended to ensure the protection of California's waters, "include various inspections,

reviews, and observations all of which recognize, encourage, and mandate an iterative self-evaluation process that is necessary to consistently comply with the [Permit].” General Permit Fact Sheet (Fact Sheet), at p. XIII.

This notice is provided pursuant to section 505(a) of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. §1365(a), and its implementing regulations at 40 C.F.R. §§ 135.1-135.3. Unless Multi-Chem takes the actions necessary to remedy the ongoing violations of the General Permit and CWA, EDC intends to file suit in U.S. District Court following expiration of the 60-day notice period, seeking injunctive relief and civil penalties. Under the CWA, Multi-Chem is subject to penalties as high as \$37,500 a day per violation enumerated below. If Multi-Chem has any information demonstrating that one or more of the violations alleged in this Notice did not occur or are described incorrectly, please immediately provide this information to EDC.

CWA INDUSTRIAL STORMWATER GENERAL PERMIT BACKGROUND

The 1997 Industrial Stormwater General Permit was promulgated under the authority of the 1991 EPA *National Strategy for issuing NPDES permits for storm water discharges associated with industrial activity: NPDES Application Deadlines, General Permit Requirements, and Reporting Requirements for Storm Water Discharges Associated with Industrial Activity* (April 2, 1991), *codified at* 40 C.F.R. Part 122 (“EPA Administered Permit Programs: The NPDES”). Under the General Permit, the State Water Board has designated the Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) as the cornerstone of compliance with NPDES requirements for storm water discharges from industrial facilities and ensuring that operators meet pollution effluent limitations. The State Water Board describes the two major objectives of the SWPPP as identifying sources of pollution, and describing and ensuring the implementation of best management practices (BMPs) to reduce or prevent those pollutants in storm water discharges. General Permit at p. 11. The General Permit provides polluters fairly wide discretion in developing their SWPPPs. *Id.* at p. IX (“As this General Permit covers vastly different types of facilities, the State Water Board recognizes that there is no single best way of developing or organizing an SWPPP.”). However, it also prescribes a number of specific requirements that must be included in the SWPPP, including preparation of a detailed site map; a list of significant materials handled and stored at the site; a description of potential pollutant sources (including material handling and storage areas); an assessment of potential pollutant sources; and development of structural and non-structural BMPs. General Permit, at p. 12-19.

In addition to the SWPPP, the other major facet of the General Permit intended to ensure compliance with pollution limitations is the requirement to develop and implement a monitoring program. The State Water Board identifies the three major objectives of the monitoring program as demonstrating compliance with the General Permit, aiding in implementation of the SWPPP, and measuring the effectiveness of BMPs in reducing or preventing pollutants. Fact Sheet, at p. X. Facilities enrolled under the General Permit must submit an annual report (due July 1) that includes the results of

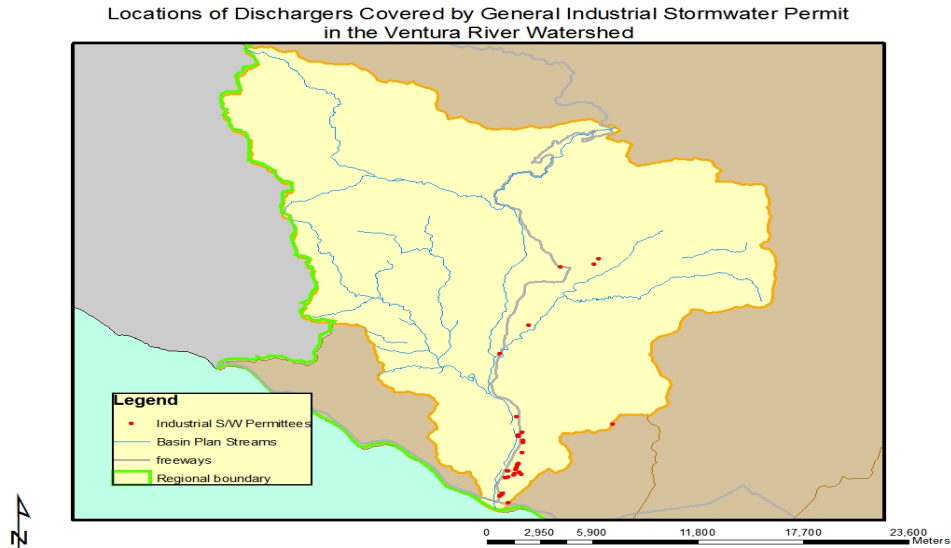
monitoring efforts. General Permit at p. 35. *See* 40 C.F.R. §122.44 (establishing minimum requirement under Industrial General Permit of annual inspection and annual monitoring report).

The General Permit thus reflects an approach to Clean Water Act compliance that emphasizes self-reporting. Accordingly, this self-reporting essentially serves as the primary avenue for both regulators and the general public to know whether permit conditions are being met. Without operator compliance, it is difficult (and in some cases, impossible) to know whether and to what extent an enrolled facility is polluting receiving waters.

MULTI-CHEM VENTURA FACILITY

Multi-Chem is located in an environmentally important and sensitive area, directly on the banks of the lower Ventura River. Little information is publicly available regarding the nature of Multi-Chem's operations. According to the company's website, Multi-Chem "offers oilfield products, gas well treatments, and pipeline solutions designed to enhance production." www.multichem.org. The company identifies its Ventura facility as falling under Standard Industrial Code 5169, defined as "Chemicals and Allied Products, Not Elsewhere Classified," consisting of "wholesale distributors of chemicals and allied products not included in another classification," including "acids, industrial and heavy chemicals, dyestuffs, industrial salts, rosin, and turpentine." According to EDC's best knowledge and information, however, the Multi-Chem facility engages in chemical mixing and other operations beyond mere distributorship.

Located in the northwestern portion of Ventura County, the Ventura River watershed encompasses 235 square miles that drain to the river's estuary and outlet adjacent to Surfer's Point. As recently noted by the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (L.A. Region), "good water quality and excellent aquatic habitat" occur in many upper portions of the watershed, which are largely within land administered by the U.S. Forest Service. However, the watershed "has been degraded, particularly in the lower areas, by both nonpoint and point sources." *State of the Watershed—Report of Surface Water Quality: The Ventura River Watershed* (Dec. 2007). This area, where Multi-Chem is located, is "known as North Ventura Avenue," and "contains oil fields, oil-related industries," and other municipal and residential developments. *Id.* As of 2007, there were 37 dischargers within the Ventura River watershed enrolled under the Industrial Storm Water General Permit.



(Source: State Water Board)

ROLE OF CITIZEN SUIT PROVISIONS

In consistently providing private enforcement rights within environmental statutes, Congress has made clear that citizen groups are “not to be treated as nuisances or troublemakers but rather as welcomed participants in the vindication of environmental interests.” *Friends of the Earth v. Carey*, 535 F.2d 165, 172 (2nd Cir. 1976). Put another way, Congress evidenced an “obvious purpose” in the CWA and other environmental statutes, to encourage citizen plaintiffs to act as a “private attorney general,” working to further the goals embodied in those statutes. *Bennett v. Spear*, 520 U.S. 154, 165 (1997).

Citizen suits help augment enforcement efforts undertaken by regulating agencies, which increasingly suffer from both insufficient staffing levels and inadequate financial resources. As stated during debate of the Clean Air Act citizen suit provisions, upon which the CWA’s provisions are modeled, “[t]he basic argument for the provision is plain: namely that the Government simply is not equipped to take court action against the numerous violations of legislation of this type which are likely to occur.” 116 Cong. Rec. 33,104 (1970) (statement of Sen. Hart) (emphasis added); *see also id.* (statement of Sen. Muskie on Clean Air Act) (“I think it is too much to presume that, however well staffed or well intentioned these enforcement agencies are, they will be able to monitor the potential violations of all the requirements contained in the implementation plans that will be filed under this act, all the other requirements of the act, and the responses of the enforcement officers to their duties.”).

NOTICE OF MULTI-CHEM’S CWA INDUSTRIAL STORMWATER GENERAL PERMIT VIOLATIONS

The citizen suit provision of the CWA, Section 505, provides that “any citizen” may commence a suit “against any person,” including a corporation, “who is alleged to be in violation of (A) an effluent standard or limitation under this chapter or (B) an order

issued by the [EPA or State] with respect to such standard or limitation.” 33 U.S.C. § 1365(a)(1). Importantly, the CWA in turn defines “effluent standard or limitation” to include “a permit or condition” issued under section 402. *Id.* § 1365(f)(6). Accordingly, a polluter who fails to meet monitoring and reporting requirements is thus liable under the CWA’s citizen suit provision. *See Sierra Club v. Simkins Indus., Inc.*, 847 F.2d 1109, 1115 (4th Cir. 1988) (“Simkins’ monitoring obligations were not designed to be a mere academic exercise. Simkins was bound by reporting and records retention requirements of the NPDES permit that are central to adequate administration and enforcement of limits on substantive discharges under the Clean Water Act. Unless a permit holder monitors as required by the permit, it will be difficult if not impossible for state and federal officials charged with enforcement of the Clean Water Act to know whether or not the permit holder is discharging effluents in excess of the permit’s maximum levels.”); *Natural Resource Defense Council v. Southwest Marine, Inc.*, 236 F.3d 985 (9th Cir. 2000) (stormwater permit enforcement action where company was liable for discharges of “significant contributions of pollutants” and inadequate recordkeeping).

Based upon EDC’s best information and knowledge, Multi-Chem filed its Notice of Intent (NOI) to comply with the General Permit on November 20, 2006.¹ Under EPA regulations, such NOI serves as the primary mechanism for authorizing discharges pursuant to an NPDES General Permit. 40 C.F.R. § 122.28 (b)(2) (dischargers “seeking coverage under a general permit shall submit . . . a written notice of intent to be covered by the general permit.”) (applicable to State NPDES programs through § 123.25). In the four years since filing the NOI, however, Multi-Chem has apparently failed to carry out its most basic obligations under the General Permit. Specific violations are alleged below.

1. FAILURE TO SUBMIT ANNUAL REPORTS

According to EDC’s best information and knowledge, Multi-Chem has failed to submit annual reports as required by the CWA and General Permit. Section B. 14 of the General Permit requires that “[a]ll facility operators shall submit an Annual Report by July 1 of each year to the Executive Officer of the Regional Water Board responsible for the area in which the facility is located. . . .” There is no evidence that Multi-Chem has met these reporting requirements.

On June 16, 2009, the L.A. Region issued a notice of non-compliance to Multi-Chem for its failure to submit a 2007-08 annual report and required Multi-Chem to “immediately” submit a completed 2007-08 annual report. Based upon EDC’s best information and knowledge, Multi-Chem has yet to submit its 2007-08 annual report.

On November 18, 2009, the L.A. Region conducted an inspection of the facility, noting “major violations” of the General Permit and CWA. The Region subsequently

¹ This information and other information pertaining to the Multi-Chem’s compliance with the General Permit can be found at the State Water Board’s California Integrated Water Quality System (CIWQS) database. <http://ciwqs.waterboards.ca.gov>.

again sent a notice of violation issued December 24, 2009 for Multi-Chem's failure to have a 2007-2008 annual report, as well as the 2008-2009 annual report, in addition to the facility's failure to maintain an adequate SWPPP.

According to EDC's best information and knowledge, Multi-Chem has still failed to produce these annual reports, as well as the most recent required annual report for 2009-2010. No documents or evidence of such records were included in a recent Public Records Act response by the L.A. Region to EDC and multiple conversations and electronic communications between EDC and the LA Region provide no indication that such records exist.

2. FAILURE TO MONITOR AND REPORT—VISUAL OBSERVATIONS

According to EDC's best information and knowledge, Multi-Chem has failed to conduct stormwater visual observations as required by the CWA, Industrial Stormwater General Permit, and SWPPP. Section B.4.a of the General Permit requires that all dischargers acting under the permit "shall visually observe storm water discharges from one storm event per month during the wet season (October-May)," and that these "visual observations shall occur during the first hour of discharge and at all discharge locations." The purpose of the requirement discharge is to "document the presence of any floating and suspended material, oil and grease, discolorations, turbidity, odor, and source of any pollutants." Section B.4.c. It is the discharger's responsibility to maintain records "of observations, and response taken to reduce or prevent pollutants in storm water discharges." *Id.* The visual monitoring requirement plays a critical and central role in the implementation of the NPDES permit and SWPPP, and observations of pollutants may trigger a duty to revise the SWPPP. Section B.4.c; Section A.10.d ("[T]he SWPPP shall be revised and implemented in a timely manner, but in no case more than 90 days after a facility operator determines that the SWPPP is in violation of any "requirement(s) of this General Permit.").

As Multi-Chem has yet to produce an annual report in the time since it enrolled in the Industrial General Permit, there is no evidence that it has conducted any visual observations since such enrollment. No documents or evidence of such records were included in a recent Public Records Act response by the L.A. Region to EDC nor were such records available for review during the L.A. Region's inspection of Multi-Chem's facility on November 18, 2009.

3. FAILURE TO MONITOR AND REPORT—SAMPLING ANALYSIS

According to EDC's best information and knowledge, Multi-Chem has failed to meet the requirements of Section B.5.a of the General Permit requiring that all dischargers "shall collect storm water samples during the first hour of discharge from (1) the first storm event of the wet season, and (2) at least one other storm event in the wet season." The samples are to be analyzed for total suspended solids, pH, specific conductance, oil and grease, toxic chemicals, and other applicable analytical parameters. Section B.5.c.i-iii. Monitoring plays a critical and central role in the implementation of

the NPDES permit and SWPPP, and observations of pollutants may trigger a duty to revise the SWPPP. Section B.4.c; Section A.10.d (“[T]he SWPPP shall be revised and implemented in a timely manner, but in no case more than 90 days after a facility operator determines that the SWPPP is in violation of any “requirement(s) of this General Permit.”).

As Multi-Chem has yet to produce an annual report in the time since it enrolled in the General Permit, there is no evidence that it has conducted any water quality sampling since such enrollment. No documents or evidence of such records were included in a recent Public Records Act response by the L.A. Region to EDC nor were such records available for review during the L.A. Region’s inspection of Multi-Chem’s facility on November 18, 2009.

4. RECORD KEEPING REQUIREMENTS

According to EDC’s best information and knowledge, Multi-Chem has failed to maintain adequate monitoring and report record keeping requirements as required by the CWA, General Permit, and SWPPP. Section B.13 of the Industrial Stormwater General Permit requires that “[r]ecords of all storm water monitoring information and copies of all reports (including the Annual Reports) required by this General Permit shall be retained for at least five years,” including the “date, place, and time of site inspections, sampling, visual observations, and/or measurements.” There is no evidence that Multi-Chem has met these record keeping requirements. No documents or evidence of such records were included in a recent Public Records Act response by the L.A. Region to EDC nor were such records available for review during the L.A. Region’s inspection of Multi-Chem’s facility on November 18, 2009.

5. INADEQUATE AND/OR MISSING SWPPP

According to EDC’s best information and knowledge, Multi-Chem’s SWPPP is inadequate and/or missing. Furthermore, according to EDC’s best information and knowledge, Multi-Chem’s SWPPP has been misplaced or is missing. Section A.10.f. of the General Permit states that the “SWPPP shall be provided, upon request, to the Regional Water Board.” Sometime on or after February 17, 2011, the LA Region requested that Multi-Chem provide its SWPPP, however, the LA Region’s request was “returned” without a response. Multi-Chem’s inadequate response raises the probability that the SWPPP is missing. Sections A.1. and A.2. of the General Permit requires that a facility “develop and implement the SWPPP when industrial activities begin” and “shall be revised whenever appropriate.” Without a physical copy of the SWPPP Multi-Chem cannot adequately develop, implement and revise its SWPPP. Therefore, Multi-Chem is in violation the Section A requirements of the General Permit.

In addition, section A.10.c of the Industrial Stormwater General Permit requires that the “SWPPP shall be revised, as appropriate, and implemented prior to changes in industrial activities which (i) may significantly increase the quantities of pollutants in storm water discharge, (ii) cause a new area of industrial activity at the facility to be

exposed to storm water, or (iii) begin an industrial activity which would introduce a new pollutant source at the facility.” On January 11, 2011, the Ventura County Environmental Health Division (EHD) conducted an inspection of Multi-Chem’s facility identifying Multi-Chem as a hazardous waste generator. As a hazardous waste generator, Multi-Chem’s activities may significantly increase the quantities of pollutants to enter stormwater discharge thereby requiring Multi-Chem to revise and update its SWPPP accordingly. At minimum, the generation of hazardous waste is an industrial activity which would introduce a new pollutant source at the facility. In a February 24, 2011 response to the Ventura County EHD, Multi-Chem denied its status as a hazardous waste producer stating “Multi-Chem has never disposed of hazardous waste from this facility.” However, in the following paragraph Multi-Chem contradicts this statement stating, “associated materials within the identified drums were deemed as waste and will be properly disposed of.” There is no evidence that Multi-Chem has revised its SWPPP to adequately account for its generation of hazardous waste. In fact, denial of its status as a hazardous waste producer provides good faith basis that Multi-Chem has likely not made the appropriate required revisions to its SWPPP to reflect its production of hazardous waste.

PENALTIES AND INJUNCTIVE RELIEF

As detailed in this Notice of Intent to Sue sent to Multi-Chem in accordance with requirements of the CWA, according to EDC’s best information and knowledge, Multi-Chem is in violation of multiple requirements of the CWA. Section 309 of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 1319(d), as adjusted by 40 C.F.R. § 19.4, provides for penalties of as much as \$37,500 per day per violation.

COUNSEL GIVING NOTICE

This Notice of Intent to Sue is submitted on behalf of Environmental Defense Center by:

Brian Segee, Staff Attorney
Nicholas Patton, Legal Fellow
Environmental Defense Center
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Santa Barbara, CA 93101

During the 60-day notice period, we are willing to discuss effective remedies for the violations alleged in this letter. Please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at (805) 963-1622 x109 if you wish to further discuss these matters.

Sincerely,



Brian Segee



Nicholas Patton

cc: Lisa Jackson, Administrator
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