

STATE OF LOUISIANA

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

IN THE MATTER OF:

ROZEL OPERATING COMPANY

AI # 139458

PROCEEDINGS UNDER THE LOUISIANA
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT
LA. R.S. 30:2001, ET SEQ.

* Settlement Tracking No.
* SA-AE-09-0055
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* Enforcement Tracking No.
* AE-PP-09-0432
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SETTLEMENT

The following Settlement is hereby agreed to between Rozel Operating Company (“Respondent”) and the Department of Environmental Quality (“DEQ” or “the Department”), under authority granted by the Louisiana Environmental Quality Act, La. R.S. 30:2001, et seq. (“the Act”).

I

Respondent is a corporation that owns and/or operates an oil and gas production facility located on Trosclair Road, approximately six (6) miles southwest of Creole in Cameron Parish, Louisiana (“the Facility”).

II

On August 21, 2009, the Department issued to Respondent a Notice of Potential Penalty, Enforcement No. AE-PP-09-0432, which was based upon the following findings of fact:

On or about March 17, 2009, an inspection of Creole Production Facility, an oil and gas production facility, owned and/or operated by Rozel Operating Company (Respondent), was

performed to determine the degree of compliance with the Louisiana Environmental Quality Act (the Act) and the Air Quality Regulations. The facility is located on Trosclair Road, approximately six (6) miles southwest of Creole, Cameron Parish, Louisiana. The facility currently operates under Air Permit No. 0560-00248-03, issued on March 12, 2009.

The following violations were noted during the course of the inspection:

- A. During the course of the inspection, the inspector noted that the facility replaced a 168 horsepower (hp) gas compressor engine (Emission Point No. EQT 0028) with a 738 hp gas compressor engine (Emission Point No. EQT 0034). According to an email from the Respondent's representative dated June 23, 2009, Emission Point No. EQT 0034 was installed in January 2009, and started operating on January 22, 2009. On or about February 27, 2009, the Department received the Respondent's permit modification application dated February 27, 2009, which included the addition of Emission Point No. EQT 0034 to the facility. The Department issued Air Permit No. 0560-00248-03 on March 12, 2009, which incorporated Emission Point No. EQT 0034. The Respondent's failure to submit a timely and complete permit application to the Department prior to construction, reconstruction, or modification of the facility is a violation of LAC 33:III.501.C.1, and La. R.S. 30:2057(A)(1) and 30:2057(A)(2).

- B. During the course of the inspection, the inspector noted that the facility replaced a 168 hp gas compressor engine (Emission Point No. EQT 0028) with a 738 hp gas compressor engine (Emission Point No. EQT 0034). According to an email from the Respondent's representative dated June 23, 2009, Emission Point No. EQT 0034 was installed in January 2009, and started operating on January 22, 2009. On or about February 27, 2009, the Department received the Respondent's permit modification application dated February 27, 2009, which included the addition of Emission Point No. EQT 0034 to the facility. The Department issued Air Permit No. 0560-00248-03 on March 12, 2009, which incorporated Emission Point EQT 0034. The Respondent's failure to obtain approval from the permitting authority prior to construction, modification, or operation of the facility which ultimately may result in an initiation or increase in air contaminants is a violation of LAC 33:III.501.C.2, and La. R.S. 30:2057(A)(1) and 30:2057(A)(2).

III

Respondent denies it committed any violations or that it is liable for any fines, forfeitures and/or penalties.

IV

Nonetheless, Respondent, without making any admission of liability under state or federal statute or regulation, agrees to pay, and the Department agrees to accept, a payment in the amount of ONE THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED FIFTY AND NO/100 DOLLARS (\$1,250.00), of which Two Hundred Thirty-Nine and 96/100 Dollars (\$239.96) represents the Department's enforcement costs, in settlement of the claims set forth in this agreement. The total amount of money expended by Respondent on cash payments to the Department as described above, shall be considered a civil penalty for tax purposes, as required by La. R.S. 30:2050.7(E)(1).

V

Respondent further agrees that the Department may consider the inspection report(s), the Notice of Potential Penalty and this Settlement for the purpose of determining compliance history in connection with any future enforcement or permitting action by the Department against Respondent, and in any such action Respondent shall be estopped from objecting to the above-referenced documents being considered as proving the violations alleged herein for the sole purpose of determining Respondent's compliance history.

VI

This agreement shall be considered a final order of the secretary for all purposes, including, but not limited to, enforcement under La. R.S. 30:2025(G)(2), and Respondent hereby waives any

right to administrative or judicial review of the terms of this agreement, except such review as may be required for interpretation of this agreement in any action by the Department to enforce this agreement.

VII

This settlement is being made in the interest of settling the state's claims and avoiding for both parties the expense and effort involved in litigation or an adjudicatory hearing. In agreeing to the compromise and settlement, the Department considered the factors for issuing civil penalties set forth in LSA- R. S. 30:2025(E) of the Act.

VIII

The Respondent has caused a public notice advertisement to be placed in the official journal of the parish governing authority in Cameron Parish, Louisiana. The advertisement, in form, wording, and size approved by the Department, announced the availability of this settlement for public view and comment and the opportunity for a public hearing. Respondent has submitted an original proof-of-publication affidavit and an original public notice to the Department and, as of the date this Settlement is executed on behalf of the Department, more than forty-five (45) days have elapsed since publication of the notice.

IX

Payment is to be made within ten (10) days from notice of the Secretary's signature. If payment is not received within that time, this Agreement is voidable at the option of the Department. Payments are to be made by check, payable to the Department of Environmental Quality, and mailed or delivered to the attention of Accountant Administrator, Financial Services Division, Department of Environmental Quality, Post Office Box 4303, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, 70821-4303. Each payment shall be accompanied by a completed Settlement Payment Form (Exhibit A).

X

In consideration of the above, any claims for penalties are hereby compromised and settled in accordance with the terms of this Settlement.

XI

Each undersigned representative of the parties certifies that he or she is fully authorized to execute this Settlement Agreement on behalf of his or her respective party, and to legally bind such party to its terms and conditions.

ROZEL OPERATING COMPANY

BY: C. William Rogers
(Signature)

C. William Rogers
(Print)

TITLE: President

THUS DONE AND SIGNED in duplicate original before me this 6th day of May, 20 10, at Lafayette, Louisiana.

Raymond A. Beys
NOTARY PUBLIC (ID # 3035)

Raymond A. Beys
(Print)

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

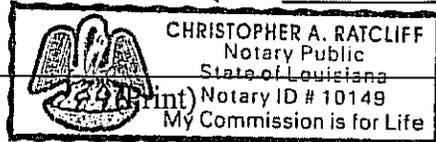
Peggy M. Hatch, Secretary

BY: Cheryl Sonnier Nolan

Cheryl Sonnier Nolan, Assistant Secretary
Office of Environmental Compliance

THUS DONE AND SIGNED in duplicate original before me this 18th day of February, 20 11, at Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Christopher A. Ratcliff
NOTARY PUBLIC (ID # _____)



Approved: Paul D. Miller
Paul D. Miller, P.E., Assistant Secretary