

STATE OF LOUISIANA

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

IN THE MATTER OF:

SIARC, INC.

AI # 70957, 71464

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

* **Settlement Tracking No.**
* **SA-UE-24-0066**
*
* **Enforcement Tracking No.**
* **UE-PP-19-00105**
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SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

The following Settlement Agreement is hereby agreed to between Siarc, LLC f/k/a Siarc, Inc. (“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 limited liability company that owns and/or operates a motor fuel distributing facility located in Gramercy, St. James Parish, Louisiana (“the Facility”).

II

On March 8, 2019, the Department issued to Respondent a Notice of Potential Penalty, Enforcement Tracking No. UE-PP-19-00105 (Exhibit 1).

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 TWO THOUSAND FIFTY AND NO/100 DOLLARS (\$2,050.00), of which One Thousand Ninety-Eight and 62/100 Dollars (\$1,098.62) represents the Department's enforcement costs, in settlement of the claims set forth in this Settlement 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), permit record(s), the Notice of Potential Penalty and this Settlement Agreement 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 Settlement 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 Settlement Agreement in any action by the Department to enforce this Settlement Agreement.

VII

This Settlement Agreement 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 Agreement, the Department considered the factors for

issuing civil penalties set forth in La. R.S. 30:2025(E) of the Act.

VIII

As required by law, the Department has submitted this Settlement Agreement to the Louisiana Attorney General for approval or rejection. The Attorney General's concurrence is appended to this Settlement Agreement.

IX

The Respondent has caused a public notice advertisement to be placed in the official journal of the parish governing authority in St. James Parish and St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana. The advertisement, in form and wording approved by the Department, announced the availability of this Settlement Agreement 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 Agreement is executed on behalf of the Department, more than forty-five (45) days have elapsed since publication of the notice.

X

Payment is to be made within thirty (30) days from notice of the Secretary's signature. If payment is not received within that time, this Settlement Agreement is voidable at the option of the Department. The Respondent shall provide its tax identification number when submitting payment. 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 attached hereto.

XI

In consideration of the above, any claims for penalties are hereby compromised and settled in

accordance with the terms of this Settlement Agreement.

XII

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.

SIARC, LLC F/K/A SIARC, INC.

BY: _____
(Signature)

(Printed)

TITLE: _____

THUS DONE AND SIGNED in duplicate original before me this _____ day of _____, 20_____, at _____.

NOTARY PUBLIC (ID # _____)

(stamped or printed)

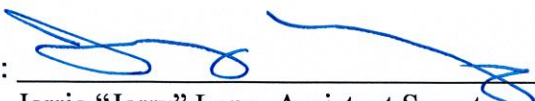
**LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**
Aurelia S. Giacometto, Secretary

BY: _____
Jerrie "Jerry" Lang, Assistant Secretary
Office of Environmental Compliance

THUS DONE AND SIGNED in duplicate original before me this _____ day of _____, 20_____, at Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

NOTARY PUBLIC (ID # _____)

(stamped or printed)

Approved: 
Jerrie "Jerry" Lang, Assistant Secretary

JOHN BEL EDWARDS
GOVERNOR

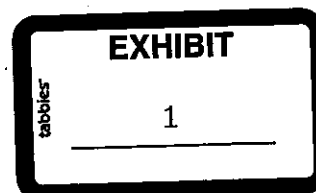


CHUCK CARR BROWN, Ph.D.
SECRETARY

State of Louisiana
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE

March 8, 2019

CERTIFIED MAIL (7018 0360 0001 5039 0805/0812)
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED



SIARC, INC.
c/o Robert Crais
Agent for Service of Process
205 David Street
Gramercy, LA 70052

**RE: NOTICE OF POTENTIAL PENALTY
ENFORCEMENT TRACKING NO. UE-PP-19-00105
AGENCY INTEREST NOS. 70957; 71464**

Dear Sir:

On or about January 23, 2019, and January 25, 2019, a file review and inspection of **TRIPLE A FOOD MART** (Agency Interest No. 70957), a retailer of motor fuel, owned and/or operated by Triple A Quick Stop Inc, was performed to determine the degree of compliance with the Louisiana Environmental Quality Act (the Act) and the Underground Storage Tanks Regulations. The facility is located at 1901 East Judge Perez in Chalmette, St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana. **SIARC, INC. (RESPONDENT)** owns Siarc, Inc. Oil & Fuel (Agency Interest No. 71464), a motor fuel distributing facility, located at 205 David Street in Gramercy, St. James Parish, Louisiana.

On or about January 9, 2018, an inspection of Triple A Food Mart was conducted to determine compliance with the Act and the Underground Storage Tanks Regulations. A Notice of Potential Delivery Prohibition was issued to Triple A Quick Stop Inc on or about March 15, 2018, for areas of concern noted during the inspection. Triple A Quick Stop Inc failed to provide an adequate response to the Department regarding the Notice of Potential Delivery Prohibition. On or about October 2, 2018, the Department returned to the facility to apply delivery prohibition red tags to USTs #25354; #25355; #25356; and #25357. As of February 12, 2019, the red tags have not been removed.

While the investigation by the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (the Department) is not yet complete, the following violation was noted during the course of the January 23, 2019 file review and January 25, 2019 inspection:

The Respondent placed a regulated substance into a UST that the Department has red tagged/prohibited from delivery of a regulated substance, in violation of LAC 33:XI.403.C.

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Specifically, the Respondent delivered approximately 4,499 gallons of regular fuel to the facility on December 17, 2018. The inspection revealed all red tags were still on the tank fill ports and were clearly visible.

Pursuant to La. R.S. 30:2050.3(B), you are hereby notified that the issuance of a penalty assessment is being considered for the violation(s) described herein. Written comments may be filed regarding the violation(s) and the contemplated penalty. If you elect to submit comments, it is requested that they be submitted within ten (10) days of receipt of this notice.

Prior to the issuance of any additional appropriate enforcement action, you may request a meeting with the Department to present any mitigating circumstances concerning the violation(s). If you would like to have such a meeting, please contact Cynthia Arrison at (225) 219-3796 within ten (10) days of receipt of this **NOTICE OF POTENTIAL PENALTY**.

The Department is required by La. R.S. 30:2025(E)(3)(a) to consider the gross revenues of the Respondent and the monetary benefits of noncompliance in order to determine whether a penalty will be assessed and the amount of such penalty. Please forward the Respondent's most current annual gross revenue statement along with a statement of the monetary benefits of noncompliance for the cited violations to the above named contact person within ten (10) days of receipt of this **NOTICE OF POTENTIAL PENALTY**. Include with your statement of monetary benefits the method(s) you utilized to arrive at the sum. If you assert that no monetary benefits have been gained, you are to fully justify this statement. If the Respondent chooses not to submit the requested most current annual gross revenues statement within ten (10) days, it will be viewed by the Department as an admission that the Respondent has the ability to pay the statutory maximum penalty as outlined in La. R.S. 30:2025.

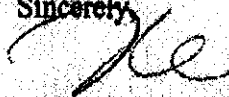
For each violation described herein, the Department reserves the right to seek civil penalties and the right to seek compliance with its rules and regulations in any manner allowed by law, and nothing herein shall be construed to preclude the right to seek such penalties and compliance.

The Department assesses civil penalties based on LAC 33:I.Subpart1.Chapter 7. To expedite closure of this **NOTICE OF POTENTIAL PENALTY**, the Respondent may offer a settlement amount to resolve any claim for civil penalties for the violation(s) described herein. The Respondent may offer a settlement amount, but the Department is under no obligation to enter into settlement negotiations. The decision to proceed with a settlement is at the discretion of the Department. The settlement offer amount may be entered on the attached "**NOTICE OF POTENTIAL PENALTY REQUEST TO SETTLE**" form. The Respondent must include a justification of the offer. **DO NOT** submit payment of the offer amount with the form. The Department will review the settlement offer and notify the Respondent as to whether the offer is or is not accepted.

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To reduce document handling, please refer to the Enforcement Tracking Number and Agency Interest Number on the front of this document on all correspondence in response to this action.

Sincerely,



Lourdes Iturralde
Assistant Secretary
Office of Environmental Compliance

LI/cia
Alt ID Nos. 44-009480; 47-008530

c: SIARC, INC.
c/o Robert Crais
209 Bedford Street
Laplace, LA 70068

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE

ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

POST OFFICE BOX 4312

BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70821-4312

NOTICE OF POTENTIAL PENALTY
REQUEST TO SETTLE (OPTIONAL)

Enforcement Tracking No.	UE-PP-19-00105	Contact Name	Cynthia Arrison
Agency Interest (AI) No.	70957, 71464	Contact Phone No.	(225) 219-3796
Alternate ID Nos.	44-009480; 47-008530		
Respondent:	SIARC, INC.	Facility Name:	Triple A Food Mart
	c/o Robert Crals	Physical Location:	1901 East Judge Perez
	Agent for Service of Process		
	205 David Street	City, State, Zip:	Chalmette, LA 70043
	Gramercy, LA 70052	Parish:	St. Bernard

SETTLEMENT OFFER (OPTIONAL)

(check the applicable option)

<input type="checkbox"/>	The Respondent is not interested in entering into settlement negotiations with the Department with the understanding that the Department has the right to assess civil penalties based on LAC 33:I.Subpart1.Chapter7.
<input type="checkbox"/>	In order to resolve any claim for civil penalties for the violations in NOTICE OF POTENTIAL PENALTY (UE-PP-19-00105), the Respondent is interested in entering into settlement negotiations with the Department and would like to set up a meeting to discuss settlement procedures.
<input type="checkbox"/>	In order to resolve any claim for civil penalties for the violations in NOTICE OF POTENTIAL PENALTY (UE-PP-19-00105), the Respondent is interested in entering into settlement negotiations with the Department and offers to pay \$ _____ which shall include LDEQ enforcement costs and any monetary benefit of non-compliance. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monetary component = \$ _____ • Beneficial Environmental Project (BEP) component (optional) = \$ _____ • DO NOT SUBMIT PAYMENT OF THE OFFER WITH THIS FORM- the Department will review the settlement offer and notify the Respondent as to whether the offer is or is not accepted.
<input type="checkbox"/>	The Respondent has reviewed the violations noted in NOTICE OF POTENTIAL PENALTY (UE-PP-19-00105) and has attached a justification of its offer and a description of any BEPs if included in settlement offer.

CERTIFICATION STATEMENT

I certify, under provisions in Louisiana and United States law that provide criminal penalties for false statements, that based on information and belief formed after reasonable inquiry, the statements and information attached and the compliance statement above, are true, accurate, and complete. I also certify that I do not owe outstanding fees or penalties to the Department for this facility or any other facility I own or operate. I further certify that I am either the Respondent or an authorized representative of the Respondent.

Respondent's Signature	Respondent's Printed Name	Respondent's Title
Respondent's Physical Address	Respondent's Phone #	Date

MAIL COMPLETED DOCUMENT TO THE ADDRESS BELOW:

Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality
Office of Environmental Compliance
Enforcement Division
P.O. Box 4312
Baton Rouge, LA 70821
Attn: Cynthia Arrison