



Oregon

Tina Kotek, Governor

Department of Environmental Quality
Office of Compliance and Enforcement
700 NE Multnomah Street, Suite 600
Portland, OR 97232-4100
(503) 229-5696
FAX (503) 229-5100
TTY 711

April 25, 2024

CERTIFIED MAIL: 7107 1450 0000 8310 3978

Veterans Administration Hospital
c/o Crystal Weaver
913 NW Garden Valley Blvd
Roseburg, OR 97471-6523

Re: Notice of Civil Penalty Assessment and Order
Case No. AQ-GHG-HQ-2023-077

This letter is to inform you that the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has issued you a civil penalty of \$4,400 for failing to timely submit a complete greenhouse gas emissions data report to DEQ for the 2022 reporting year. Specifically, you did not submit a supplemental reporting form that includes information about the natural gas supplier and the annual amount of natural gas delivered to your facility. DEQ issued this penalty because this is a repeated violation and incomplete reporting undermines the Greenhouse Gas Reporting Program, an essential component of Oregon's efforts to track greenhouse gas emissions and combat climate change.

DEQ appreciates your efforts to correct the violation by submitting the supplemental reporting form on June 8, 2023. DEQ considered these efforts when determining the amount of civil penalty.

You may pay the civil penalty as follows:

Pay online with e-check (ACH) or Credit Card. Go to Your DEQ Online here: <https://ydo.oregon.gov>. Select Register Account or Login, then select Pay Invoices/Fees on your account dashboard. Enter the Invoice number and Account ID included on the attached payment slip. Note: US Bank charges a 2.3% convenience charge for credit card transactions. ACH payments have no additional charges.

Pay by check or money order: Make checks payable to "Department of Environmental Quality" and mail to the address on the enclosed payment slip. Please make sure to include the payment slip with your check or money order.

If you wish to appeal this matter, DEQ must receive a request for a hearing within 20 calendar days from your receipt of this letter. The hearing request must be in writing. Send your request to DEQ Office of Compliance and Enforcement:

Via mail – 700 NE Multnomah Street, Suite 600, Portland, Oregon 97232
Via email – DEQappeals@deq.oregon.gov
Via fax – 503-229-6762

Once DEQ receives your request, we will arrange to meet with you to discuss this matter. If DEQ does not receive a timely written hearing request, the penalty will become due.

The attached Notice further details DEQ's reasons for issuing the penalty and provides further instructions for appealing the penalty. Please review and refer to it when discussing this case with DEQ.

DEQ may allow you to resolve part of your penalty through the completion of a Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP). SEPs are environmental improvement projects that you sponsor instead of paying a portion of your penalty. Further information is available by calling the number below or at <http://www.oregon.gov/deq/Regulations/Pages/SEP.aspx>.

DEQ's rules are available at <http://www.oregon.gov/deq/Regulations/Pages/Statutes.aspx> or by calling the number below.

If you have any questions, please contact Tori Heroux at 971-808-7046 or toll free in Oregon at 800-452-4011, extension 2295269.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Becca Puskas". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Becca Puskas, Interim Manager
Office of Compliance and Enforcement

Enclosures

cc: Bill Brady, Portland Headquarters
Colin McConnaha, DEQ
Accounting, DEQ

1 payment slip. Note: US Bank charges a 2.3% convenience charge for credit card transactions. ACH
2 payments have no additional charges. OR

3 Pay by check or money order: Make checks payable to “Department of Environmental
4 Quality” and mail to the address on the enclosed payment slip. Please make sure to include the
5 payment slip with your check or money order.

6 V. NOTICE OF RIGHT TO REQUEST A CONTESTED CASE HEARING

7 You have a right to a contested case hearing on this Notice, if you request one in writing. DEQ
8 must receive your request for hearing **within 20 calendar days** from the date you receive this Notice. If
9 you have any affirmative defenses or wish to dispute any allegations of fact in this Notice or attached
10 exhibit, you must do so in your request for hearing, as factual matters not denied will be considered
11 admitted, and failure to raise a defense will be a waiver of the defense. (See OAR 340-011-0530 for
12 further information about requests for hearing.) You must send your request to: **DEQ, Office of**
13 **Compliance and Enforcement, 700 NE Multnomah Street, Suite 600, Portland, Oregon 97232**, fax
14 it to **503-229-6762** or email it to **DEQappeals@deq.oregon.gov**. An administrative law judge
15 employed by the Office of Administrative Hearings will conduct the hearing, according to ORS
16 Chapter 183, OAR Chapter 340, Division 011 and OAR 137-003-0501 to 0700. You have a right to be
17 represented by an attorney at the hearing, however you are not required to be. If you are an individual,
18 you may represent yourself. If you are a corporation, partnership, limited liability company,
19 unincorporated association, trust or government body, you must be represented by an attorney or a duly
20 authorized representative, as set forth in OAR 137-003-0555.

21 Active duty Service members have a right to stay proceedings under the federal Service
22 Members Civil Relief Act. For more information contact the Oregon State Bar at 1-800-
23 452-8260, the Oregon Military Department at 503-584-3571, or the nearest United States Armed
24 Forces Legal Assistance Office through <http://legalassistance.law.af.mil>. The Oregon Military
25 Department does not have a toll free telephone number.

26 If you fail to file a timely request for hearing, the Notice will become a final order by default
27 without further action by DEQ, as per OAR 340-011-0535(1). If you do request a hearing but later

1 withdraw your request, fail to attend the hearing or notify DEQ that you will not be attending the
2 hearing, DEQ will issue a final order by default pursuant to OAR 340-011-0535(3). DEQ designates
3 the relevant portions of its files, including information submitted by you, as the record for purposes of
4 proving a prima facie case.
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6

7
8 4/25/2024
9 Date

Rebecca Z Puskas
Becka Puskas, Interim Manager
Office of Compliance and Enforcement

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EXHIBIT 1

FINDINGS AND DETERMINATION OF RESPONDENT'S CIVIL PENALTY
PURSUANT TO OREGON ADMINISTRATIVE RULE (OAR) 340-012-0045

VIOLATION NO. 1 Failure to submit a complete emissions data report by the reporting deadline, in violation of Permit Condition 9.3, OAR 340-215-0105(9) [previously OAR 340-215-0105(8)] and OAR 340-215-0046(1)(a).

CLASSIFICATION: This is a Class I violation pursuant to OAR 340-012-0054(1)(ii).

MAGNITUDE: The magnitude of the violation is moderate pursuant to OAR 340-012-0130(1), as there is no selected magnitude specified in OAR 340-012-0135 applicable to this violation, and the information reasonably available to DEQ does not indicate a minor or major magnitude.

CIVIL PENALTY FORMULA: The formula for determining the amount of penalty of each violation is: $BP + [(0.1 \times BP) \times (P + H + O + M + C)] + EB$

"BP" which is \$4,000 for a Class I, moderate magnitude violation in the matrix listed in OAR 340-012-0140(3)(b)(A)(ii) and applicable pursuant to OAR 340-012-0140(3)(a)(M) because this is greenhouse gas reporting program violation by a person with greenhouse gas emissions less than 25,000 metric tons per year but greater than or equal to 5,000 metric tons per year.

"P" is whether Respondent has any prior significant actions, as defined in OAR 340-012-0030(19), in the same media as the violation at issue that occurred at a facility owned or operated by the same Respondent, and receives a value of 0 according to OAR 340-012-0145(2)(a)(A), because there are no prior significant actions.

"H" is Respondent's history of correcting prior significant actions and receives a value of 0 according to OAR 340-012-0145(3)(c) because there is no prior history.

"O" is whether the violation was repeated or ongoing, and receives a value of 0 according to OAR 340-012-0145(4)(a) because there was only one occurrence of the violation. Respondent failed to submit a complete 2022 emissions data report to DEQ by the deadline.

"M" is the mental state of the Respondent and receives a value of 4 according to OAR 340-012-0145(5)(c) because Respondent's conduct was negligent. According to OAR 340-012-0030(15), negligent means the respondent failed to take reasonable care to avoid a foreseeable risk of conduct constituting or resulting in a violation. Respondent received individual emailed notice of GHG reporting requirements from DEQ in 2021 and 2022, including information regarding the supplemental reporting form. In addition, DEQ issued

Respondent a Warning Letter on June 2, 2022, and a Pre-Enforcement Notice on May 26, 2023 regarding the failure to submit the supplemental reporting form for the 2021 and 2022 reporting years. Despite this notice and repeated opportunities to correct, Respondent failed to submit a complete 2022 emissions data report by the March 31, 2023 reporting deadline. Thus, Respondent failed to take reasonable care to avoid a foreseeable risk of conduct constituting or resulting in a greenhouse gas reporting violation.

"C" is Respondent's efforts to correct or mitigate the violation and receives a value of -3 according to OAR 340-012-0145(6)(c) because Respondent made reasonable efforts to correct the violation. Respondent submitted the supplemental reporting form for the 2022 greenhouse gas emissions data report to DEQ on June 8, 2023.

"EB" is the approximate dollar value of the benefit gained and the costs avoided or delayed as a result of the Respondent's noncompliance. It is designed to "level the playing field" by taking away any economic advantage the entity gained and to deter potential violators from deciding it is cheaper to violate and pay the penalty than to pay the costs of compliance. In this case, "EB" receives a value of \$0 because DEQ has insufficient information to calculate an economic benefit for this violation.

PENALTY CALCULATION: $\text{Penalty} = \text{BP} + [(0.1 \times \text{BP}) \times (\text{P} + \text{H} + \text{O} + \text{M} + \text{C})] + \text{EB}$
= \$4,000 + [(0.1 x \$4,000) x (0 + 0 + 0 + 4 + -3)] + \$0
= \$4,000 + (\$400 x 1) + \$0
= \$4,000 + \$400 + \$0
= \$4,400

Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
 700 NE Multnomah Street, Suite 600
 Portland, OR 97232-4100



State of Oregon
Department of Environmental Quality

Phone: 503-229-5437
 Fax: 503-229-5850

CIVIL PENALTY - ORS 468.135(2)

DATE:	April 25, 2024
RESPONSE DATE :	July 4, 2024
TOTAL PENALTY:	\$4,400.00

Account Name:	VETERANS ADMINISTRATION HOSPITAL		
Account Type:	Vendor/Organization/Company	Reference Number:	CPGFD2400060
SubSystem ID:	216701	FIMS Acct. ID:	16903

Penalty Summary

Penalty Amount	Interest	Adjustment	Amount Paid	Total Penalty
\$ 4,400.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 4,400.00

Payment of this penalty is subject to the exercise of your options or right to appeal as described in the enclosed enforcement documents.

To Pay Online with ACH or Credit Card Visit <https://ydo.oregon.gov> and select 'Register Account'



 PLEASE RETURN THIS PORTION WITH YOUR PAYMENT



REFERENCE NO.	CPGFD2400060		
PAYCODE:	00401 7400 10040 74001 0500 000000 00		
FEE PROGRAM ID:	950	RESPONSE DATE:	July 4, 2024
FIMS ACCT. ID:	16903	TOTAL PENALTY DUE:	\$4400.00

AMOUNT ENCLOSED:

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: Department of Environmental Quality

DEQ FINANCIAL SERVICES - LBX4244
 PO BOX 4244
 PORTLAND OR 97208-4244

Check this box if updated address information has been provided on the back of the form.

00401 7400 10040 74001 0500 000000 0095000169036(CPGFD)240006000004400007



State of Oregon
Department of
Environmental
Quality

State of Oregon Department of Environmental Quality

CIVIL PENALTY - ORS 468.135(2)

700 NE Multnomah Street, Suite 600
Portland, OR 97232-4100
Phone: 503-229-5437
Fax: 503-229-5850

Penalty Detail

Transaction Date	Description	Amount
4/24/2024	2023-077 AQ-GHG-HQ-2023-077	\$4,400.00

SFMS Agencies Use:

Trans Code	Treasury Fund	SFMS	Index	PCA (5)	Agency Object	Project #	Phase
723	00401	7400	10040	74001	0500	00000	00

Address Changes

Please visit <https://ydo.oregon.gov> to update your mailing address online or provide the following information:

Name _____
Address _____
City, State, Zip _____