UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 2

IN THE MATTER OF THE NEW CASSEL/HICKSVILLE GROUNDWATER CONTAMINATION SUPERFUND SITE 1st State LLC; 101 Frost Street Associates LP; 570 Properties, Inc.; Arkwin Industries, Inc.; Ashwin Patel as Trustee for the Patel Trust July 29, 1977; Atlas Graphics, Inc.; Barouh Eaton Allen Corp.; Grand Machinery Exchange, Inc.; HDP Printing Industries, Corp; IMC Eastern Corp. (f/k/a IMC Magnetics Corp.); Island Transportation Corp.; Nest Equities, Inc.; Next Millennium Realty, LLC; Patel Trust July 29, 1977; Tishcon Corp.; Utility Manufacturing Co., Inc,; William Gross Respondents. Proceeding under Section 106(a) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, as amended, 42 U.S.C. §9606(a).	Index No. CERCLA 02-2017-2005

ADMINISTRATIVE AGREEMENT AND ORDER ON CONSENT
FOR
REMEDIAL DESIGN AND COST RECOVERY

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I. JURISDICTION AND GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. This Administrative Settlement Agreement and Order on Consent ("Settlement Agreement") is entered into voluntarily by 1st State LLC, 101 Frost Street Associates, LP, 570 Properties, Inc., Arkwin Industries, Inc., Ashwin Patel as Trustee of the Patel Trust July 29, 1977, Atlas Graphics, Inc., Barouh Eaton Allen, Corp., Grand Machinery Exchange, Inc., HDP Printing Industries, Corp., IMC Eastern Corp (f/k/a IMC Magnetics Corp.), Island Transportation Corp., Nest Equities, Inc., Next Millennium Realty, LLC, Patel Trust July 29, 1977, Tishcon Corp., Utility Manufacturing Co., Inc., and William Gross ("Respondents") and the United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2 ("EPA"). This Settlement Agreement provides that Respondents shall undertake a Remedial Design ("RD"), including pre-design investigations, at the New Cassel/Hicksville Groundwater Contamination Superfund Site ("Site") in the area downgradient of the New Cassel Industrial Area and Old Country Road in the towns of Westbury and Salisbury, Nassau County, New York (hereinafter referred to as "OU1"). This Settlement Agreement also provides that Respondents shall reimburse the United States for future response costs that EPA will incur, as provided herein.

2. This Settlement Agreement is issued to Respondents by EPA pursuant to the authority vested in the President of the United States under Sections 104, 106, 107, and 122 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, as amended ("CERCLA"), 42 U.S.C. §§ 9604, 9606, 9607, and 9622, which authority was delegated to the Administrator of EPA on January 23, 1987 by Executive Order 12580, 52 Fed. Reg. 2926 (January 29, 1987) and further redelegated to Regional Administrators on May 11, 1994, by EPA Delegation Nos. 14-14-C and 14-14-D, respectively. This authority was further redelegated within Region 2 to the Director of the Emergency and Remedial Response Division by Regional Order No. R-1200, dated November 23, 2004.

3. EPA and Respondents recognize that this Settlement Agreement has been negotiated in good faith and that the actions undertaken by Respondents in accordance with this Settlement Agreement do not constitute an admission of any liability. Respondents do not admit, and retain the right to controvert in any subsequent proceedings other than proceedings to implement or enforce this Settlement Agreement, the validity of the findings of fact in Section IV and the conclusions of law and determinations in Section V. Respondents agree to comply with and be bound by the terms of this Settlement Agreement and further agree that they will not contest the basis or validity of this Settlement Agreement or its terms.

4. The objectives of EPA and Respondents in entering into this Settlement Agreement are to protect public health or welfare, or the environment at the Site by: (a) conducting the Preliminary Design Investigation of the Site; (b) performing a Remedial Design based on the findings of the Preliminary Design Investigation of the Site, which may or may not include the remedy set forth in EPA's Record of Decision for OU1 at the Site as more specifically set forth in the OU1 Statement of Work ("OU1 SOW"),

attached as Appendix 1 of this Settlement Agreement; and (c) paying Future Response Costs, as defined herein.

5. In accordance with Sections 104(b)(2) and 122(j)(1) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 9604(b)(2) and 9622(j)(1), EPA notified federal natural resource trustee(s) on July 23, 2014 of negotiations with potentially responsible parties regarding the release of hazardous substances that may have resulted in injury to the natural resources under federal trusteeship and encouraged the trustee(s) to participate in the negotiation of this Settlement Agreement.

II. PARTIES BOUND

6. This Settlement Agreement shall apply to and be binding upon EPA and upon Respondents and their successors and assigns. Any change in ownership or corporate status of any Respondent including, but not limited to, any transfer of assets or real or personal property shall not alter such Respondent's responsibilities under this Settlement Agreement.

6.a. Respondents' consent to this Settlement Agreement discharges any and all obligations that EPA may impose upon Respondents' parents, members, managers, agents, attorneys, principals, officers, directors, employees, shareholders and each of their respective heirs, executors, administrators, predecessors, successors and assigns with respect to the matters addressed.

7. Respondents are jointly and severally liable for implementing the Common Work Elements as defined by this Settlement Agreement. The Group A Respondents, Group B Respondents, and Group C Respondents are only, within their respective Groups, each jointly and severally liable for implementing the activities required of each Group as set forth in this Settlement Agreement and/or in the OU1 Statement of Work. Compliance or noncompliance by one or more Respondents only within each Group with any provision of this Settlement Agreement shall not excuse or justify noncompliance by any other Respondent only within that respective Group. No Respondent shall interfere in any way with the performance of Work required as set forth in this Settlement Agreement by any other Respondents. In the event of the insolvency or failure of any one or more Relevant Respondents within each Group only to implement the respective Work obligations under this Settlement Agreement, the remaining Relevant Respondents within that Group only shall complete all such requirements.

8. Respondents shall ensure that their consultants, contractors, subcontractors, and representatives receive a copy of this Settlement Agreement and comply with this Settlement Agreement.

9. The undersigned representative of each Respondent certifies that he or she is full authorized to enter into the terms and conditions of this Settlement Agreement and to execute and legally bind such Respondent to this Settlement Agreement.

III. DEFINITIONS

10. Unless otherwise expressly provided herein, terms used in this Settlement Agreement which
are defined in CERCLA or in regulations promulgated under CERCLA shall have the meaning assigned to them in CERCLA or its implementing regulations. Whenever terms listed below are used in this Settlement Agreement or in the appendices attached hereto, or incorporated by reference into this Settlement Agreement, the following definitions shall apply:

a. "Central Plume" shall mean the area of groundwater contamination identified on Appendix 2 as Central Plume and all areas to which contamination has migrated therefrom within the limits of OU1 as set forth on Appendix 4.

b. "CERCLA" shall mean the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, as amended, 42 U.S.C. §§ 9601-9675.

c. "Common Work Elements" shall mean the coordination by a Relevant Project Coordinator of submittals into one coordinated, combined, comprehensive, and cohesive deliverable for each deliverable required on behalf of its Relevant Plume Group.

d. "Day" shall mean a calendar day. In computing any period of time under this Settlement Agreement, where the last day would fall on a Saturday, Sunday, or federal holiday, the period shall run until the close of business of the next working day.

e. "Eastern Plume" shall mean the area of groundwater contamination identified on Appendix 2 as Eastern Plume and all areas to which contamination has migrated therefrom within the limits of OU1 as set forth on Appendix 4.

f. "Effective Date" shall be the effective date of this Settlement Agreement as provided in Section XXVIII (Effective Date and Subsequent Modification).

g. "EPA" shall mean the United States Environmental Protection Agency and any successor departments or agencies of the United States.

h. "Future Response Costs" shall mean all costs, including, but not limited to, direct and indirect costs, that the United States incurs in reviewing or developing plans, reports and other items pursuant to this Settlement Agreement, verifying the Work, or otherwise implementing, overseeing, or enforcing this Settlement Agreement, including, but not limited to, payroll costs, contractor costs, travel costs, laboratory costs, the costs incurred pursuant to Paragraph 89 (costs and attorneys' fees and any monies paid to secure access, including the amount of just compensation) and Paragraph 113 (Work Takeover).

i. "Group A Respondents" shall mean Respondents generally associated with the Eastern Plume – Nest Equities, Inc., Next Millennium Realty, LLC, 101 Frost Street Associates, LP, Utility Manufacturing Co., Inc.

j. "Group B Respondents" shall mean Respondents generally associated with the Central Plume – 1st State, LLC, Arkwin Industries, Inc., Grand Machinery Exchange, Inc., Ashwin Patel as Trustee of the Patel Trust July 29, 1977, Patel Trust July 29, 1977, Tishcon Corporation, and William Gross.

k. "Group C Respondents" shall mean Respondents generally associated with the Western Plume – 570 Properties, Inc., Atlas Graphics, Inc., Barouh Eaton Allen Corp., HDP Printing Industries, Corp., IMC Eastern Corp. (f/k/a IMC Magnetics Corp.), and Island Transportation Corp.

l. "Interest" shall mean interest at the rate specified for interest on investments of the EPA Hazardous Substance Superfund established by 26 U.S.C. § 9507, compounded annually on October 1 of each year, in accordance with Section 107(a) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9607(a). The applicable rate of interest shall be the rate in effect at the time the interest accrues. The rate of interest is subject to change on October 1 of each year.

m. "National Contingency Plan" or "NCP" shall mean the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan promulgated pursuant to Section 105 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9605, and codified at 40 C.F.R. Part 300, including any amendments thereto.

n. "NCIA Properties" shall include 299 Main Street, 570 Main Street, 567 Main Street, 648-656 and 662-670 Main Street/ 66 Brooklyn Avenue, 700 Main Street, 770 Main Street, 118-130 Swalm Street, 125 State Street, 29 New York Avenue, 30-36 New York Avenue/30-33 Brooklyn Avenue, 62 Kinkel Street, 36 Sylvester Street, 89 Frost Street, and 101 Frost Street in Westbury, New York.

o. "NYSDEC" shall mean the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and any successor departments or agencies of the State, defined below.

p. "Operable Unit 1" or "OU1" shall mean the area downgradient and south of the New Cassel Industrial Area and Old Country Road, which is located primarily in Salisbury, an unincorporated area of the Town of Hempstead, and within the Hamlet of New Cassel in the Town of North Hempstead. OU1 is depicted generally on the map attached as Appendix 2.

q. "OU1 Statement of Work" or "OU1 SOW" shall mean the statement of work for implementation of the RD for OU1 at the Site which is set forth in Appendix 1 to this Settlement Agreement and any modifications made thereto in accordance with this

Settlement Agreement.

r. "OU1 Work Plan" or "RD Work Plan" shall mean the document developed consistent with the OU1 SOW and approved by EPA, and any amendments thereto.

s. "Paragraph" shall mean a portion of this Settlement Agreement identified by an Arabic numeral.

t. "Parties" shall mean EPA and Respondents.

u. "Performance Standards" shall mean the cleanup standards and Remedial Action Objectives and other measures of achievement of the goals of the Remedial Action set forth in the Record of Decision, defined below, and in Section II of the OU1 SOW.

v. "Pre-Design Investigation Work Plan," "PDI Work Plan," or "PDIWP" shall mean the work plan attached to the OU1 SOW as Attachment 1, and any amendments thereto.

w. "Record of Decision" or "ROD" shall mean the EPA Record of Decision relating to OU1 of the Site signed on September 30, 2013 by the Director of the Emergency Remedial Response Division, EPA Region 2, including all attachments thereto, attached hereto as Appendix 3.

x. "Relevant Plume Group" and "Relevant Respondents" shall mean the relevant Group A, Group B, and/or Group C Respondents, as applicable, that are responsible for performing particular work under the OU1 SOW.

y. "Relevant Project Coordinator" shall mean the project coordinator selected by Relevant Respondents within a Relevant Plume Group responsible for performing particular work under the OU1 SOW.

z. "Remedial Action" or "RA" shall mean the remedy as set forth in the ROD.

aa. "Remedial Design" or "RD" shall mean those activities to be undertaken by Respondents to develop the final plans and specifications for the Remedial Action for OU1 pursuant to the RD Work Plan.

bb. "Respondents" shall mean 1st State, LLC, 101 Frost Street, LP, 570 Properties, Inc., Arkwin Industries, Inc., Ashwin Patel as Trustee of the Patel Trust July 29, 1977, Atlas Graphics, Inc., Barouh Eaton Allen, Corp., Grand Machinery Exchange, Inc., HDP Printing Industries, Corp., IMC Eastern Corp. (f/k/a IMC Magnetics, Corp.), Island Transportation Corp., Nest Equities, Inc., Next

Millennium Realty, LLC, Patel Trust July 29, 1977, Tishcon Corp., Utility Manufacturing Co., Inc., and William Gross.

cc. "Section" shall mean a portion of this Settlement Agreement identified by an upper-case Roman numeral and includes one or more Paragraphs.

dd. "Settlement Agreement" shall mean this Administrative Settlement Agreement and Order on Consent, Index No. CERCLA-02-2016-2012, and all appendices attached hereto. In the event of conflict between this Settlement Agreement and any appendix, this Settlement Agreement shall control.

ee. "Site" shall mean the New Cassel/Hicksville Groundwater Contamination Superfund Site, which is an approximately 6.5 square mile area of groundwater contamination within the Towns of North Hempstead, Hempstead, and Oyster Bay, Nassau County, New York, and associated source areas. The Site is depicted generally on the map attached as Appendix 4.

ff. "State" shall mean the State of New York.

gg. "United States" shall mean the United States of America.

hh. "Waste Material" shall mean (i) any "hazardous substance" under Section 101(14) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9601(14), (ii) any "pollutant or contaminant" under Section 101(33) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9601(33), and (iii) any "solid waste" under Section 1004(27) of the Solid Waste Disposal Act, as amended, 42 U.S.C. § 6903(27).

ii. "Western Plume" shall mean the area of groundwater contamination identified on Appendix 2 as Western Plume and all areas to which contamination has migrated therefrom within the limits of OU1 as set forth on Appendix 4.

jj. "Work" shall mean all activities that Respondents are required to perform under this Settlement Agreement. Not all Respondents are required to perform all activities. Work does not include activities required by Section XIII (Record Retention).

IV. FINDINGS OF FACT

11. The Site comprises a widespread area of groundwater contamination within the Towns of North Hempstead, Hempstead, and Oyster Bay, Nassau County, New York. The Site is estimated to include approximately 6.5 square miles that have been characterized by volatile organic compound ("VOC") contaminated groundwater that has impacted eleven public supply wells, including four Town of Hempstead wells (Bowling Green 1 and 2, Roosevelt Field 10, and Levittown 2A), six Hicksville wells (4-2, 5-2, 5-3, 8-1, 8-3, and 9-3), and one Village of Westbury well (11).

12. The eleven public supply wells provide drinking water to a population of an estimated 38,624.

13. The Towns of North Hempstead, Hempstead, and Oyster Bay encompass residential, commercial and industrial areas.

14. The area comprising OU1 of the Site includes approximately 211 acres and consists of residential properties, as well as some commercial areas. A part of the Site, upgradient of OU1, is the New Cassel Industrial Area ("NCIA"), encompassing approximately 170 acres of industrial and commercial property, which is bounded by the Long Island Railroad, Frost Street, Old Country Road and Grand Boulevard in North Hempstead, Nassau County, New York.

15. The NCIA was developed for industrial use during the 1950s through the 1970s and currently has an estimated 200 industrial and commercial properties. On-property leach pools and/or dry wells were generally used for disposal of wastewater until sewers were installed by the mid-1980s.

16. In 1986, as part of a county-wide groundwater investigation, the Nassau County Department of Health ("NCDOH") identified extensive groundwater contamination throughout the NCIA. Six groundwater monitoring wells revealed concentrations of total VOCs above 1,000 micrograms per liter ("ug/L"), with a maximum concentration of nearly 10,000 ug/L. Results of sampling of upgradient groundwater monitoring wells appeared to isolate the NCIA as the source. Sampling of deeper groundwater monitoring wells in and downgradient of the NCIA also indicated that contamination has migrated into the Magothy Aquifer to at least 260 feet below ground surface ("bgs") and is present in significant concentrations (2,700 ug/L of total VOCs) at about 100 feet.

17. In 1988, NYSDEC listed the NCIA as a Class 2 site in the New York State Registry of Inactive Hazardous Waste Disposal Sites ("State Registry").

18. In 1990, the Town of Hempstead installed a granular activated carbon ("GAC") system at the location of the two Bowling Green Water District water supply wells. In 1993, the NCDOH approved the GAC system for full operation. The GAC system commenced operations, and it has remained in operation since. In 1995, to supplement the GAC system, construction began for an air stripper tower. Construction of the air stripper tower was completed in 1997. The air stripper tower commenced operations, and it has remained in operation since.

19. In or around 1994, the NYSDEC delisted the NCIA from the State Registry.

20. From 1994 to 1999, NYSDEC conducted preliminary site assessments and field investigations to identify the sources of contamination within the NCIA. Based on the findings of these assessments and investigations, 17 individual facilities were identified and listed as Class 2 sites on the State Registry between May 1995 and September 1999.

21. Of the 17 facilities

within the NCIA that were initially listed as Class 2 sites on NYSDEC's Registry of Inactive Hazardous Waste Disposal Sites, NYSDEC, under New York State authority, issued nine RODs relating to soil contamination, four RODs relating to groundwater contamination, and eight RODs addressing both groundwater and soil contamination.

22. From 1995 to 2000, NYSDEC conducted groundwater sampling at locations south of the NCIA, Old Country Road, and Grand Boulevard. In September 2000, NYSDEC issued a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study Report under New York State authority for the "New Cassel Industrial Area Off-site Groundwater." NYSDEC determined that tetrachloroethylene ("PCE"), trichloroethylene ("TCE"), and 1,1,1-trichloroethane ("1,1,1-TCA"), all VOCs, were present above New York State standards, criteria, and guidance in the groundwater downgradient of the NCIA in the area.

23. Based on NYSDEC's investigations for the "New Cassel Industrial Area Off-site Groundwater," NYSDEC determined that VOCs disposed of in the NCIA were released at and/or had migrated from the NCIA to groundwater downgradient of the NCIA. In 2003, NYSDEC selected a remedy under its state authorities to address the "New Cassel Industrial Area Off-site Groundwater," which consisted of remediation of the upper and deep portion of the aquifer (to a depth of 225 feet bgs) with in-well vapor stripping/localized vapor treatment. NYSDEC's remedy included a contingency plan to utilize ex-situ extraction and treatment if pilot testing determined that NYSDEC's selected remedy was less practical because of engineering or economic reasons. NYSDEC's remedy for the "New Cassel Industrial Area Off-site Groundwater" was considered the third operable unit of NYSDEC's Class 2 NCIA site on New York State's Registry of Inactive Hazardous Waste Disposal Sites. This third operable unit covers a portion of the area that EPA has designated as OU1.

24. Pre-design investigations conducted by NYSDEC consultants resulted in a determination that in-well vapor stripping may not be an effective technology for remediating the groundwater. NYSDEC decided that the contingency remedy was more appropriate and commenced pre-design studies of this technology. NYSDEC never implemented the remedy selected in 2003 for the "New Cassel Industrial Area Off-site Groundwater."

25. By letter dated December 27, 2010, NYSDEC requested "that the area encompassing contaminated groundwater migrating from the New Cassel Industrial Area sites, Off-site Groundwater South of the New Cassel Industrial Area, Operable Unit No. 3, the General Instruments Corp., Site No. 130020, Operable Unit 2, and the 70-140 Cantiague Rock Rd./Former Sylvania, be nominated to the National Priorities List."

26. Pursuant to Section 105 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. §9605, the EPA placed the Site on the National Priorities List ("NPL"), set forth at 40 C.F.R. Part 300, Appendix B, by publication in the Federal Register on September 16, 2011.

27. On July 19, 2013, EPA issued a Supplemental Remedial Investigation Memorandum which, among other things, summarized the groundwater data collected by NYSDEC through 2011 in the area designated by EPA as OU1. EPA determined that three groundwater plumes exist at OU1 (the eastern,

central, and western plumes). These plumes are characterized by chlorinated VOCs, primarily PCE, TCA and TCE. In the Eastern Plume, the highest concentrations of PCE (16,000 ug/L) and TCE (1,800 ug/L) were observed during the NYSDEC's April 2011 pre-design investigation sampling. In the Central Plume, the highest concentrations of TCA (1,400 ug/L), PCE (330 ug/L), and TCE (1,800 ug/L) were observed during NYSDEC's 2008 pre-design investigation sampling. In the Western Plume, the highest concentrations of PCE (3,700 ug/L) and TCE (5,100 ug/L) were observed during NYSDEC's 2008 pre-design investigation sampling. Other contaminants found in the groundwater at OU1 include, but are not limited to, vinyl chloride, chloroform, cis-1,2-dichloroethene, 1,1-dichloroethene, 1,1,-dichloroethane, and 1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane.

28. EPA concluded in its May 2013 Human Health Risk Assessment that there is an unacceptable future noncancer and cancer risk to human health based on the presence of VOCs in the groundwater at OU1 at the Site.

29. Pursuant to Section 117 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. §9617, EPA published notice of the completion of the Supplemental Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study ("OU1 RI/FS") and availability of the proposed plan for a remedial action for OU1 on July 26, 2013, and provided opportunity for public comment on the proposed remedial action during a 30-day public comment period. EPA extended the public comment period on the proposed remedial action to September 24, 2013.

30. Based on the results of the OU1 RI/FS completed on July 23, 2013, EPA issued a ROD for OU1 on September 30, 2013, in which it selected a remedy for OU1 at the Site. The OU1 remedy includes, but is not limited to, the following: 1) a combination of in-situ treatment of groundwater via in-well vapor stripping and extraction of groundwater via pumping and ex-situ treatment of extracted groundwater prior to discharge to a publically owned treatment works or reinjection to groundwater to establish containment and effectuate removal of contaminant mass where concentrations of total VOCs are greater than 100 ug/L; 2) in-situ chemical treatment to target high concentration contaminant areas, as appropriate; 3) implementation of long-term monitoring to track and monitor changes in groundwater in OU1 to ensure the remedial action objectives are achieved; 4) development of a Site Management Plan to ensure proper management of the remedy post-construction; and 5) institutional controls consisting of any existing local requirements that prevent installation of drinking water wells and informational devices to limit exposure to contaminated groundwater. The selection of the interim remedy for OU1 presumes the effective continuation of ongoing response actions at the NCIA facilities being overseen by NYSDEC pursuant to New York State authority.

31. Exposure to high levels of VOCs can cause a variety of adverse health effects, including, but not limited to damage to the liver and kidneys.

32. Respondents are current owners or operators of properties within the Site from which EPA has determined that hazardous substances were released, and/or owners or operators at the time of disposal of hazardous substances at properties within the Site.

V. EPA'S CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND DETERMINATIONS

33. The NCIA Properties are "facilities" within the meaning of Section 101(9) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C § 9601(9).

34. The Site, including the NCIA Properties, is a "facility" within the meaning of Section 101(9) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. §9601(9).

35. The contamination found at the Site, as identified in the Findings of Fact above, includes TCE, PCE, and 1,1,1-TCA, all of which are hazardous substances as defined in Section 101(14) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9601(14).

36. The discharge, dumping, and/or disposal of hazardous substances at the Site constitutes a "release" of hazardous substances into the environment as the term "release" is defined in Section 101(22) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9601(22).

37. Respondents are responsible parties within the meaning of Section 107(a)(1) and/or (2) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. §9607(a)(1) and/or (2), because they are owners of facilities within the Site and/or they owned and/or operated facilities at the Site from where hazardous substances were released.

38. Each Respondent is a "person" as defined in Section 101(21) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9601(21).

39. Respondents have been given an opportunity to hear from EPA the basis for issuance of this Settlement Agreement and its terms.

40. The actions required by this Settlement Agreement are necessary to protect the public health or welfare or the environment, are in the public interest, are consistent with CERCLA and the NCP, and are expected to expedite effective remedial action.

VI. ORDER

41. Based upon the foregoing Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, Determinations, and the Administrative Record for the ROD, it is hereby ordered and agreed that Respondents shall comply with all provisions of this Settlement Agreement, including, but not limited to, all attachments to this Settlement Agreement and all documents incorporated by reference into this Settlement Agreement.

VII. RESPONDENTS' PROJECT COORDINATOR AND DESIGNATED EPA PROJECT MANAGER

42. Within **21 days** after the Effective Date of this Settlement Agreement, Relevant Respondents within a Relevant Plume Group shall select a coordinator, to be known as their Relevant Designated

Project Coordinator, and submit the name, address, qualifications and telephone number of their Relevant Designated Project Coordinator to EPA. The Relevant Designated Project Coordinator shall be responsible on behalf of Respondents for oversight of the implementation of the Work required under this Settlement Agreement including coordination amongst the various contractors in the event that more than one contractor is retained by Relevant Respondents for their Relevant Plume Group, and preparation and submittal of coordinated, combined, comprehensive, and cohesive documents required to be submitted to EPA as identified in Table 1 of the OU1 SOW. The Relevant Designated Project Coordinator shall not be an attorney engaged in the practice of law. He or she shall have the technical expertise sufficient to oversee all aspects of the Work required under this Settlement Agreement adequately. Relevant Respondents shall ensure that all Work requiring certification by a professional engineer licensed in New York State shall be reviewed and certified by such. The Relevant Designated Project Coordinator shall be knowledgeable at all times about all matters relating to the Work being performed under this Settlement Agreement.

43. Selection of the Relevant Designated Project Coordinator shall be subject to approval by EPA in writing. If EPA disapproves a proposed Relevant Designated Project Coordinator, Relevant Respondents shall propose a different person and notify EPA of that person's name, address, telephone number and qualifications within **14 days** following EPA's disapproval. Relevant Respondents may change their Relevant Designated Project Coordinator provided that EPA has received written notice at least 14 days prior to the desired change. All changes of the Relevant Designated Project Coordinator shall be subject to EPA approval.

44. EPA correspondence related to the performance of the Work under this Settlement Agreement will be sent to the Relevant Designated Project Coordinator on behalf of the Relevant Respondents for that Relevant Plume Group. To the extent possible, the Relevant Designated Project Coordinator shall be present on-Site or readily available for EPA to contact during the performance of all Work and be retained by Relevant Respondents at all times until EPA issues a notice of completion of the Work required under this Settlement Agreement pursuant to Paragraph 141. Notice by EPA in writing to the Relevant Designated Project Coordinator shall be deemed notice to Relevant Respondents for all matters relating to the Work under this Settlement Agreement and shall be deemed effective upon receipt.

45. All activities required of Relevant Respondents under the terms of this Settlement Agreement shall be performed only by well-qualified persons possessing all necessary permits, licenses, and other authorizations required by Federal, State, and/or local law or regulation consistent with Section 121 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. §9621, and all Work conducted pursuant to this Settlement Agreement shall be performed in accordance with prevailing professional standards.

46. Relevant Respondents shall retain at least one contractor to perform the Work. Relevant Respondents shall notify EPA of the names and qualifications of all proposed contractors within **45 days** of the Effective Date. Relevant Respondents shall also notify EPA of the name and qualifications of any other contractor or subcontractor proposed to perform Work under this Settlement Agreement at least **30 days** prior to commencement of such Work by such other contractor or

subcontractor. With respect to any proposed contractor, Relevant Respondents shall demonstrate that the proposed contractor has a quality system that complies with The Uniform Federal Policy for Implementing Quality Systems ("UFP-QS") (EPA/505/F-03/001, March 2005) by submitting a copy of each proposed contractor's Quality Management Plan ("QMP") along with the submittal of the proposed contractors' and/or subcontractors' qualifications.

47. EPA retains the right to disapprove of any, or all, of the contractors and/or subcontractors proposed by Relevant Respondents to conduct Work. If EPA disapproves in writing any of Relevant Respondents' proposed contractors to conduct the Work, Relevant Respondents shall propose a different contractor within **15 days** of receipt of EPA's disapproval. All changes to Relevant Respondents' contractors and/or subcontractors are subject to EPA approval.

48. Relevant Respondents shall provide a copy of this Settlement Agreement to each contractor and subcontractor approved and retained to perform the Work required by this Settlement Agreement. Relevant Respondents shall include in all contracts or subcontracts entered into for Work required under this Settlement Agreement provisions stating that such contractors or subcontractors, including their agents and employees, shall perform activities required by such contracts or subcontracts in compliance with this Settlement Agreement and all applicable laws and regulations. Relevant Respondents shall use best efforts to ensure that their respective contractors and subcontractors perform the Work contemplated herein in accordance with this Settlement Agreement.

49. EPA has designated Jennifer LaPoma of the New York Remediation Branch, Emergency and Remedial Response Division, EPA Region 2, as its Remedial Project Manager ("RPM"). EPA will notify Respondents of a change of its designated RPM. Except as otherwise provided in this Settlement Agreement, Respondents shall direct all submissions required by this Settlement Agreement to the RPM in accordance with Paragraph 74b., below.

50. EPA's RPM shall have the authority lawfully vested in an RPM and On-Scene Coordinator ("OSC") by the NCP. In addition, EPA's RPM shall have the authority consistent with the NCP, to halt any Work required by this Settlement Agreement, and to take any necessary response action when s/he determines that conditions at the Site may present an immediate endangerment to public health or welfare or the environment. The absence of the EPA RPM from the area under study or where Work under this Settlement Agreement is being performed shall not be cause for the stoppage or delay of Work.

VIII. WORK TO BE PERFORMED

51. Respondents agree that they are not jointly and severally liable for performance of the Common Work Elements as set forth in the OU1 SOW and under this Settlement Agreement, or for all other general obligations under this Settlement Agreement, including, but not limited to, any necessary emergency response notifications, preparation and submittal of a monthly report, and the payment of Future Response Costs.

52. In addition to the limitations set forth in Paragraph 51, Group A Respondents agree that they are only jointly and severally liable to EPA for the performance of the work required of Group A Respondents as set forth in the OU1 SOW and under this Settlement Agreement.

53. In addition to the limitations set forth in Paragraph 51, Group B Respondents agree that they are only jointly and severally liable to EPA for the performance of the work required of Group B Respondents as set forth in the OU1 SOW and under this Settlement Agreement.

54. In addition to the limitations set forth in Paragraph 51, Group C Respondents agree that they are only jointly and severally liable to EPA for the performance of the work required of Group C Respondents as set forth in the OU1 SOW and under this Settlement Agreement.

55. Relevant Respondents shall only need to coordinate their respective obligations within their respective Group in such a manner so as to provide one coordinated, combined, comprehensive, and cohesive submission for all Relevant Respondents of that Group for each required submission under this Settlement Agreement. Respondents may request, subject to EPA approval, that separate submittals be accepted for technical or other reasons. Relevant Respondents shall perform all actions required of them that are necessary to implement the Work as set forth in the OU1 SOW. All Work performed shall be in accordance with the provisions of this Settlement Agreement, the OU1 SOW, the PDI Work Plan, the RD Work Plan, CERCLA, the NCP, and all applicable EPA guidance, including, but not limited to, guidance referenced in the OU1 SOW, as may be amended or modified by EPA. EPA's Remedial Project Manager shall use her best efforts to inform Respondents if new or revised guidance may apply to the Work. The OU1 SOW, its attachments, and all deliverables required by the OU1 SOW are incorporated into and an enforceable part of this Settlement Agreement.

56. Coordination with non-settling parties within a Relevant Plume Group.

a. Relevant Respondents shall make best efforts to coordinate in the performance of the Work required pursuant to this Settlement Agreement with any entity or person within its Relevant Plume Group only, if such entity or person is not a party to this Settlement Agreement and is legally directed by EPA and that makes good-faith offers to perform or, in lieu of performance, to finance, in whole or in part, the relevant Work for that Relevant Plume Group.

57. For purposes of Paragraph 56 above, best efforts to coordinate shall include, at a minimum, the following:

a. Replying in writing within a reasonable period of time, but not to exceed **30 days**, to good-faith offers to participate or cooperate in the performance or financing of the relevant Work required under this Settlement Agreement;

b. Engaging in good-faith negotiations with any person not a party to this Settlement Agreement that makes good-faith offers to participate or cooperate in the performance of the Work, or, in lieu of performance, to finance, in whole or in part, the relevant Work required under this Settlement Agreement; and

c. Good-faith consideration of such offers to participate and cooperate in the performance or financing of the relevant Work required under this Settlement Agreement.

58. Upon request by EPA and subject to any claims of applicable privilege(s), Respondents shall submit to EPA (1) any offer to perform or finance or (2) all documentation relating to the performance of or financing of the Work required by this Settlement Agreement by any non-respondent to this Settlement Agreement. Nothing in Paragraph 56 shall be construed as a basis for Respondents to delay implementing the Work under this Settlement Agreement or otherwise excuse compliance with the terms of this Settlement Agreement.

59. In the event that EPA decides to fund the performance of some portion of the Work, Respondents agree to cooperate and coordinate in the overall performance of such Work with EPA.

60. Modification of the Work Plans.

a. If one or more of the Relevant Respondents at any time during the performance of any Work under this Settlement Agreement identifies a need for additional data, such Respondent or Respondents shall submit a memorandum documenting the need for additional data to the EPA RPM within **30 days** of such identification, and shall contemporaneously provide a copy to the Relevant Designated Project Coordinator for distribution to the other Respondents. After consultation with the Relevant Designated Project Coordinator, EPA in its discretion will determine whether the additional data will be collected by such Respondent (or Respondents) and whether it will be incorporated into plans, reports, and other deliverables.

b. In the event of unanticipated or changed circumstances at the Site, the Relevant Respondents shall notify the EPA RPM and the Relevant Designated Project Coordinator for distribution to the other Respondents by email within **24 hours** of discovery of the unanticipated or changed circumstances. In the event that EPA determines that the unanticipated or changed circumstances warrant changes in the PDI Work Plan and/or RD Work Plan, EPA shall modify or amend the PDI Work Plan and/or RD Work Plan in writing accordingly. Relevant Respondents with the obligation to perform said work shall perform it as modified or amended.

c. EPA may determine that in addition to tasks defined in the PDI Work Plan or the initially approved RD Work Plan other additional work may be necessary to accomplish the objectives of the RD. Respondents agree to perform these response actions in addition to those required by the PDI Work Plan or initially approved RD Work Plan as it relates to Common Work Elements, and Relevant Respondents agree to perform any additional work as it relates to Work required of such Relevant Respondents, including any approved modifications, if EPA determines that such actions are necessary for a complete RD.

d. Relevant Respondents shall confirm their willingness to perform the additional Work which may be required under this Paragraph, in writing to EPA within **15 days** of receipt of the EPA request. If Relevant Respondents object to any modification determined by EPA to be necessary pursuant to this Paragraph, Relevant Respondents may seek dispute resolution pursuant to Section XVI (Dispute

Resolution). The PDI Work Plan and/or RD Work Plan shall be modified in accordance with the final resolution of the dispute.

e. Relevant Respondents shall complete the additional Work required by this Paragraph according to the standards, specifications, and schedule set forth or approved by EPA in a written modification to the PDI Work Plan or RD Work Plan or supplements thereto. EPA reserves the right to conduct the Work itself at any point, to seek reimbursement from Relevant Respondents, and/or to seek any other appropriate relief.

f. Nothing in this Paragraph shall be construed to limit EPA's authority to require performance of further response actions at the Site.

61. PDI Recommendations Reports from Relevant Respondents

a. Following Respondents submission of the PDI Directive 2 Technical Memorandum regarding PDI Directives 1 (Synoptic Water Level Gauging and Groundwater Sampling) and PDI 2 (VOC Concentration Groundwater Profiling and Monitor Well Installation), Relevant Respondents shall submit a PDI Recommendations Report which shall include recommendations from their Relevant Plume Group for implementation of the remaining PDI Directives, as pertinent respectively to the Eastern, Central and Western Plumes regarding PDI Directives 3 (Groundwater Extraction Well Installation and/or Aquifer Testing), 4 (In Well Vapor Stripping Pilot System Installation and Testing) and/or 5 (In-Situ Chemical Oxidation Pilot System Installation and Testing).

b. Following Relevant Respondents submission of the PDI Recommendations Report, Relevant Respondents and their consultants shall present in-person to EPA at Region 2's New York City office the results of PDI Directives 1 and 2 and Relevant Respondents recommendations for implementing the remaining PDI Directives 3, 4, and/or 5.

c. The purpose of the PDI Recommendations Report and its presentation is to allow Relevant Respondents and EPA to mutually analyze and evaluate the appropriate remedy to be considered for the structuring and implementation of the remaining PDI Directives, and EPA shall give full weight and consideration to the data and recommendations, even if it means a change in the initial remedy chosen for a particular Relevant Plume Group in the EPA Record of Decision.

d. Following the submittal of the PDI Recommendations Report and the in-person meeting with EPA as per this Paragraph and its provisions, EPA will identify and notify the Relevant Respondents responsible for the activities related to PDI Directives 3, 4, or 5.

62. Off-Site Shipment of Waste Material. Relevant Respondents shall, prior to any off-site shipment of Waste Material from the Site to an out-of-state waste management facility, provide written notification of such shipment of Waste Material to the appropriate state environmental official in the receiving facility's state and to EPA's Designated Project Manager. However, this notification requirement shall not apply to any off-site shipments when the total volume of all such shipments will not exceed 10 cubic yards.

a. Relevant Respondents shall include in the written notification the following information: (1) the name and location of the facility to which the Waste Material is to be shipped; (2) the type and quantity of the Waste Material to be shipped; (3) the expected schedule for the shipment of the Waste Material; and (4) the method of transportation. Relevant Respondents shall notify the state in which the planned receiving facility is located of major changes in the shipment plan, such as a decision to ship the Waste Material to another facility within the same state, or to a facility in another state.

b. The identity of the receiving facility and state will be determined by Relevant Respondents following the award of the contract for the remedial investigation and feasibility study. Relevant Respondents shall provide the information required by Paragraph 62.a and 62.c as soon as practicable after the award of the contract and before the Waste Material is actually shipped.

c. Before shipping any hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants from the Site to an off-site location, Relevant Respondents shall obtain EPA's certification that the proposed receiving facility is operating in compliance with the requirements of CERCLA Section 121(d)(3), 42 U.S.C. § 9621(d)(3), and 40 C.F.R. § 300.440. Relevant Respondents shall only send hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants from the Site to an off-site facility that complies with the requirements of the statutory provision and regulation cited in the preceding sentence.

63. Meetings. If requested by EPA, Relevant Respondents shall make presentations at, and participate in, meetings at the request of EPA during the initiation, conduct, and completion of the Work. In addition to discussion of the technical aspects of the PDI and/or RD, topics will include anticipated problems or new issues. Meetings will be scheduled at EPA's discretion.

64. Community Relations. If requested by EPA, Relevant Respondents shall cooperate with EPA in providing information to the public relating to the Work required herein. As requested by EPA, Respondents shall participate in the preparation of all appropriate information for dissemination by EPA to the public and participate in public meetings which may be held or sponsored by EPA to explain activities at or concerning the Site.

65. Emergency Response and Notification of Releases.

a. In the event of any action or occurrence during performance of the Work, which causes or threatens a release of Waste Material from the Site that constitutes an emergency situation or may present an immediate threat to public health or welfare or the environment, Relevant Respondents shall immediately take all appropriate action to prevent, abate, or minimize such release or threat of release and shall immediately notify the EPA RPM at 212-637-4328, or, in the event of her unavailability. Relevant Respondents shall immediately notify the Chief of the Response and Prevention Branch of the Emergency and Remedial Response Division of EPA, Region 2, at 732-321-6645 of the incident or Site conditions. Relevant Respondents shall take such actions in consultation with EPA's RPM, or other available authorized EPA officer, and in accordance with all

applicable provisions of this Settlement Agreement, including, but not limited to, the Health and Safety Plans, the Contingency Plans, and any other applicable plans or documents developed pursuant to the SOWs. In the event that Relevant Respondents fail to take appropriate response action as required by this Paragraph, and EPA takes such action instead, Relevant Respondents shall reimburse EPA all costs of the response action not inconsistent with the NCP, pursuant to Section XV (Payment of Response Costs).

b. Nothing in the preceding Paragraph shall be deemed to limit any authority of the United States to take, direct, or order all appropriate action to protect human health and the environment or to prevent, abate, or minimize an actual or threatened release of hazardous substances on, at, or from the Site.

c. In addition, in the event of any release of a hazardous substance from the Site, Relevant Respondents shall immediately notify the National Response Center at (800) 424-8802. Relevant Respondents shall submit a written report to EPA within **7 days** after each release, setting forth the events that occurred and the measures taken, or to be taken, to mitigate any release or endangerment caused or threatened by the release and to prevent the reoccurrence of such a release. This reporting requirement is in addition to, and not in lieu of, reporting under Section 103(c) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9603(c), and Section 304 of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act of 1986, 42 U.S.C. § 11004, *et seq.*

IX. EPA APPROVAL OF PLANS AND OTHER SUBMISSIONS

66. After review of any plan, report, or other item that is required to be submitted for approval pursuant to this Settlement Agreement, EPA shall: (a) approve, in whole or in part, the submission; (b) approve the submission upon specified conditions; (c) modify the submission to cure the deficiencies; (d) disapprove, in whole or in part, the submission, directing that Relevant Respondents modify the submission; or (e) any combination of the above. However, EPA shall not modify a submission without first providing Relevant Respondents at least one notice of deficiency and an opportunity to cure within **30 days** or other time frame as determined by EPA, except where to do so would cause serious disruption to the Work or where previous submission(s) have been disapproved because of material defects.

67. In the event of approval, approval upon conditions, or modification by EPA pursuant to Subparagraphs 66(a), (b) or (c) above, Relevant Respondents shall proceed to take any action required by the plan, report, or other deliverable, as approved or modified by EPA subject only to their right to invoke the Dispute Resolution procedures set forth in Section XVI (Dispute Resolution) with respect to the modifications or conditions made by EPA. Following EPA approval or modification of a submission or portion thereof, Relevant Respondents shall not thereafter alter or amend such submission or portion thereof unless directed by EPA. In the event that EPA modifies the submission to cure the deficiencies pursuant to Paragraph 66.c and the submission had a material defect, EPA retains the right to seek stipulated penalties, as provided in Section XVIII (Stipulated Penalties).

68. Resubmission of Plans, Reports or Other Deliverables.

a. Upon receipt of a notice of disapproval pursuant to Paragraph 66.d, Relevant Respondents shall, within **30 days** or such longer time as specified by EPA in such notice, correct the deficiencies and resubmit the plan, report, or other deliverable for approval. Any stipulated penalties applicable to the submission, as provided in Section XVIII, shall accrue during the 30-day period or otherwise specified period but shall not be payable unless the resubmission is disapproved or modified because of a material defect as provided in Paragraphs 70 and 71.

b. Notwithstanding the receipt of a notice of disapproval pursuant to Paragraph 66.d, Relevant Respondents shall proceed, at the direction of EPA, to take any action required by any non-deficient portion of the submission. Implementation of any non-deficient portion of a submission shall not relieve Relevant Respondents of any liability for stipulated penalties under Section XVIII (Stipulated Penalties).

c. Relevant Respondents shall not proceed further with any subsequent activities or tasks relating to work subject to the disapproval until receiving EPA approval, approval on condition, or modification of the RD Work Plan or modification of the PDI Work Plan. While awaiting EPA approval, approval on condition, or modification of the RD Work Plan or modification of the PDI Work Plan, Relevant Respondents shall proceed with other tasks and activities that may be conducted independently of either of these deliverables, in accordance with EPA-approved schedules.

d. For all remaining deliverables not listed above in Subparagraph 68.c, Relevant Respondents shall proceed with all subsequent tasks, activities, and deliverables without awaiting EPA approval on the relevant submitted deliverable. EPA reserves the right to stop Relevant Respondents from proceeding further, either temporarily or permanently, on any task, activity, or deliverable at any point.

69. If EPA disapproves a resubmitted plan, report, or other deliverable, or portion thereof, EPA may again direct Relevant Respondents to correct the deficiencies. EPA also retains the right to modify or develop the plan, report, or other deliverable. Relevant Respondents shall implement any such plan, report, or deliverable as corrected, modified, or developed by EPA, subject only to Relevant Respondents' right to invoke the procedures set forth in Section XVI (Dispute Resolution).

70. Material Defect. If, upon resubmission, a plan, report, or other deliverable is disapproved or modified by EPA because of a material defect, Relevant Respondents shall be deemed to have failed to submit such plan, report, or other deliverable timely and adequately, unless Relevant Respondents invoke the dispute resolution procedures in accordance with Section XVI (Dispute Resolution) and EPA's action is revoked or substantially modified pursuant to a Dispute Resolution decision issued by EPA or superseded by an agreement reached pursuant to that Section. The provisions of Section XVI (Dispute Resolution) and Section XVIII (Stipulated Penalties) shall govern the implementation of the Work and accrual and payment of any stipulated penalties during Dispute Resolution. If EPA's disapproval or modification is not otherwise revoked, substantially

modified, or superseded as a result of a decision or agreement reached pursuant to the Dispute Resolution process set forth in Section XVI, stipulated penalties shall accrue for such violation from the date on which the initial submission was originally required, as provided in Section XVIII.

71. In the event that EPA takes over some but not all of the tasks required to be performed under this Settlement Agreement, Relevant Respondents, to the extent the information is pertinent to their Relevant Plumes, shall incorporate and integrate information supplied by EPA into the final reports.

72. All plans, reports, and other deliverables submitted to EPA under this Settlement Agreement shall, upon approval or modification by EPA, be incorporated into and enforceable under this Settlement Agreement against the Relevant Respondents. In the event EPA approves or modifies a portion of a plan, report, or other deliverable submitted to EPA under this Settlement Agreement, the approved or modified portion shall be incorporated into and become enforceable against the Relevant Respondents under this Settlement Agreement.

73. Neither failure of EPA to expressly approve or disapprove of Relevant Respondents' submissions within a specified time period, nor the absence of comments, shall be construed as approval by EPA. Whether or not EPA gives express approval for Respondents' deliverables, Respondents are responsible for preparing deliverables acceptable to EPA.

X. SUBMISSION OF PLANS AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

74. Reporting

a. Relevant Respondents shall submit coordinated, combined, comprehensive and cohesive written progress reports to EPA concerning actions undertaken pursuant to this Settlement Agreement as provided in the OU1 SOW and pursuant to the schedules provided in the OU1 SOW, but only as those actions and schedules apply to their Relevant Plume Group, until termination of this Settlement Agreement.

b. Relevant Respondents shall submit copies of all plans, reports, or other submissions required by this Settlement Agreement, the OU1 SOW, or any approved work plan as set forth below, pertinent to their Relevant Plume Group. Submission of any electronic submissions, if requested by EPA, must be in a format that is compatible with EPA software and in database files and sizes to be specified by EPA. If any deliverable includes maps, drawings, or other exhibits that are larger than 8.5" by 11", Respondents shall also provide EPA with paper copies of such exhibits. Reports should be submitted to the following unless otherwise notified by EPA:

1 electronic copy to:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 2

290 Broadway, 20th Floor
New York, New York 10007
Attention: New Cassel/Hicksville Groundwater Contamination Superfund Site Remedial Project Manager
212-637-4328
lapoma.jennifer@epa.gov

1 electronic copy to:

New York/Caribbean Superfund Branch
Office of Regional Counsel
United States Environmental Protection Agency Region II
290 Broadway, 17th Floor
New York, New York 10007-1866
Attention: Attorney for New Cassel/Hicksville Groundwater Contamination Site
212-637-3183
kivowitz.sharon@epa.gov

1 electronic copy to:

Jeffrey L. Dyber, P.E.
Environmental Engineer 2
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
Remedial Bureau A
625 Broadway
Albany, NY 12233-7015
518-402-9621
jldyber@gw.dec.state.ny.us

1 electronic copy to:

Jacqueline Nealon
New York State Department of Health
jen02@health.state.ny.us

XI. QUALITY ASSURANCE, SAMPLING, AND ACCESS TO INFORMATION

75. Quality Assurance. Relevant Respondents shall assure that Work performed, samples taken, and analyses conducted conform to the requirements of the OU1 SOW, the Quality Assurance Project Plan ("QAPP") to be submitted pursuant to the OU1 SOW, and guidance identified therein pertaining to their Relevant Plume Group. Relevant Respondents will assure that field personnel used by Relevant Respondents are properly trained in the use of field equipment and in chain of custody procedures. Relevant Respondents shall only use laboratories that have a documented quality system that complies with "EPA Requirements for Quality Management Plans

(QA/R-2)" (EPA/240/B-01/002, March 2001; Reissued May 2006) or equivalent documentation as determined by EPA.

76. Sampling. All results of sampling, tests, modeling, or other data (including raw data) generated by Relevant Respondents, or on behalf of Relevant Respondents, during the period that this Settlement Agreement is effective, shall be submitted to EPA in the next monthly progress report as more fully set forth in the OU1 SOW. EPA will make available to Relevant Respondents validated data generated by EPA unless it is exempt from disclosure by any federal or state law or regulation.

77. Access to Information.

a. Relevant Respondents shall provide to EPA, upon request, copies of all documents and information within their possession or control or that of their contractors or agents relating to activities at the Site or to the implementation of this Settlement Agreement, including, but not limited to, sampling, analysis, chain of custody records, manifests, trucking logs, receipts, reports, sample traffic routing, correspondence, or other documents or information related to the Work. Relevant Respondents shall also make available to EPA, for purposes of investigation, information gathering, or testimony, their employees, agents, or representatives with knowledge of relevant facts concerning the performance of the Work.

b. Relevant Respondents may assert business confidentiality claims covering part or all of the documents or information submitted to EPA under this Settlement Agreement to the extent permitted by and in accordance with Section 104(e)(7) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9604(e)(7), and 40 C.F.R. § 2.203(b). Documents or information determined to be confidential by EPA will be afforded the protection specified in 40 C.F.R. Part 2, Subpart B. If no claim of confidentiality accompanies documents or information when it is submitted to EPA, or if EPA has notified Respondents that the documents or information are not confidential under the standards of Section 104(e)(7) of CERCLA or 40 C.F.R. Part 2, Subpart B, the public may be given access to such documents or information without further notice to Relevant Respondents. Relevant Respondents shall segregate and clearly identify all documents or information submitted under this Settlement Agreement for which Respondents assert business confidentiality claims.

c. Relevant Respondents may assert that certain documents, records, and other information are privileged under the attorney-client privilege or any other privilege recognized by federal law. If the Relevant Respondents assert such a privilege in lieu of providing documents, they shall provide EPA with the following: (i) the title of the document, record, or information; (ii) the date of the document, record, or information; (iii) the name and title of the author of the document, record, or information; (iv) the name and title of each addressee and recipient; (v) a description of the contents of the document, record, or information; and (vi) the privilege asserted by Relevant Respondents. However, no documents, reports, or other information created or generated pursuant to the requirements of this Settlement Agreement shall be withheld on the grounds that they are privileged or confidential.

d. No claim of confidentiality shall be made with respect to any data, including, but not limited to, all sampling, analytical, monitoring, hydrogeologic, scientific, chemical, or engineering data, or any other documents or information evidencing conditions at or around the Site.

78. In entering into this Settlement Agreement, Relevant Respondents waive any objections to any data gathered, generated, or evaluated by EPA, the State, or Respondents in the performance or oversight of the Work that has been gathered, generated, or evaluated in accordance with the QAPP required by the Settlement Agreement, the PDI Work Plan, or EPA-approved RD Work Plan.

XII. SITE ACCESS

79. If any Relevant Respondent owns or controls any part of the Site, or any other property where access is needed to implement this Settlement Agreement, such Relevant Respondent shall, commencing on the Effective Date, provide EPA and its representatives, including contractors, with access at all reasonable times to the Site, or such other property, to conduct any activity related to this Settlement Agreement. Such Relevant Respondent shall, at least **30 days** prior to the conveyance of any interest in real property at the Site, give written notice to the transferee that the property is subject to this Settlement Agreement and written notice to EPA of the proposed conveyance, including the name and address of the transferee. Such Relevant Respondent also agrees to require that its successors comply with the immediately preceding sentence, this Section, and Section XI (Quality Assurance, Sampling and Access to Information).

80. Where any action under this Settlement Agreement is to be performed in areas owned by, or in possession of, someone other than a Respondent, Relevant Respondents shall use their best efforts to obtain all necessary access agreements to such property based on the respective Work Element(s) that necessitates the access within **30 days** after the Effective Date, or as otherwise specified in writing by EPA. Relevant Respondents shall immediately notify EPA if, after using their best efforts, they are unable to obtain such agreements. For purposes of this Paragraph, "best efforts" includes the payment of reasonable sums of money in consideration of access. Relevant Respondents shall describe in writing their efforts to obtain access. EPA may in its sole discretion then assist such Respondents in gaining access, to the extent necessary to effectuate the response actions described herein, using such means as EPA deems appropriate. Relevant Respondents shall reimburse EPA for all costs and attorney's fees incurred by the United States in obtaining such access, in accordance with the procedures in Section XV (Payment of Response Costs).

81. Notwithstanding any provision of this Settlement Agreement, EPA retains all of its access authorities and rights, including enforcement authorities related thereto, under CERCLA, the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act ("RCRA"), and any other applicable statutes or regulations.

82. If Relevant Respondents cannot obtain access agreements, EPA may obtain access for Relevant Respondents, perform those tasks or activities with EPA contractors, or terminate the

Settlement Agreement, subject to the provisions of Section XVI (Dispute Resolution). If EPA performs those tasks or activities with EPA contractors and does not terminate the Settlement Agreement, Relevant Respondents shall perform all other activities not requiring access to such property and shall reimburse EPA for all costs incurred in performing such activities. Relevant Respondents shall integrate the results of any such tasks undertaken by EPA into its reports and deliverables, if the information is pertinent to their Relevant Plume Group.

XIII. RECORD RETENTION

83. During the pendency of this Settlement Agreement and until 10 years after Relevant Respondents' receipt of EPA's notification that the Work has been completed, Relevant Respondents shall preserve and retain all non-identical copies of documents, records, and other information (including documents, records, or other information in electronic form) now in their possession or control or which come into its possession or control that relate in any manner to the performance of the Work or the liability of any person under CERCLA with respect to the Site, regardless of any corporate retention policy to the contrary. Until 10 years after notification that the Work has been completed, Relevant Respondents shall also instruct their contractors and agents to preserve all documents, records, and other information of whatever kind, nature, or description relating to performance of the Work.

84. At the conclusion of this document retention period, Relevant Respondents shall notify EPA at least **90 days** prior to the destruction of any such documents, records, or other information and, upon request by EPA, Respondents shall deliver any such documents, records, or other information to EPA.

85. Each Relevant Respondent hereby certifies that to the best of its knowledge and belief, after thorough inquiry, it has not altered, mutilated, discarded, destroyed, or otherwise disposed of any records, documents, or other information (other than identical copies) relating to its potential liability regarding the Site since notification of potential liability by EPA or the State or the filing of suit against it by the United States regarding the Site, and that it has fully complied with any and all EPA requests for information pursuant to Sections 104(e) and 122(e) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 9604(e) and 9622(e), and Section 3007 of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6927.

XIV. COMPLIANCE WITH OTHER LAWS

86. Relevant Respondents shall undertake all action that this Settlement Agreement requires in accordance with the requirements of all applicable local, state, and federal laws and regulations, unless an exemption from such requirements is specifically provided by law or in this Settlement Agreement. The activities conducted pursuant to this Settlement Agreement, if approved by EPA, shall be considered consistent with the NCP.

87. Except as provided in Section 121(e) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9621(e), and the NCP, no permit shall be required for any portion of the Work conducted entirely on-Site. Where

any portion of the Work requires a federal or state permit or approval, Relevant Respondents shall submit timely applications and take all other actions necessary to obtain and to comply with all such permits or approvals.

88. This Settlement Agreement is not, and shall not be construed to be, a permit issued pursuant to any federal or state statute or regulation.

XV. PAYMENT OF RESPONSE COSTS

89. Relevant Respondents hereby agree to reimburse EPA for those Future Response Costs related to Work that such Relevant Respondents are required to perform. EPA will periodically send billings to Respondents for such Future Response Costs. The billings will be accompanied by a printout of cost data in EPA's financial management system. Respondents shall remit payment to EPA within **30 days** of receipt of each such billing.

90. Payments under this Settlement Agreement shall be made via electronic funds transfer ("EFT"). To effect payment via EFT, Respondents shall instruct their bank to remit payment in the required amount via EFT using the following information, or such other updated EFT information that EPA may subsequently provide to Respondents:

- Amount of payment:
- Bank: **Federal Reserve Bank of New York**
- Account code for Federal Reserve Bank account receiving the payment: **68010727**
- Federal Reserve Bank ABA Routing Number: **021030004**
- SWIFT Address: **FRNYUS33**
  33 Liberty Street
  New York, NY 10045
- Field Tag 4200 of the Fedwire message should read:
  D 68010727 Environmental Protection Agency
- Name of remitter:
- Settlement Agreement Index Number: **CERCLA 02-2017-2005**
- Site/spill identifier: **A2-45**

At the time of payment, Respondents shall send notice that such payment has been made by email to acctsreceivable.cinwd@epa.gov, and to:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Cincinnati Finance Office
26 Martin Luther King Drive
Cincinnati, OH 45268

and:

Jennifer LaPoma, Remedial Project Manager

Emergency and Remedial Response Division
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2
290 Broadway, 20th Floor
New York, NY 10007-1866

as well as to:

Sharon E. Kivowitz
Assistant Regional Counsel
Office of Regional Counsel
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 2
290 Broadway, 17th Floor
New York, New York 10007-1866

Such notice shall reference the date of the EFT, the payment amount, the name of the Site, the Site Identifier, the Settlement Agreement index number, the bill number (if applicable) , whether the payment is for future costs or penalties, and Respondent's name and address.

91. The total amounts to be paid by Relevant Respondents pursuant to Paragraph 89 shall be deposited into the New Cassel/Hicksville Groundwater Contamination Superfund Site Special Account within the EPA Hazardous Substance Superfund to be retained and used to conduct or finance response actions at or in connection with the Site, or to be transferred by EPA to the EPA Hazardous Substance Superfund.

92. In the event that payments of any Future Response Costs are not made within **30 days** of Respondents' receipt of a bill, Relevant Respondents shall pay Interest on the unpaid balance. The Interest on Future Response Costs shall begin to accrue on the date of the bill and shall continue to accrue until the date of payment. Payments of Interest made under this Paragraph shall be in addition to such other remedies or sanctions available to the United States by virtue of Respondents' failure to make timely payments under this Section, including, but not limited to, payment of stipulated penalties pursuant to Section XVIII.

93. Relevant Respondents may contest payment of any billed Future Response Costs under Paragraph 89, if they determine that EPA has made an accounting error, or if they allege that a cost item that is included represents costs that are inconsistent with the NCP. Such objection shall be made in writing within **30 days** of receipt of the bill and must be sent to the EPA RPM. Any such objection shall specifically identify the contested Future Response Costs and the basis for objection. In the event of an objection, a Relevant Respondent shall, within the 30-day period, pay all uncontested Future Response Costs to EPA in the manner described in Paragraph 90. Simultaneously, Relevant Respondents shall establish an interest-bearing escrow account in a federally-insured bank duly chartered in the State of New York and remit to that escrow account funds equivalent to the amount of the contested Future Response Costs. Relevant Respondents shall send to the EPA RPM a copy of the transmittal letter and check paying the uncontested Future Response Costs, and a copy of the correspondence that establishes and funds the escrow account, including, but

not limited to, information containing the identity of the bank and bank account under which the escrow account is established as well as a bank statement showing the initial balance of the escrow account. Simultaneously with establishment of the escrow account, Relevant Respondents shall initiate the Dispute Resolution procedures in Section XVI (Dispute Resolution). If EPA prevails in the dispute, within **5 days** of the resolution of the dispute, Relevant Respondents shall pay the sums due (with accrued interest) to EPA in the manner described in Paragraph 90. If Relevant Respondents prevail concerning any aspect of the contested costs, Relevant Respondents shall pay any portion of the costs (plus associated accrued interest) for which they did not prevail to EPA in the manner described in Paragraph 90, and Respondents shall be disbursed any balance of the escrow account. The dispute resolution procedures set forth in this Paragraph in conjunction with the procedures set forth in Section XVI (Dispute Resolution) shall be the exclusive mechanisms for resolving disputes regarding Respondents' obligation to reimburse EPA for Future Response Costs.

XVI. DISPUTE RESOLUTION

94. Unless this Settlement Agreement expressly provides otherwise, the dispute resolution procedures of this Section shall be the exclusive mechanism for resolving disputes arising under this Settlement Agreement. The Parties shall attempt to resolve any disagreements concerning this Settlement Agreement expeditiously and informally. A Respondent may only initiate disputes related to Work for which they are a Relevant Respondent.

95. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Settlement Agreement, Respondents may not invoke dispute resolution procedures more than once regarding the same issue. For example, if Respondents invoke the dispute resolution procedures with respect to an issue raised by EPA's comments on the draft RD Work Plan, and said issue is resolved under this Section, Respondents may not invoke the dispute resolution procedures with respect to the same issue later, in the context of EPA's comments on a draft RD Report.

96. If a Respondent(s) objects to any EPA action taken pursuant to this Settlement Agreement, including billings for Future Response Costs, it (they) shall notify EPA in writing of its(their) objection(s) within **20 days** of such action, unless the objection(s) has/have been resolved informally. EPA and such Respondent(s) shall have **30 days** from EPA's receipt of such Respondent's(s') written objection(s) to resolve the dispute through formal negotiations (the "Negotiation Period"). The Negotiation Period may be extended at the sole discretion of EPA. Such extension may be granted verbally but must be confirmed in writing.

97. Any agreement reached by the parties pursuant to this Section shall be in writing and shall, upon signature by both parties, be incorporated into and become an enforceable part of this Settlement Agreement. If the Parties are unable to reach an agreement within the Negotiation Period, an EPA management official at the Branch Chief level will issue a written decision on the dispute to Respondents. EPA's decision shall be incorporated into and become an enforceable part of this Settlement Agreement. Respondent's(s') obligations under this Settlement Agreement shall not be tolled by submission of any objection for dispute resolution under this Section. Following resolution of

the dispute, as provided by this Section, Respondent(s) shall fulfill the requirement that was the subject of the dispute in accordance with the agreement reached or with EPA's decision, whichever occurs. Respondent(s) shall proceed in accordance with EPA's final decision regarding the matter in dispute, regardless of whether Respondent(s) agrees with the decision.

XVII. FORCE MAJEURE

98. Relevant Respondents agree to perform all requirements of this Settlement Agreement pertaining to their Relevant Plume Group within the time limits established under this Settlement Agreement, unless agreed otherwise by EPA in writing or unless the performance is delayed by a *force majeure* event. For purposes of this Settlement Agreement, a *force majeure* event is defined as any event arising from causes beyond the control of Respondents, or of any entity controlled by Respondents, including, but not limited to, their contractors and subcontractors, that delays or prevents performance of any obligation under this Settlement Agreement despite Respondents' best efforts to fulfill the obligation. The requirement that Respondents exercise "best efforts to fulfill the obligation" includes using best efforts to anticipate any potential *force majeure* event: (a) as it is occurring; and (b) following the potential *force majeure* event, such that the delay is minimized to the greatest extent possible. A *force majeure* event does not include financial inability to complete the Work or increased cost of performance.

99. If any event occurs or has occurred that may delay the performance of any obligation under this Settlement Agreement, whether or not caused by a *force majeure* event, Relevant Respondents shall notify EPA orally within **5 days** of when Relevant Respondents first knew that the event might cause a delay. Within **10 days** thereafter, Relevant Respondents shall provide to EPA in writing the following: an explanation and description of the reasons for the delay; the anticipated duration of the delay; all actions taken or to be taken to prevent or minimize the delay; a schedule for implementation of any measures to be taken to prevent or mitigate the delay or the effect of the delay; Relevant Respondents' rationale for attributing such delay to a *force majeure* event if it intends to assert such a claim; and a statement as to whether, in the opinion of Relevant Respondents, such event may cause or contribute to an endangerment to public health, welfare, or the environment. Failure to comply with the above requirements shall preclude Respondents from asserting any claim of a *force majeure* event for the period of time of such failure to comply and for any additional delay caused by such failure. Relevant Respondents shall be deemed to know of any circumstance of which Relevant Respondents, any entity controlled by Relevant Respondents, or Relevant Respondents' contractors knew or should have known.

100. If EPA agrees that the delay or anticipated delay is attributable to a *force majeure* event, the time for performance of the obligations under this Settlement Agreement that are affected by the *force majeure* event will be extended by EPA for such time as is necessary to complete those obligations. An extension of the time for performance of the obligations affected by the *force majeure* event shall not, of itself, extend the time for performance of any other obligation. If EPA does not agree that the delay or anticipated delay has been or will be caused by a *force majeure* event, EPA will notify Relevant Respondents in writing of its decision. If EPA agrees that the delay is attributable to a *force majeure* event, EPA will notify Relevant Respondents in writing of the length of the

extension, if any, for performance of the obligations affected by the *force majeure* event.

XVIII. STIPULATED PENALTIES

101. If Relevant Respondents fail, without prior EPA approval, to comply with any of their respective requirements or time limits set forth in or established pursuant to this Settlement Agreement and appendices hereto, and such failure is not excused under the terms of Section XVII (Force Majeure), such Respondents shall, upon demand by EPA, pay a stipulated penalty to EPA in the amount indicated below:

a. For all requirements of this Settlement Agreement, other than the timely provision of progress reports in accordance with the OU1 SOW and the securing of access, stipulated penalties shall accrue in the amount of $1,000 per day, per violation, for the first 7 days of noncompliance, $2,000 per day, per violation, for the 8th through 15th day of noncompliance, $4,000 per day, per violation, for the 16th through 25th day of noncompliance, and $8,000 per day, per violation, for the 26th day of noncompliance and beyond.

b. For the progress reports, and for securing access, stipulated penalties shall accrue in the amount of $500 per day, per violation, for the first 7 days of noncompliance, $1000 per day, per violation, for the 8th through 15th day of noncompliance, $2,000 per day, per violation, for the 16th through 25th day of noncompliance, and $3,000 per day, per violation, for the 26th day of noncompliance and beyond.

102. In the event of a Work Takeover pursuant to Paragraph 113, Relevant Respondents shall be liable for a stipulated penalty in the amount of $300,000.

103. All penalties shall begin to accrue on the day after the complete performance is due, or the day a violation occurs, and shall continue to accrue through the final day of the correction of the noncompliance or completion of the activity. However, stipulated penalties shall not accrue: a) with respect to a deficient submission under Section VIII (Work to be Performed), during the period, if any, beginning on the 31st day after EPA's receipt of such submission until the date that EPA notifies Relevant Respondents of any deficiency; and b) with respect to a decision by the Branch Chief, or his designee, under Paragraph 97 of Section XVI (Dispute Resolution), during the period, if any, beginning on the 31st day after the Negotiation Period begins until the date that the EPA management official issues a final decision regarding such dispute. Nothing herein shall prevent the simultaneous accrual of separate penalties for separate violations of this Settlement Agreement.

104. Following EPA's determination that Relevant Respondents have failed to comply with a requirement of this Settlement Agreement, EPA may give Relevant Respondents written notification of the failure and describe the noncompliance. EPA may send Relevant Respondents a written demand for payment of the penalties. However, penalties shall accrue as provided in the preceding Paragraph regardless of whether EPA has notified Respondents of a violation.

105. Relevant Respondents shall pay EPA all penalties accruing under this Section within **30 days** of Relevant Respondents' receipt from EPA of a demand for payment of the penalties, unless Relevant Respondents invoke the dispute resolution procedures under Section XVI (Dispute Resolution). All payments to EPA under this Section shall be made via EFT in accordance with the payment procedures in Paragraph 90 above.

106. The payment of penalties shall not alter in any way Relevant Respondents' obligation to complete performance of the Work Element required to be performed by Relevant Respondents under this Settlement Agreement.

107. Penalties shall continue to accrue during any dispute resolution period but need not be paid until **15 days** after the dispute is resolved by agreement or by receipt of EPA's decision.

108. If Relevant Respondents fail to pay stipulated penalties when due, EPA may institute proceedings to collect the penalties, as well as Interest. Relevant Respondents shall pay Interest on the unpaid balance, which shall begin to accrue on the date of demand made pursuant to Paragraph 105.

109. Nothing in this Settlement Agreement shall be construed as prohibiting, altering, or in any way limiting the ability of EPA to seek any other remedies or sanctions available by virtue of Respondents' violation of this Settlement Agreement or of the statutes and regulations upon which it is based, including, but not limited to, penalties pursuant to Sections 106(b) and 122(l) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 9606(b) and 9622(l), and punitive damages pursuant to Section 107(c)(3) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9607(c)(3). Provided, however, that EPA shall not seek civil penalties pursuant to Section 106(b) or 122(l) of CERCLA or punitive damages pursuant to Section 107(c) (3) of CERCLA for any violation for which a stipulated penalty is provided herein, except in the case of a willful violation of this Settlement Agreement or in the event that EPA assumes performance of a portion or all of the Work pursuant to Section XX (Reservation of Rights by EPA), Paragraph 113. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Section, EPA may, in its unreviewable discretion, waive any portion of stipulated penalties that have accrued pursuant to this Settlement Agreement.

XIX. COVENANT NOT TO SUE BY EPA

110. In consideration of the actions that will be performed and the payments that will be made by Respondents under the terms of this Settlement Agreement, and except as otherwise specifically provided in this Settlement Agreement, EPA covenants not to sue or to take administrative action against Respondents or their successors and assigns pursuant to Section 106 and 107(a) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. §§9606 and 9607(a), for the Work and for the recovery of Future Response Costs. This covenant not to sue shall take effect upon the Effective Date. This covenant not to sue is conditioned upon the complete and satisfactory performance by Respondents of their respective obligations to perform the Work under this Settlement Agreement, including, but not limited to, payment of Future Response Costs pursuant to Paragraph 89 (Payment of Future Response Costs). This covenant not to sue extends only to Respondents and does

not extend to any other person.

XX. RESERVATION OF RIGHTS BY EPA

111. Except as specifically provided in this Settlement Agreement, nothing herein shall limit the power and authority of EPA or the United States to take, direct, or order all actions necessary to protect public health, welfare, or the environment or to prevent, abate, or minimize an actual or threatened release of hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants, or hazardous or solid waste on, at, or from the Site. Further, except as specifically provided in this Settlement Agreement, nothing herein shall prevent EPA from seeking legal or equitable relief to enforce the terms of this Settlement Agreement, from taking other legal or equitable action as it deems appropriate and necessary, or from requiring Respondents in the future to perform additional activities pursuant to CERCLA or any other applicable law.

112. The covenant not to sue set forth in Section XIX (Covenant Not To Sue By EPA) above does not pertain to any matters other than those expressly identified therein. EPA reserves and this Settlement Agreement is without prejudice to, all rights against Respondents, or Relevant Respondents in the case of subparagraph a., below, with respect to all other matters, including, but not limited to:

a. claims based on a failure by Relevant Respondents to meet one of their respective obligations under this Settlement Agreement;

b. liability for costs not included within the definition of Future Response Costs;

c. liability for performance of any response action other than the Work;

d. criminal liability;

e. liability for damages for injury to, destruction of, or loss of natural resources, and for the costs of any natural resource damage assessments;

f. liability arising from the past, present, or future disposal, release, or threat of release of Waste Materials outside of the Site; and

g. liability for costs incurred, or to be incurred, by the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry related to the Site.

113. Work Takeover. In the event EPA determines that Relevant Respondents have ceased implementation of any portion of the Work, are seriously or repeatedly deficient or late in their performance of the Work, or are implementing the Work in a manner that may cause an endangerment to human health or the environment, EPA may assume the performance of any or all portion(s) of the Work as EPA determines necessary. Relevant Respondents may invoke the procedures set forth in Section XVI (Dispute Resolution) to dispute EPA's determination that takeover of the Work is

warranted under this Paragraph. Costs that EPA incurs in performing the Work pursuant to this Paragraph shall be considered Future Response Costs that Relevant Respondents shall pay pursuant to Section XV (Payment of Future Response Costs). Notwithstanding any other provision of this Settlement Agreement, EPA retains all authority and reserves all rights to take any and all response actions authorized by law.

XXI. COVENANT NOT TO SUE BY RESPONDENTS

114. Respondents covenant not to sue and agree not to assert any claims or causes of action against the United States, or its contractors or employees, with respect to the Work, Future Response Costs, or this Settlement Agreement, including, but not limited to:

a. any direct or indirect claim for reimbursement from the Hazardous Substance Superfund established by 26 U.S.C. § 9507, based on Sections 106(b) (2), 107, 111, 112, or 113 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 9606(b) (2), 9607, 9611, 9612, or 9613, or any other provision of law;

b. any claim arising out of response actions at, or in connection with, the Site, including any claim under the United States Constitution, the State Constitution, the Tucker Act, 28 U.S.C. § 1491, the Equal Access to Justice Act, 28 U.S.C. § 2412, as amended, or at common law; or

c. any claim against the United States pursuant to Sections 107 and 113 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 9607 and 9613, relating to the Work or payment of Future Response Costs, provided however, that this Settlement Agreement shall not have any effect on claims or causes of action in contribution that Respondents have or may have pursuant to CERCLA against the United States or any of its agencies or departments, other than EPA, as a responsible party under Section 107(a) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9607(a), relating to the Site.

115. Except as expressly provided in Paragraphs 117 (Claims Against De Micromis Parties), and 119 (Claims Against *De Minimis* and Ability to Pay Parties), these covenants not to sue shall not apply in the event the United States brings a cause of action or issues an order pursuant to the reservations set forth in Section XX (Reservations of Rights by EPA), other than in Paragraph 112.a (claims for failure to meet a requirement of the Settlement Agreement) or 112.d (criminal liability), but only to the extent that Respondents' claims arise from the same response action, response costs, or damages that the United States is seeking pursuant to the applicable reservation.

116. Nothing in this Agreement shall be deemed to constitute approval or preauthorization of a claim within the meaning of Section 111 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9611, or 40 C.F.R. § 300.700(d).

117. Claims Against De Micromis Parties. Respondents agree not to assert any claims and to waive all claims or causes of action (including but not limited to claims or causes of action under Sections 107(a) or 113 of

CERCLA) that they may have for all matters relating to the Site against any person where the person's liability to Respondents with respect to the Site is based solely on having arranged for disposal or treatment, or for transport for disposal or treatment, of hazardous substances at the Site, or having accepted for transport for disposal or treatment of hazardous substances at the Site, if all or part of the disposal, treatment, or transport occurred before April 1, 2001, and the total amount of material containing hazardous substances contributed by such person to the Site was less than 110 gallons of liquid materials or 200 pounds of solid materials.

118. The waiver in Paragraph 117 shall not apply with respect to any defense, claim, or cause of action that a Respondent may have against any person meeting the above criteria if such person asserts a claim or cause of action relating to the Site against such Respondent. This waiver also shall not apply to any claim or cause of action against any person meeting the above criteria if EPA determines:

a. that such person has failed to comply with any EPA requests for information or administrative subpoenas issued pursuant to Section 104(e) or 122(e) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 9604(e) or 9622(e), or Section 3007 of RCRA, or has impeded or is impeding, through action or inaction, the performance of a response action or natural resource restoration with respect to the Site, or has been convicted of a criminal violation for the conduct to which this waiver would apply and that conviction has not been vitiated on appeal or otherwise; or

b. that the materials containing hazardous substances contributed to the Site by such person have contributed significantly, or could contribute significantly, either individually or in the aggregate, to the cost of response action or natural resource restoration at the Site.

119. Claims Against *De Minimis* and Ability to Pay Parties. Respondents agree not to assert any claims and to waive all claims or causes of action (including but not limited to claims or causes of action under Sections 107(a) or 113 of CERCLA) that they may have for response costs relating to the Site against any person that has entered, or in the future enters, into a final Section 122(g) *de minimis* settlement, or a final settlement based on limited ability to pay, with EPA with respect to the Site as of the Effective Date. This waiver shall not apply with respect to any defense, claim, or cause of action that a Respondent may have against any person if such person asserts a claim or cause of action relating to the Site against such Respondent.

120. Respondents reserve, and this Settlement Agreement is without prejudice to, claims against the United States subject to the provisions of Chapter 171 of Title 28 of the United States Code, for money damages for injury or loss of property or personal injury or death caused by the negligent or wrongful act or omission of any employee of the United States while acting within the scope of his office or employment under circumstances where the United States, if a private person, would be liable to the claimant in accordance with the law of the place where the act or omission occurred. However, any such claim shall not include a claim for any damages caused, in whole or in part, by the act or omission of any person, including any contractor, who is not a federal employee as that term is defined in 28 U.S.C. § 2671; nor shall any such claim include a claim based on EPA's selection of response actions, or the oversight or approval of Respondents' plans or activities. The foregoing applies only to claims that are brought pursuant to any statute other than CERCLA and {M1143020.1 }

for which the waiver of sovereign immunity is found in a statute other than CERCLA.

121. Nothing in this Agreement shall be deemed to constitute approval or preauthorization of a claim within the meaning of Section 111 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9611, or 40 C.F.R. § 300.700(d).

XXII. OTHER CLAIMS

122. By issuance of this Settlement Agreement, the United States and EPA assume no liability for injuries or damages to persons or property resulting from any acts or omissions of Respondents. The United States or EPA shall not be deemed a party to any contract entered into by Respondents or their respective directors, officers, employees, agents, successors, representatives, assigns, contractors, or consultants in carrying out actions pursuant to this Settlement Agreement.

123. Nothing in this Settlement Agreement shall be construed to create any rights in, or grant any cause of action to, any person not a party to this Settlement Agreement. Respondents expressly reserve any and all rights (including, but not limited to, pursuant to Section 113 of CERCLA 42 U.S.C. § 9613), defenses, claims, demands, and causes of action which Respondents may have with respect to any matter, transaction, or occurrence relating in any way to the Site against any person not a party hereto. Nothing in this Settlement Agreement diminishes the right of the United States, pursuant to Section 113(f)(2) and (3) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9613(f)(2)-(3), to pursue any such persons to obtain additional response costs or response action and to enter into settlements that give rise to contribution protection pursuant to Section 113(f)(2).

124. No action or decision by EPA pursuant to this Settlement Agreement shall give rise to any right to judicial review, except as set forth in Section 113(h) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9613(h).

XXIII. CONTRIBUTION PROTECTION

125. The Parties agree that this settlement constitutes an administrative settlement for purposes of Sections 113(f)(2) and 122(h)(4) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 9613(f)(2) and 9622(h)(4), and that Respondents are entitled, as of the Effective Date, to protection from contribution actions or claims as provided by Sections 113(f)(2) and 122(h)(4) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 9613(f)(2) and 9622(h)(4), or as may be otherwise provided by law, for "matters addressed" in this Settlement Agreement. The "matters addressed" in this Settlement Agreement are the Work and Future Response Costs associated with the Common Work Elements and the Work and Future Response Costs and all Past Response Costs associated with the PDI Work Plan and RD related to the ROD.

XXIV. INDEMNIFICATION

126. Respondents shall indemnify, save, and hold harmless the United States, its officials,

agents, contractors, subcontractors, employees, and representatives from any and all claims or causes of action arising from, or on account of, negligent or other wrongful acts or omissions of Respondents, their officers, directors, employees, agents, contractors, or subcontractors, in carrying out actions pursuant to this Settlement Agreement. In addition, Respondents agree to pay the United States all costs incurred by the United States, including, but not limited to, attorneys' fees and other expenses of litigation and settlement, arising from, or on account of, claims made against the United States based on negligent or other wrongful acts or omissions of Respondents, their officers, directors, employees, agents, contractors, subcontractors, and any persons acting on its behalf or under its control, in carrying out activities pursuant to this Settlement Agreement. The United States shall not be held out as a party to any contract entered into, by, or on behalf of Respondents in carrying out activities pursuant to this Settlement Agreement. Neither Respondents nor any such contractor shall be considered an agent of the United States.

127. The United States shall give Respondents notice of any claim for which the United States plans to seek indemnification pursuant to this Section and shall consult with Respondents prior to settling such claim.

128. Respondents waive all claims against the United States for damages or reimbursement or for set-off of any payments made, or to be made, to the United States, arising from, or on account of, any contract, agreement, or arrangement between Respondents and any person for performance of Work on, or relating to, the Site, including, but not limited to, claims on account of construction delays. In addition, Respondents shall indemnify and hold harmless the United States with respect to any and all claims for damages or reimbursement arising from, or on account of, any contract, agreement, or arrangement between Respondents and any person for performance of Work on, or relating to, the Site.

XXV. INSURANCE

129. At least **5 days** prior to commencing any on-Site Work under this Settlement Agreement, Relevant Respondents shall secure and shall maintain for the duration of this Settlement Agreement for the Work being done by their Relevant Plume Group, comprehensive general liability insurance and automobile insurance with limits of $2 million dollars, combined single limit, naming the EPA as an additional insured. Within the same period, Relevant Respondents shall provide EPA with certificates of such insurance and a copy of each insurance policy. Relevant Respondents shall submit such certificates and copies of policies each year on the anniversary of the Effective Date. In addition, for the duration of the Settlement Agreement, Relevant Respondents shall satisfy, or shall ensure that its contractors or subcontractors satisfy, all applicable laws and regulations regarding the provision of worker's compensation insurance for all persons performing the Work on behalf of Respondents in furtherance of this Settlement Agreement. If Relevant Respondents demonstrate by evidence satisfactory to EPA that any contractor or subcontractor doing Work for their Relevant Plume Group maintains insurance equivalent to that described above, or insurance covering some or all of the same risks but in an equal or lesser amount, then Relevant Respondents need provide only that portion of the insurance described

above that is not maintained by such contractor or subcontractor.

XXVI. FINANCIAL ASSURANCE

130. Within **30 days** of the Effective Date, Relevant Respondents shall establish and maintain financial security for the benefit of EPA in an amount no less than the estimated cost of the Work to be performed by Relevant Respondents at their Relevant Plume Group under this Settlement Agreement, which is valued by EPA at an amount to be determined by a budget for the Work submitted by the Relevant Plume Group to EPA, in one or more of the following forms, in order to secure the full and final completion of Work by Respondents:

a. A surety bond unconditionally guaranteeing payment and/or performance of the Work that is issued by a surety company among those listed as acceptable sureties on Federal bonds as set forth in Circular 570 of the U.S. Department of the Treasury;

b. One or more irrevocable letters of credit, payable to or at the direction of EPA, that is issued by one or more financial institution(s) (i) that has the authority to issue letters of credit and (ii) whose letter-of-credit operations are regulated and examined by a U.S. Federal or State agency;

c. A trust fund established for the benefit of EPA that is administered by a trustee (i) that has the authority to act as a trustee and (ii) whose trust operations are regulated and examined by a U.S. Federal or State agency;

d. A policy of insurance that ensures the payment for and/or performance of the Work and that (i) provides EPA with acceptable rights as a beneficiary thereof; and (ii) is issued by an insurance carrier (a) that has the authority to issue insurance policies in the applicable jurisdiction(s) and (b) whose insurance operations are regulated and examined by a State agency;

e. A demonstration by Respondents that Respondents meet the financial test criteria of 40 C.F.R. § 264.143(f) with respect to the Estimated Cost of the Work, provided that all other requirements of 40 C.F.R. § 264.143(f) are satisfied; and

f. A written guarantee to fund or perform the Work executed in favor of EPA by one or more of the following: (i) a direct or indirect parent company of one of the Respondents, or (ii) a company that has a "substantial business relationship" (as defined in 40 C.F.R. § 264.141(h)) with one of the Respondents; provided, however, that any company providing such a guarantee must demonstrate to the satisfaction of EPA that it satisfies the financial test requirements of 40 C.F.R. § 264.143(f) with respect to the estimated cost of the Work that it proposes to guarantee hereunder.

131. Any and all financial assurance instruments provided pursuant to this Section shall be in form and substance satisfactory to EPA, determined in EPA's sole discretion. In the event that EPA determines at any

time that the financial assurances provided pursuant to this Section (including, without limitation, the instrument(s) evidencing such assurances) are inadequate, Respondents shall, within **30 days** of receipt of notice of EPA's determination, obtain and present to EPA for approval one of the other forms of financial assurance listed in Paragraph 130, above. Respondents' inability to demonstrate financial ability to complete the Work shall in no way excuse performance of any activities required under this Settlement Agreement.

132. If Relevant Respondents seek to ensure completion of the Work through a guarantee pursuant to Subparagraph 130(e) or 130(f) of this Settlement Agreement, Relevant Respondents shall: (i) demonstrate to EPA's satisfaction that the guarantor satisfies the requirements of 40 C.F.R. Part 264.143(f); and (ii) resubmit sworn statements conveying the information required by 40 C.F.R. Part 264.143(f) annually, on the anniversary of the Effective Date, to EPA. For the purposes of this Settlement Agreement, wherever 40 C.F.R. Part 264.143(f) references "sum of current closure and post-closure costs estimates and the current plugging and abandonment costs estimates," the current EPA cost estimate of $6,000,000 for the Work at the Site shall be used in relevant financial test calculations.

133. If, any time after the Effective Date, Relevant Respondents can show that the estimated cost to complete the remaining Work being conducted by their Relevant Plume Group has diminished below the amount set forth in Paragraph 130 of this Section, Relevant Respondents may, on any anniversary date of the Effective Date, or at any other time agreed to by the Parties, reduce the amount of the financial security provided under this Section to the estimated cost of the remaining Work to be performed. Relevant Respondents shall submit a proposal for such reduction to EPA, in accordance with the requirements of this Section, and may reduce the amount of the security after receiving written approval from EPA. In the event of a dispute, Relevant Respondents may change the form of financial assurance required hereunder only in accordance with a final decision resolving such dispute pursuant to Section XVI (Dispute Resolution).

134. Relevant Respondents may change the form of financial assurance provided under this Section at any time, upon notice to and prior written approval by EPA, provided that EPA determines that the new form of assurance meets the requirements of this Section. In the event of a dispute, Relevant Respondents may change the form of financial assurance required hereunder only in accordance with a final decision resolving such dispute pursuant to Section XVI (Dispute Resolution**).**

XXVII. INTEGRATION/APPENDICES

135. This Settlement Agreement, its appendices, and any deliverables, technical memoranda, specifications, schedules, documents, plans, reports (other than progress reports), etc. that will be developed pursuant to this Settlement Agreement and become incorporated into, and enforceable under, this Settlement Agreement constitute the final, complete, and exclusive agreement and understanding among the Parties with respect to the settlement embodied in this Settlement Agreement. The parties acknowledge that there are no representations, agreements, or understandings relating

to the settlement other than those expressly contained in this Settlement Agreement.

136. In the event of a conflict between any provision of this Settlement Agreement and the provisions of any document attached to this Settlement Agreement or submitted or approved pursuant to this Settlement Agreement, the provisions of this Settlement Agreement shall control.

137. The following documents are attached to and incorporated into this Settlement Agreement:

Appendix 1 is the OU1 SOW;

Appendix 2 is a Map of OU1 of the Site;

Appendix 3 is the OU1 ROD;

Appendix 4 is the Map of the Site.

XXVIII. EFFECTIVE DATE AND SUBSEQUENT MODIFICATION

138. This Settlement Agreement shall be effective **5 days** after the Settlement Agreement is signed by the Director of the Emergency and Remedial Response Division or his designee.

139. This Settlement Agreement may be amended by mutual agreement of EPA and Respondents. Amendments shall be in writing and shall be effective when signed by EPA. EPA's RPM does not have the authority to sign amendments to the Settlement Agreement.

140. No informal advice, guidance, suggestion, or comment by EPA's RPM or other EPA representatives regarding reports, plans, specifications, schedules, or any other writing submitted by Respondents shall relieve Respondents of their obligation to obtain any formal approval required by this Settlement Agreement, or to comply with all requirements of this Settlement Agreement, unless it is formally modified.

XXIX. NOTICE OF COMPLETION OF WORK

141. When EPA determines that all Work has been fully performed by a Relevant Plume Group in accordance with the other requirements of this Settlement Agreement, with the exception of any continuing obligations required by this Settlement Agreement, including payment of Future Response Costs or record retention, EPA will provide written notice to Relevant Respondents. If EPA determines that any such Work, has not been completed in accordance with this Settlement Agreement, EPA will notify Relevant Respondents, provide a list of the deficiencies, and require that Relevant Respondents modify the applicable work plan(s), if appropriate, to correct such deficiencies. Relevant Respondents shall implement the modified and approved work plan(s) and shall submit the required deliverables. Failure by Relevant Respondents to implement the approved modified work

plan(s) related to their respective Work Element(s) shall be a violation of this Settlement Agreement.

By: _____ _____

Walter Mugdan, Director
Emergency and Remedial Response Division
Region 2

Date

In the Matter of the New Cassel/Hicksville Groundwater Contamination Superfund Site, *Administrative* Settlement Agreement and Order on Consent for Remedial Design and Cost Recovery, Index No. CERCLA 02-2017-2005.

CONSENT

The Respondent identified below has had an opportunity to confer with EPA regarding this Settlement Agreement. Respondent hereby consents to the issuance of this Settlement Agreement and to its terms. The individual executing this Settlement Agreement on behalf of the Respondent certifies under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States that he or she is fully and legally authorized to agree to the terms and conditions of this Settlement Agreement and to bind such Respondent thereto.

_____
Name of Respondent

_____ _____
Signature Date

_____
Printed Name

_____
Title of Signatory

Appendix 1

OU1 SOW

Appendix 2

Map of OU1 of the Site

Appendix 3

OU1 ROD

Appendix 4

Map of the Site