# BEFORE THE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS

| ESTATE OF GERALD D.    | ) |                      |
|------------------------|---|----------------------|
| SLIGHTOM,              | ) |                      |
| Petitioner,            | ) |                      |
| v.                     | ) | PCB No. 11-25        |
|                        | ) | (LUST Permit Appeal) |
| ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL | ) |                      |
| PROTECTION AGENCY,     | ) |                      |
| Respondent.            | ) |                      |

#### NOTICE OF FILING AND PROOF OF SERVICE

To: John T. Therriault, Acting Clerk Bill Ingersoll

Illinois Pollution Control Board Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

100 West Randolph Street 1021 North Grand Avenue East

State of Illinois Building, Suite 11-500 P.O. Box 19276

Chicago, IL 60601 Springfield, IL 62794-9276

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that I have today electronically filed with the Office of the Clerk of the Illinois Pollution Control Board, pursuant to Board Procedural Rule 101.302 (d), an AMENDED PETITION FOR REVIEW OF THE AGENCY LUST DECISION, a copy of which is herewith served upon the attorneys of record in this cause.

The undersigned hereby certifies that a true and correct copy of this Notice of Filing, together with a copy of the document described above, were today served upon counsel of record of all parties to this cause by enclosing same in envelopes addressed to such attorneys with postage fully prepaid, and by depositing said envelopes in a U.S. Post Office Mailbox in Springfield, Illinois on the 12<sup>th</sup> of January, 2011.

Respectfully submitted, ESTATE OF GERALD D. SLIGHTOM, Petitioner

BY: MOHAN, ALEWELT, PRILLAMAN & ADAMI

BY: /s/ Patrick D. Shaw

Patrick D. Shaw Fred C. Prillaman MOHAN, ALEWELT, PRILLAMAN & ADAMI 1 North Old Capitol Plaza, Suite 325 Springfield, IL 62701-1323 Telephone: 217/528-2517

Telephone: 21//528-251/ Facsimile: 217/528-2553

#### BEFORE THE ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

| ESTATE OF GERALD D. SLIGHTOM, | ) |                      |
|-------------------------------|---|----------------------|
| Petitioner,                   | ) |                      |
|                               | ) |                      |
| v.                            | ) | PCB No. 11-25        |
|                               | ) | (LUST Permit Appeal) |
| ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL        | ) |                      |
| PROTECTION AGENCY,            | ) |                      |
| Respondent.                   | ) |                      |

#### AMENDED PETITION FOR REVIEW OF AGENCY LUST DECISION

NOW COMES Petitioner, Estate of Gerlad D. Slightom (hereinafter "the Estate"), pursuant to Sections 40 and 57.8(i) of the Illinois Environmental Protection Act, 415 ILCS 5/40 & 5/57.8(i), and hereby appeals the LUST decision issued on October 29, 2010, by Respondent Illinois Environmental Protection Agency ("Agency"), in which the Agency rejected an application for payment for costs previously approved by imposing a new deductible, stating further as follows:

- 1. The subject facility was at one time commonly referred to as Robinson's Amoco, and is located at 103 North Third Street, Girard, Macoupin County, Illinois.
- The subject facility was operated as a service station for many years, and contained five underground storage tanks, including a heating oil tank, the owner of which was Gerald Slightom.
- 3. On or about April 10, 1990, the Office of the State Fire Marshall (hereinafter "OSFM") inspected the facility and found that the tanks had been abandoned and though all of the tanks were registerable, they had not been registered.
  - 4. On April 11, 1990, OSFM issued an administrative order, directing Mr. Slightom

to register and remove the tanks.

- 5. Thereafter, Mr. Slightom registered the tanks with OSFM and then removed them.
- 6. When the tanks were removed, a significant release was identified, and incident number 91-2456 was assigned to it.
- 7. In 2007, Mr. Slightom passed away and thereafter his Estate undertook the requirements of the Probate Act to inventory and evaluate the assets and liabilities of the estate. Such investigation revealed that the subject property appeared to be the estate asset, but it had experienced a significant release that remained unabated and for which little, if any, work had been performed since the tanks had been removed. Such investigation also revealed the site's potential eligibility for payment from the Leaking Underground Storage Tank Fund, though no eligibility determination was found to have been made.
- 8. On January 24, 2008, the Estate applied to the OSFM for an eligibility and deductibility determination, and on February 6, 2008, the OSFM issued a letter enunciating "the final eligibility and deductibility determination," (415 ILCS 5/57.9(c)(2)) which was that the incident was eligible to access the LUST Fund, and that the deductible was \$10,000.
- 9. The OSFM eligibility and determination letter was never appealed and became the final determination.
- 10. In reliance upon the OSFM's letter, the Estate notified the Agency on February 22, 2008, of its election to proceed as "owner" and thereby subjecting itself to the responsibilities and liabilities for remediating the site, which the Agency claims can not be withdrawn.
- 11. Thereafter, the Estate performed substantial work to clean-up the site, including submittal of plans and budgets which the Agency approved and paid based upon the OSFM

eligibility and deductibility letter.

- 12. On February 22, 2008, submitted a stage one site investigation plan and budget, which included the OSFM determination that the release was subject to a \$10,000 deductible. The plan and budget were approved by the Agency on March 12, 2008. The Estate performed the approved work and filed its stage one site investigation costs, which were approved by the Agency on October 1, 2008. On October 20, 2008, the Estate submitted its bills for this work, totaling \$29,239.08, which was subsequently paid by the Agency after discounting the agreed \$10,000 deductible.
- 13. Thereafter, the Estate filed its stage three site investigation plan and budget, which again included the OSFM determination that the release was subject to a \$10,000 deductible. The plan and budget were approved by the Agency, and thereafter the Estate performed the approved work. On June 11, 2010, the Estate filed its stage three site investigation costs, which were approved by the Agency on July 8, 2010.
- 14. On July 19, 2010, the Estate submitted bills for the work and costs previously approved by the Agency, in the amount of \$83,912.58 for work performed from May 19, 2008 to June 30, 2010.
- 15. On October 29, 2010, the Agency refused payment, stating that it had located a heretofore unknown eligibility and determination letter from December 20, 1991, indicating that the deductible for the site is \$100,000. A true and correct copy of said decision is attached hereto as Exhibit A. The letter was received November 2, 2010, which is thirty-four days before this appeal was filed.
  - 16. The Agency's own Leaking Underground Storage Tank database fails to reflect

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that it ever issued, let alone sent, an eligibility and determination letter. A true and correct copy

of a printout of that database as of November 3, 2010, is attached hereto as Exhibit B.

17. The proper deductible for this site is \$10,000. The Agency cannot modify its own

final, appealable decisions, nor reject decisions within the jurisdiction of the OSFM to make.

Pursuant to the Illinois Environmental Protection Act, the OSFM makes "the final eligibility and

deductibility determination" and such determinations "shall be a final decision appealable to the

Illinois Pollution Control Board." (415 ILCS 5/57.9(c)(2))

18. Alternatively, the Agency should be estopped and barred by laches from changing

legal positions upon which the Estate relied to it's prejudice.

WHEREFORE, Petitioner, ESTATE OF GERALD D. SLIGHTOM, prays that: (a) the

Agency produce the Record; (b) a hearing be held; (c) the Board find the Agency erred in its

decisions, (d) the Board direct the Agency to approve the payment in full, (e) the Board award

payment of attorney's fees; and (f) the Board grant the Estate such other and further relief as it

deems meet and just.

ESTATE OF GERALD D. SLIGHTOM,

Petitioner

By its attorneys,

MOHAN, ALEWELT, PRILLAMAN & ADAMI

By:

/s/ Patrick D. Shaw

Fred C. Prillaman

Patrick D. Shaw

MOHAN, ALEWELT, PRILLAMAN & ADAMI

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THIS FILING IS SUBMITTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

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## ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

1021 North Grand Avenue East, P.O. Box 19276, Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276 • (217) 782-2829 James R. Thompson Center, 100 West Randolph, Suite 11-300, Chicago, IL 60601 • (312) 814-6026

PAT QUINN, GOVERNOR

DOUGLAS P. SCOTT, DIRECTOR

217/782-6762

OCT 2 9 2010

CERTIFIED MAIL #

7009 2820 0001 7494 3820

Estate of Gerald D. Slightom Attn: CSD Environmental Services, Inc. PO Box 20912 Springfield, IL. 62708-0912

Re:

LPC 1170455005 -- Macoupin County

Girard / Robinson Service Station

103 North 3rd Street

Incident-Claim No.: 912456 -- 58989

Queue Date: July 19, 2010 Leaking UST Fiscal File

Dear Mr. Slightom:

The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Illinois EPA) has completed the review of your application for payment from the Underground Storage Tank (UST) Fund for the above-referenced Leaking UST incident pursuant to Section 57.8(a) of the Illinois Environmental Protection Act (Act), as amended by Public Act 92-0554 on June 24, 2002, and 35 Illinois Administrative Code (35 Ili. Adm. Code) 734.Subpart F.

This information is dated July 14, 2010 and was received by the Illinois EPA on July 19, 2010. The application for payment covers the period from May 19, 2008 to June 30, 2010. The amount requested is \$83,912.58.

On July 19, 2010, the Illinois EPA received your complete application for payment for this claim. As a result of the Illinois EPA's review of this application for payment, a voucher cannot be prepared for submission to the Comptroller's office for payment. Subsequent applications for payment that have been/are submitted will be processed based upon the date subsequent application for payment requests are received by the Illinois EPA. This constitutes the Illinois EPA's final action with regard to the above application(s) for payment.

Pursuant to 35 III. Adm. Code Part 734.615(b)(4) where more than one deductible determination has been made, the higher deductible shall apply. On December 20, 1991 the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency issued an Eligibility and Deductibility Determination of \$100,000.00 for this site. A second Eligibility and Deductibility Determination of \$10,000.00 was issued on February 6, 2008 by the Office of the State Fire Marshal. The Illinois

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Environmental Protection Agency has determined that the \$ 100,000.00 deductible applies to this site.

Pursuant to 35 Ill. Adm. Code Part 734.660(a) the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency is notifying you that an excess payment was approved in the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency's letter dated January 29, 2009. The excess payment is for \$ 19,239.08. a portion of the \$100,000.00 deductible that was not withheld from your payments.

A portion of the deductible, \$10,000.00, was withheld from the claim received by the Agency on October 20, 2008 for \$29,239.08. The costs from this claim for \$83,912.58 have also been applied to the deductible, leaving a balance of \$6,091.27 to be met from future submittals. Pursuant to Section 57.8(a)(4) of the Act, any deductible, as determined pursuant to the Office of the State Fire Marshal's eligibility and deductibility final determination in accordance with Section 57.9 of the Act, shall be subtracted from any payment invoice paid to an eligible owner or operator.

If you have any questions or require further assistance, please contact Catherine S. Elston of my staff at 217-785-9351 or Brian Bauer of my staff at 217-782-3335.

Sincerely,

Hernando A. Albarracin, Manager

Leaking Underground Storage Tank Section

Henoudo & Alterrain

Division of Remediation Management

Bureau of Land

HAA:CSE

c: Leaking UST Claims Unit

Cathy Elston Brian Bauer



www.epastale.11 us

State of Illinois

L.I.T. Search

IEMA# 912456

LPC # 1170455005

IEMA Date: 8/30/1991

Site: Slightom, Gerald

Address: 3rd & Center

Girard, IL. 62640

County: Macoupin

Regulated by: 734

Products: Gasoline, Used Oil

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45 Day Rpt: 2/22/2008

Project Manager: Steve Putrich

20 Day Rpt: 11/19/1991

Phone: (217) 524-4827

Email: Steve.Putrich@illinois.gov

Tank Operator General Title XVI TACQ Claims Search

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State of Illinois

L.I.T. Search

IEMA# 912456

LPC # 1170455005

Site: Slightom, Gerald

| Date       | Description                                  |  |  |
|------------|--|--|--|
| 9/5/1991   | Notice of Release Letter sent                |  |  |
| 12/15/1993 | Review Letter sent                           |  |  |
| 8/25/2003  | Miscellaneous Correspondence received        |  |  |
| 9/17/2003  | Review Letter sent                           |  |  |
| 2/22/2008  | Election to Proceed as "Owner"               |  |  |
| 3/3/2008   | Acceptance of Election to Proceed as "Owner" |  |  |
| 3/12/2008  | 45 Day Selection Received Letter sent        |  |  |

| Site (Main) | Tank Operator | <u>Title XVI</u> | <u>TACO</u> | Claims | <u>Search</u> |
|-------------|---------------|------------------|-------------|--------|---------------|

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State of Illinois

L.I.T. Search

**IEMA #** 912456

LPC # 1170455005

IEMA Date: 8/30/1991

Site: Slightom, Gerald

<u>Tank Owner/Operator:</u> Estate of Gerald D. Slightom

<u>Contact:</u> Richard D. Slightom, Executor

Phone: (217) 965-1400

Address: P.O. Box 290, c/o Bill Nichelson, Atty at Law Virden, IL. 62690

Site (Main) General TitleXVI TACO Claims Search

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State of Illinois

L.I.T. Search

<u>IEMA#</u> 9:

912456

LPC # 1170455005

Site: Slightom, Gerald

| Event Description                       | <u>Date</u> | Resp. Due  | Decision | Mailed     |
|---|-------------|------------|----------|------------|
| Site Investigation Stage 1 Plan         | 2/22/2008   | 6/21/2008  | APR      | 3/12/2008  |
| Site Investigation Plan Budget Stage 1  | 2/22/2008   | 6/21/2008  | APR      | 3/12/2008  |
| Site Investigation Stage 3 Plan         | 8/27/2008   | 12/25/2008 | MOD      | 10/1/2008  |
| Site Investigation Plan Budget Stage 3  | 8/27/2008   | 12/25/2008 | MOD      | 10/1/2008  |
| Site Investigation Actual Costs Stage 1 | 8/27/2008   | 12/25/2008 | APR      | 10/1/2008  |
| Site Investigation Stage 3 Plan         | 3/4/2009    | 7/2/2009   | APR      | 3/25/2009  |
| Site Investigation Plan Budget Stage 3  | 3/4/2009    | 7/2/2009   | APR      | 3/25/2009  |
| Site Investigation Stage 3 Plan         | 7/2/2009    | 10/30/2009 | APR      | 7/24/2009  |
| Site Investigation Plan Budget Stage 3  | 7/2/2009    | 10/30/2009 | MOD      | 7/24/2009  |
| Site Investigation Stage 3 Plan         | 11/5/2009   | 3/5/2010   | APR      | 11/25/2009 |
| Site Investigation Plan Budget Stage 3  | 11/5/2009   | 3/5/2010   | APR      | 11/25/2009 |
| Site Investigation Completion Report    | 6/11/2010   | 10/9/2010  | MOD      | 7/8/2010   |
| Site Investigation Actual Costs Stage 3 | 6/11/2010   | 10/9/2010  | APR      | 7/8/2010   |

Site (Main) Tank Operator General TACO Claims Search

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State of Illinois

L.I.T. Search IEMA#

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912456

LPC # 1170455005

Site: Slightom, Gerald

| Bills Received | Status Code | Amount<br>Requested | Amount Paid | Voucher Date | Deductible |
|----------------|-------------|---------------------|-------------|--------------|------------|
| 10/20/2008     | VOF         | 29239.08            | 19239.08    |              | 10000      |
| 7/19/2010      | NRE         | 83912.58            | 0           |              | 0          |

| A  |                   |             | 9874 1 343 /1 | ~    | m 1         |
|--|-------------------|-------------|---------------|------|-------------|
| Site (Main)  | Tank Operator     | l General I | l Title XVI I | TACO | ∥ Wagerh II |
| Jule (Maill)   | 1 alik Obelalui I | General     | IIIIGANI      | IAUU | Search      |
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