

FILED

AUG 06 2012

MARISE PALMBERG  
HOWARD COUNTY CLERK  
CLERK OF DISTRICT COURT

IN THE DISTRICT COURT FOR HOWARD COUNTY, NEBRASKA

COPY

Case No. CI 12-62

STATE OF NEBRASKA, ex rel., )  
MICHAEL J. LINDER, Director )  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL )  
EQUALITY, )  
) )  
Plaintiff, )  
) )  
v. )  
) )  
JD CATTLE CO., INC. )  
) )  
Defendant. )

CONSENT DECREE

The State of Nebraska, on behalf of the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality ("NDEQ") and through its counsel, Attorney General Jon C. Bruning, and JD Cattle Co., Inc. ("JD Cattle"), through its counsel, Stephen D. Mossman, jointly file this Consent Decree and agree to this Court's entry of the following terms and orders:

1. This Court has jurisdiction of the parties and the subject matter of this action. The complaint filed in this case is a justiciable cause of action against JD Cattle under the Nebraska Environmental Protection Act, Neb. Rev. Stat. § 81-1501 et seq. (Reissue 2008), the Livestock Waste Management Act, Neb. Rev. Stat. § 54-2416 et seq. (Reissue 2009), and the rules and regulations promulgated pursuant to those acts.
2. In its Complaint filed herein, the State alleges that JD Cattle discharged livestock waste from its animal feeding operation into waters of the state in Howard County, Nebraska, in violation of Neb. Rev. Stat. § 81-1506(1)(a). The State further alleges that JD Cattle received approval from NDEQ for the construction of a new livestock waste control facility, but has failed to meet the deadlines for construction.
3. The parties agree that settlement of this matter is in the public interest and that entry of this Consent Decree is the most appropriate means of resolving their dispute. The parties



desire to resolve this matter without resorting to trial or adjudication of any issues of fact or law, without this Consent Decree constituting an admission by JD Cattle with respect to such issues. JD Cattle specifically denies that it allowed a discharge from his facility under Neb.Rev.Stat. § 54-2431 (Reissue 2010).

4. The terms of this Consent Decree shall be in full satisfaction of all claims between the parties alleged in the Complaint. The parties also agree to release any and all claims or actions arising out of the same transaction or occurrences referenced above and set forth in the Complaint provided that such claims were known to the State or were reasonably ascertainable from information in the State's possession as of the date of the filing of the Consent Decree.

5. The requirements of this Consent Decree are subject to force majeure. In the event that force majeure prevents JD Cattle from complying with the requirements of Paragraph 6, JD Cattle shall file a motion with the Court to seek excusal of its performance. The Court, after hearing, shall enter any order it deems appropriate which may include, without limitation, payment of the additional stipulated penalty contemplated herein or setting of new completion dates.

6. IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that JD Cattle shall pay a civil penalty, in accordance with Neb. Rev. Stat. § 81-1508.02, in the amount of \$30,000.00 to the Howard County District Court along with the costs of this action. This civil penalty shall be handled as provided in Article VII, Section V, of the Nebraska Constitution.

A. A \$10,000.00 civil penalty shall be paid to this Court no more than 30 days from the entry of this Consent Decree by the Court.

B. A \$20,000.00 civil penalty shall be paid to this Court no later than December 1, 2012. However, payment of this \$20,000.00 civil penalty will be waived if JD Cattle:

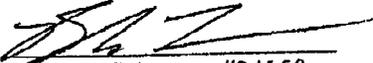
i. Maintains compliance with the Nebraska Environmental Protection Act, Neb. Rev. Stat. § 81-1501 et. seq., the Livestock Waste Management Act, Neb. Rev. Stat. § 54-2416 et seq, or Title 130 of the Nebraska Administrative Code, "Livestock Waste Control Regulations", at all times after the entry of this Consent Decree and until December 1, 2012;

ii. In accordance with the Consent Order entered by the Director of the NDEQ on March 16, 2012 in NDEQ Case No. 3053: (a) completes construction of the required livestock waste control facility in accordance with the plans and specifications approved by NDEQ on or before December 1, 2012; (b) submits timely monthly progress reports to NDEQ on the progress of construction of the required livestock waste control facility beginning June 1, 2012; (c) immediately reduces livestock numbers at the facility to less than 300 head of cattle if construction is not complete by December 1, 2012, while not repopulating the operation until construction is complete; (d) secures an approval to operate prior to operating any modified portion of the facility; and (e) files and obtains approval of a Certification of Completion with NDEQ. A copy of the Consent Order is attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and incorporated herein by reference; and

iii. Files a Request for Waiver with the Court within 15 days following the due date of the civil penalties establishing that it has met all of the requirements listed in paragraph 6.

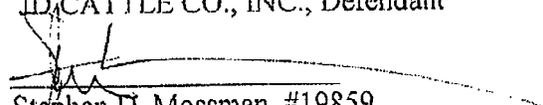


By: JON C. BRUNING, #20351  
Attorney General

By:   
Blake E. Johnson, #24158  
Assistant Attorney General  
2115 State Capitol Building  
P.O. Box 98920  
Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-8920  
(402) 471-1912  
[blake.johnson@nebraska.gov](mailto:blake.johnson@nebraska.gov)  
*Attorneys for Plaintiff*

ID, CATTLE CO., INC., Defendant

By:

  
Stephen D. Mossman, #19859

Mattson, Ricketts, Davies, Stewart & Calkins

134 S. 13<sup>th</sup> St., Suite 1200

Lincoln, NE 68508

(402) 475-8433

[sdm@mattsonricketts.com](mailto:sdm@mattsonricketts.com)

*Attorney for Defendant*

HOWARD DISTRICT COURT

PO Box 25  
St Paul, NE 68873 1234  
(308) 754-4343

Date Received 08 03 2012  
Case ID CI 12 62  
Caption

Receipt No. 11627

Received From Attorney General  
Party PLF001 State of Nebraska, ex rel.,

Judge Karin Noakes

Payment Type Check

Amount Received 82.00

<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount Applied</u>
Petition	35.00
Filing Fee - State	5.00
Automation Fee	8.00
NSC Education Fee	1.00
Dispute Resolution Fee	.75
Indigent Defense Fee	3.00
Uniform Data Analysis Fee	1.00
J.R.F.	6.00
Filing Fee-JRF	2.00
Legal Aid/Services Fund	5.25
Complete Record	15.00

Thank You

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

AUG 08 2012

STATE OF NEBRASKA