



Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board

November 28, 2022

Jason Tool Engineering Inc. 11441 Markon Drive Garden Grove, CA 92841 (Via Certified Mail)

CERTIFIED MAIL RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Jack Winterswyk jwinterswyk@jasontool.com (Via Email)

Aaron Winterswyk Agent for Service of Process for Jason Tool and Engineering Inc. 7101 Honold Circle Garden Grove, CA 92841-1424 (Via Certified Mail)

CONDITIONAL SETTLEMENT OFFER NO. R8-2022-0073 TO PARTICIPATE IN EXPEDITED PAYMENT PROGRAM RELATING TO VIOLATIONS OF THE GENERAL PERMIT FOR STORM WATER DISCHARGES ASSOCIATED WITH INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITIES (ORDER NO. 2014-0057-DWQ, NPDES NO. CAS000001) (GENERAL PERMIT), FOR JASON TOOL ENGINEERING INC., 7101 HONOLD CIRCLE, GARDEN GROVE

Dear Mr. Winterswyk:

This letter is to notify Jason Tool Engineering Inc. (hereinafter "Discharger" or "you") of alleged violations of the California Water Code (Water Code) identified in the State Water Resources Control Board's water quality data system, and to allow the Discharger to participate in the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board's (Santa Ana Water Board) Expedited Payment Program for General Permit violations to address mandatory minimum penalties that must be assessed pursuant to Water Code section 13399.33.

NOTICE OF VIOLATION:

Based on information in the Stormwater Multiple Application & Report Tracking System (SMARTS), the Santa Ana Water Board alleges that the Discharger is in violation of the General Permit associated with Industrial Activities within the Santa Ana Region for failure to obtain Notice of Intent (NOI) coverage for the facility located at 7101 Honold Circle in the City of Garden Grove. Your facility has not met the conditions of the no exposure as defined in Section XVII of the General Permit. Section XVII.E.3. of the General Permit

states that the Regional Boards may deny No Exposure Coverage (NEC) coverage and require Notice of Intent (NOI) coverage upon determining that stormwater is exposed to industrial materials and activities. The Discharger failed to submit the facility's NOI coverage by the October 14, 2022, as required based on the Notices of Non-Compliance (NNCs) issued on August 16, 2022, and September 14, 2022. The Discharger will have the opportunity to address the alleged violations as discussed below.

STATUTORY LIABILITY:

Pursuant to Water Code section 13399.33(a)(1), the Discharger is subject to a minimum penalty of not less than five thousand dollars (\$5,000) plus staff costs for failing to submit NOI coverage in accordance with Water Code section 13399.30 within sixty (60) days after the first NNC was sent. The Discharger is also subject to discretionary administrative civil liabilities of up to ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) for each day in which the violation occurs. These minimum and discretionary administrative civil liabilities may be assessed by the Santa Ana Water Board beginning with the date that the violations first occurred. The formal enforcement action that the Santa Ana Water Board uses to assess such liability is an administrative civil liability complaint, although the Santa Ana Water Board may instead refer such matters to the Office of the Attorney General for prosecution. If referred to the Attorney General for prosecution, the Superior Court may assess up to twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) per violation.

DISCHARGER'S OPTIONS FOR RESPONSE TO OFFER:

You have two options to respond as outlined below.

1. Accept the Expedited Payment Program offer by complying with the Order and agreeing to pay a settlement of five thousand dollars (\$5,497). The minimum administrative civil liability pursuant to California Water Code section 13399.33(a)(1) is \$5,000 per year of noncompliance or fraction thereof. Staff costs in this matter are \$497. This is a Conditional Offer subject to certain terms and conditions set forth below. If you choose this option, you must sign and submit the enclosed Acceptance and Waiver form by December 27, 2022. The form provides submittal instructions. Final closure on this action is only possible after ultimate submission of the settlement amount.

Please submit an original (blue ink) signed Acceptance and Wavier form to:

David Rosas, Coastal Stormwater Unit Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board 3737 Main Street, Suite 500 Riverside, CA 92501-3348

In response to the Conditional Offer and payment in settlement of this enforcement action, the Santa Ana Water Board will forego issuance of a formal administrative complaint, will not refer the violation to the Attorney General, and will waive its right to seek additional discretionary civil liabilities for the violations identified in the NNCs.

2. Contest the alleged violation by submitting, in writing, the basis of your challenge with supporting evidence. For example, you may have evidence that you previously submitted NOI coverage, or you are no longer in business. If you choose this option, you must submit your written documentation by December 27, 2022. The Santa Ana Water Board Prosecution Team will review your submission, and if we agree with you, we will notify you in writing that you are no longer in violation of the permit and that our enforcement action has been terminated. All responses should be directed to David Rosas.

If you do not respond in a manner described in the above options, the Santa Ana Water Board will prepare an administrative civil liability complaint for the violation cited in the NNCs. The liability amount sought in the administrative civil liability complaint and/or imposed by the Santa Ana Water Board may be higher than the liability amount set forth in this Conditional Offer. Moreover, additional staff costs associated with formal enforcement may be considered in the recommended liability amount in an administrative civil liability complaint.

CONDITIONS FOR SANTA ANA WATER BOARD ACCEPTANCE OF RESOLUTION:

If you accept the Expedited Payment Program offer, the settlement will be published in the following manner: Federal regulations require the Santa Ana Water Board to publish notice of, and to provide at least thirty (30) days for public comment on, any settlement of an enforcement action addressing NPDES permit violations (40 C.F.R. section 123.27(d)(2)(iii)). Upon receipt of the Discharger's Acceptance and Waiver and other requested technical reports on or before **December 27, 2022**, Santa Ana Water Board staff will publish a notice of the proposed settlement of the alleged violations.

If no comments are received within the notice period, the Santa Ana Water Board Executive Officer will execute the Acceptance and Waiver as a stipulated order assessing the uncontested penalty amount pursuant to Water Code section 13399.33. You will then be notified that payment is due within 30 days. Failure to pay the penalty within that time frame may result in further liability, referral of the matter to the Attorney General, and/or may void the offer to participate in this Expedited Payment Program.

If, however, significant comments are received in opposition to the settlement, this offer may be withdrawn. In that case, the Discharger's waiver pursuant to the Acceptance and Waiver will also be treated as withdrawn, and the violations will be addressed through a formal enforcement action.

This Expedited Payment Program offer does not address or resolve liability for any violation that is not specifically identified in the attached NNCs. The Santa Ana Water Board reserves the right to pursue formal enforcement of any violations not specifically cited in the attached NNCs.

Should you have any questions about this Expedited Payment Program, please contact David Rosas via email at <u>david.rosas@waterboards.ca.gov</u> or via phone at (951) 394-9476 regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

Ann E. Sturdivant Sturdivant Ann E. Sturdivant, PG, CEG, CHG Assistant Executive Officer Santa Ana Water Board Prosecution Team

enclosures:

Notice of Non-Compliance, dated August 16, 2022 Notice of Non-Compliance, dated September 14, 2022 Acceptance of Conditional Resolution and Waiver of Right to Hearing; (proposed) Order

cc: Jason Tool and Engineering Inc. - Aaron Winterswyk







Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board

ACCEPTANCE OF CONDITIONAL RESOLUTION AND WAIVER OF RIGHT TO HEARING: (Proposed) ORDER

Jason Tool Engineering Inc. Settlement Offer No. R8-2022-0073

By signing below and returning this Acceptance of Conditional Resolution and Waiver of Right to Hearing (Acceptance and Waiver) to the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board (Santa Ana Water Board), Jason Tool Engineering Inc. (Discharger) hereby accepts the "Offer to Participate in Expedited Payment Program" and waives the right to a hearing before the Santa Ana Water Board to dispute the violations described in the Notices of Non-Compliance (NNCs) which are attached and incorporated herein by reference.

The Discharger agrees that the Expedited Payment Program Offer shall serve as a complaint pursuant to Article 2.5 of the California Water Code and that no separate complaint is required for the Santa Ana Water Board to assert jurisdiction over the alleged violations through its Chief Prosecutor. The Discharger agrees to pay the administrative civil liability authorized by California Water Code section 13399.30, in the sum of \$5,497 (Expedited Payment Amount) which shall be deemed payment in full of any civil liability pursuant to California Water Code section 13399.30 that otherwise might be assessed for the violations described in the NNCs.

The Discharger understands that this Acceptance and Waiver waives its right to contest the allegations in the NNCs and the amount of civil liability for such violations. The Discharger understands that this Acceptance and Waiver does not address or resolve liability for any violation that is not specifically identified in the NNCs.

Upon Execution by the Discharger, submit the completed Acceptance and Wavier to:

David Rosas, Coastal Stormwater Unit Expedited Payment Letter Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board 3737 Main Street, Suite 500 Riverside, CA 92501

The Discharger understands that federal regulations set forth at title 40, Code of Federal Regulations, section 123.27(d)(2)(iii) require the Santa Ana Water Board to publish notice of and provide at least thirty (30) days for public comment on any proposed resolution of an enforcement action addressing NPDES permit violations. Accordingly, this Acceptance and Waiver, prior to execution by the Santa Ana Water Board Executive Officer, will be published as required by law for public comment.

KRISTINE MURRAY, CHAIR | JAYNE JOY, EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Settlement Offer R8-2022-0073 WDID No. 8 30IN607630

If no comments are received within the notice period that causes the Santa Ana Water Board Executive Offer to question the Expedited Payment Amount, the Santa Ana Water Board Executive Officer will execute the Acceptance and Waiver.

The Discharger understands that if significant comments are received in opposition to the Conditional Offer, the offer on behalf of the Santa Ana Water Board to resolve the violations set forth in the NNCs may be withdrawn. In that circumstance, the Discharger will be advised of that withdrawal, and an administrative civil liability complaint may be issued, and the matter may be set for a hearing before the Santa Ana Water Board. In the event that this matter proceeds to hearing, the Discharger understands that this Acceptance and Waiver executed by the Discharger will be treated as a settlement communication and will not be used as evidence in that hearing.

The Discharger further understands that once this Acceptance and Waiver is executed by the Santa Ana Water Board Executive Officer, the full payment required by the deadline set forth below is a condition of this Acceptance and Waiver. In accordance with California Water Code section 13399.37(a), funds collected for violations pursuant to section 13399.33(a)(1) and 13399.33(d) shall be deposited in the Waste Discharge Permit Fund. Accordingly, the \$5,497 liability including staff costs shall be paid by a cashiers or certified check made out to the "State Water Resources Control Board" referencing this Order number for deposit into the Waste Discharge Permit Fund. The payment must be submitted to the State Water Resources Control Board no later than thirty (30) calendar days after the date the Acceptance and Waiver is executed by the Santa Ana Water Board Executive Officer.

Please mail check to:

State Water Resources Control Board Re: Order No. R8-2022-0073 Division of Administrative Services, Accounting Branch P.O. Box 1888 Sacramento, CA 95812-1888

I hereby affirm that I am duly authorized to act on behalf of and to bind the Discharger in the making and giving of this Acceptance and Waiver.

Jason Tool Engineering Inc.	
By:	1/5/2023
(Signed Name)	(Date) President
(Printed or Typed Name)	(Title)

IT IS SO ORDERED PURSUANT TO CALIFORNIA WATER CODE SECTION 13323 AND GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 11415.60.

By:

Jayne E. Joy, PE Executive Officer