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Belleville Industrial Center

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, THE  
COMMISSIONER OF THE NEW JERSEY  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY,  
and THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE NEW  
JERSEY SPILL COMPENSATION FUND,

Plaintiffs,

vs.

OCCIDENTAL CHEMICAL CORPORATION,  
TIERRA SOLUTIONS, INC., MAXUS ENERGY  
CORPORATION, REPSOL YPF, S.A., YPF, S.A.,  
YPF HOLDINGS, INC. and CLH HOLDINGS,

Defendants,

MAXUS ENERGY CORPORATION and  
TIERRA SOLUTIONS, INC.,

Third-Party Plaintiffs,

vs.

3M COMPANY,  
A.C.C., INC.,  
ACH FOOD COMPANIES, INC.,  
ACTIVE OIL SERVICE,  
ADCO CHEMICAL COMPANY,  
AGC CHEMICALS AMERICAS, INC.,  
ALDEN-LEEDS, INC.,  
ALLIANCE CHEMICAL, INC.,  
ALUMAX MILL PRODUCTS, INC.,  
AMCOL REALTY CO.,  
AMERICAN INKS AND COATINGS CORPORATION,

SUPERIOR COURT OF NEW JERSEY  
LAW DIVISION: ESSEX COUNTY

DOCKET NO. L-9868-05 (PASR)

CIVIL ACTION

**THIRD-PARTY DEFENDANT  
BELLEVILLE INDUSTRIAL CENTER  
ANSWER TO THIRD-PARTY  
COMPLAINT "B"**

APEXICAL, INC.,  
APOLAN INTERNATIONAL, INC.,  
ARKEMA, INC.,  
ASHLAND INC.,  
ASHLAND INTERNATIONAL HOLDINGS, INC.,  
ASSOCIATED AUTO BODY & TRUCKS, INC.,  
ATLAS REFINERY, INC.,  
AUTOMATIC ELECTRO-PLATING CORP.,  
AKZO NOBEL COATINGS, INC.,  
BASF CATALYSTS LLC,  
BASF CONSTRUCTION CHEMICALS INC.,  
BASF CORPORATION,  
BAYER CORPORATION,  
BEAZER EAST, INC.,  
BELLEVILLE INDUSTRIAL CENTER,  
BENJAMIN MOORE & COMPANY,  
BEROL CORPORATION,  
B-LINE TRUCKING, INC.,  
BORDEN & REMINGTON CORP.,  
C.S. OSBORNE & CO.,  
CAMPBELL FOUNDRY COMPANY,  
CASCHEM, INC.,  
CBS CORPORATION,  
CELANESE LTD.,  
CHEMICAL COMPOUNDS INC.,  
CHEMTURA CORPORATION,  
CLEAN EARTH OF NORTH JERSEY, INC.,  
COSMOPOLITAN GRAPHICS CORPORATION,  
CIBA CORPORATION,  
COLTEC INDUSTRIES INC.,  
COLUMBIA TERMINALS, INC.,  
COMO TEXTILE PRINTS, INC.,  
CONAGRA PANAMA, INC.,  
CONOPCO, INC.,  
CONSOLIDATED RAIL CORPORATION,  
COOK & DUNN PAINT CORPORATION,  
COSAN CHEMICAL CORPORATION,  
COVANTA ESSEX COMPANY,  
CRODA, INC.,  
CRUCIBLE MATERIALS CORPORATION,  
CURTISS-WRIGHT CORPORATION,  
CWC INDUSTRIES, INC.,  
DARLING INTERNATIONAL, INC.,  
DAVANNE REALTY CO.,

DELEET MERCHANDISING CORPORATION,  
DELVAL INK AND COLOR,  
INCORPORATED, DILORENZO PROPERTIES  
COMPANY, L.P.,  
E.I. DU PONT DE NEMOURS AND COMPANY,  
EASTMAN KODAK COMPANY,  
EDEN WOOD CORPORATION,  
ELAN CHEMICAL COMPANY, INC.,  
EM SERGEANT PULP & CHEMICAL CO.,  
EMERALD HILTON DAVIS, LLC,  
ESSEX CHEMICAL CORPORATION,  
EXXON MOBIL  
F.E.R. PLATING, INC.,  
FINE ORGANICS CORPORATION,  
FISKE BROTHERS REFINING COMPANY,  
FLEXON INDUSTRIES CORPORATION,  
FLINT GROUP INCORPORATED,  
FORT JAMES CORPORATION,  
FOUNDRY STREET CORPORATION,  
FRANKLIN-BURLINGTON PLASTICS, INC.,  
GARFIELD MOLDING COMPANY, INC.,  
GENERAL CABLE INDUSTRIES, INC.,  
GENERAL DYNAMICS CORPORATION,  
GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY,  
GENTEK HOLDING LLC,  
GIVAUDAN FRAGRANCES CORPORATION,  
G. J. CHEMICAL CO.,  
GOODY PRODUCTS, INC.,  
GORDON TERMINAL SERVICE CO. OF N.J., INC.,  
HARRISON SUPPLY COMPANY,  
HARTZ MOUNTAIN CORPORATION,  
HAVENICK ASSOCIATES L.P.,  
HEXCEL CORPORATION,  
HEXION SPECIALTY CHEMICALS, INC.,  
HOFFMANN-LA ROCHE INC.,  
HONEYWELL INTERNATIONAL INC.,  
HOUGHTON INTERNATIONAL INC.,  
HUDSON TOOL & DIE COMPANY, INC.,  
HY-GRADE ELECTROPLATING CO.,  
ICI AMERICAS INC.,  
INNOSPEC ACTIVE CHEMICALS LLC,  
INX INTERNATIONAL INK CO.,  
ISP CHEMICALS INC.,  
ITT CORPORATION,

KEARNY SMELTING & REFINING CORP.,  
KAO BRANDS COMPANY,  
KOEHLER-BRIGITT STAR, INC.,  
LINDE, INC.,  
LUCENT TECHNOLOGIES, INC.,  
MACE ADHESIVES & COATINGS COMPANY, INC.,  
MALLINCKRODT INC.,  
MERCK & CO., INC.,  
METAL MANAGEMENT NORTHEAST, INC.,  
MI HOLDINGS, INC.,  
MILLER ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP, INC.,  
MORTON INTERNATIONAL, INC.,  
N L INDUSTRIES, INC.,  
NAPPWOOD LAND CORPORATION,  
NATIONAL FUEL OIL, INC.,  
NATIONAL-STANDARD, LLC,  
NELL-JOY INDUSTRIES, INC.,  
NESTLE U.S.A., INC.,  
NEW JERSEY TRANSIT CORPORATION,  
NEWS AMERICA, INC.,  
NEWS PUBLISHING AUSTRALIA LIMITED,  
NORPAK CORPORATION,  
NOVELIS CORPORATION,  
ORANGE AND ROCKLAND UTILITIES, INC.,  
OTIS ELEVATOR COMPANY,  
PRC-DESOTO INTERNATIONAL, INC.,  
PASSAIC PIONEERS PROPERTIES COMPANY,  
PFIZER INC.,  
PHARMACIA CORPORATION,  
PHELPS DODGE INDUSTRIES, INC.,  
PHILBRO, INC.,  
PITT-CONSOL CHEMICAL COMPANY,  
PIVOTAL UTILITY HOLDINGS, INC.,  
PPG INDUSTRIES, INC.,  
PRC-DESOTO INTERNATIONAL, INC.,  
PRAXAIR, INC.,  
PRECISION MANUFACTURING GROUP, LLC,  
PRENTISS INCORPORATED,  
PROCTER & GAMBLE MANUFACTURING COMPANY,  
PRYSMLAN COMMUNICATIONS CABLES AND  
SYSTEMS USA LLC,  
PSEG FOSSIL LLC,  
PUBLIC SERVICE ELECTRIC AND GAS COMPANY,  
PURDUE PHARMA TECHNOLOGIES, INC.,

QUALA SYSTEMS, INC.,  
QUALITY CARRIERS, INC.,  
RECKITT BENCKISER, INC.,  
REICHHOLD, INC.,  
REVERE SMELTING & REFINING CORPORATION,  
REXAM BEVERAGE CAN COMPANY,  
ROMAN ASPHALT CORPORATION,  
ROYCE ASSOCIATES, A LIMITED PARTNERSHIP,  
R.T. VANDERBILT COMPANY, INC.,  
RUTHERFORD CHEMICALS LLC,  
S&A REALTY ASSOCIATES, INC.,  
SCHERING CORPORATION,  
SEQUA CORPORATION,  
SETON COMPANY,  
SIEMENS WATER TECHNOLOGIES CORP.,  
SINGER SEWING COMPANY  
SPECTRASERV, INC.,  
STWB, INC.,  
SUN CHEMICAL CORPORATION,  
SVP WORLDWIDE, LLC,  
TATE & LYLE INGREDIENTS AMERICAS, INC.,  
TEVA PHARMACEUTICALS USA, INC.,  
TEVAL CORP.,  
TEXTRON INC.,  
THE DIAL CORPORATION,  
THE DUNDEE WATER POWER AND LAND COMPANY,  
THE NEWARK GROUP, INC.,  
THE OKONITE COMPANY, INC.,  
THE SHERWIN-WILLIAMS COMPANY,  
THE STANLEY WORKS,  
THE VALSPAR CORPORATION,  
THIRTY-THREE QUEEN REALTY INC.,  
THREE COUNTY VOLKSWAGEN CORPORATION,  
TIDEWATER BALING CORP.,  
TIFFANY & CO.,  
TIMCO, INC.,  
TRIMAX BUILDING PRODUCTS, INC.,  
TROY CHEMICAL CORPORATION, INC.,  
UNIVERSAL OIL PRODUCTS COMPANY,  
V. OTTILIO & SONS, INC.,  
VELSICOL CHEMICAL CORPORATION,  
VEOLIA ES TECHNICAL SOLUTIONS, L.L.C.,  
VERTELLUS SPECIALTIES INC.,  
VITUSA CORP.,

VULCAN MATERIALS COMPANY,  
W.A.S. TERMINALS CORPORATION,  
W.A.S. TERMINALS, INC.,  
W.C. INDUSTRIES,  
WHITTAKER CORPORATION,  
WIGGINS PLASTICS, INC.,  
ZENECA INC.,

Third-Party Defendants.

Third-Party Defendant Belleville Industrial Center ("BIC"), by and through its undersigned counsel, and in accordance with this Court's Case Management Order V, Section 9, entered April 16, 2009 ("CMO V"), hereby answers the Third-Party Complaint "B" by Defendants/Third-Party Plaintiffs Maxus Energy Corporation and Tierra Solutions, Inc. ("Third-Party Plaintiffs"), as follows:

#### **GENERALLY**

BIC denies each and every allegation contained in Third Party Complaint "B" that is not otherwise herein addressed, including, without limitation, any allegations concerning the relief sought in the First Count and the Second Count and all headings and titles used in Third-Party Complaint "B".

#### **AS TO PROCEDURAL BACKGROUND**

1-15. BIC responds that the referenced pleadings speak for themselves. No response is required pursuant to CMO V.

#### **AS TO THE THIRD PARTY PLAINTIFFS**

16-18. No response is required pursuant to CMO V.

#### **AS TO THE THIRD PARTY DEFENDANTS**

19-43. As the allegations in paragraphs 19 through 43 relate to other parties, no response is required pursuant to CMO V.

44. BIC admits the allegations contained in paragraph 44.

45-209. As the allegations in paragraphs 45-209 relate to other parties, no response is required pursuant to CMO V.

210. The allegations in Paragraph 210 state a legal conclusion as to which no response is required.

#### **AS TO DEFINITIONS**

211-236. Paragraphs 211 through 236 contain definitions. No response is required pursuant to CMO V.

#### **AS TO FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

237-605. Paragraphs 237-605 do not relate to BIC. No response is required pursuant to CMO V.

#### **BELLEVILLE INDUSTRIAL SITE**

606. BIC admits the allegations contained in paragraph 606.

607-615. BIC is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraphs 607-615 and neither admits nor denies the allegations, leaving Third-Party Plaintiffs to their proofs.

616. BIC denies the allegations contained in paragraph 616.

617. BIC is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph 617 and neither admits nor denies the allegations, leaving Third-Party Plaintiffs to their proofs.

618. BIC is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph 618 and neither admits nor denies the allegations, leaving Third-Party Plaintiffs to their proofs.

619. BIC admits that the DEP conducted an inspection of the Belleville Industrial Site on July 19, 1993 as reported in a Preliminary Assessment dated July 28, 1993, but otherwise BIC is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph 619 and neither admits nor denies the allegations, leaving Third-Party Plaintiffs to their proofs.

620. BIC admits the allegations contained in paragraph 620.

621. BIC admits the allegations contained in paragraph 621.

622. BIC is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph 622 and therefore neither admits nor denies the allegations, leaving Third-Party Plaintiffs to their proofs.

623. BIC denies the allegations contained in paragraph 623, except that BIC admits that Helion Industries, Inc. ("Helion") utilized toluene, sodium bicromate, zinc nitrate, ammonia, hydroquinone, acetic acid, sodium hydroxide, waste chromic acid solution, waste formaldehyde solution, and waste mercury at the Belleville Industrial Site.

624. BIC denies the allegations contained in paragraph 624, except that BIC admits that a Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission Bi-Monthly Report dated July 27, 1977 describes an event concerning Helion, as the document speaks for itself.

625. BIC denies the allegations contained in paragraph 625, except that BIC admits that a 1993 DEP report refers to the substances listed in paragraph 625.

626. BIC is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of allegations contained in paragraph 626 and therefore neither admits nor denies the allegations, leaving Third-Party Plaintiffs to their proofs.

627. BIC denies the allegations contained in paragraph 627, except that as to groundwater flow, BIC neither admits nor denies the allegations, leaving Third-Party Plaintiffs to their proofs.

628. BIC is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph 628 and neither admits nor denies the allegations, leaving Third-Party Plaintiffs to their proofs.

629. BIC is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph 629 and neither admits nor denies the allegations, leaving Third-Party Plaintiffs to their proofs.

630. BIC is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations contained in paragraph 630 and neither admits nor denies the allegations, leaving Third-Party Plaintiffs to their proofs.

631. The allegations of paragraph 631 state a legal conclusion to which no response is required.

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632-3445. Paragraphs 632-3445 do not relate to BIC. No response is required pursuant to CMO V.

#### **AS TO FIRST COUNT**

##### **New Jersey Spill Compensation and Control Act, N.J.S.A. 58:10-23.11.f.a.2(a)**

3446. BIC repeats and realleges its responses to the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 3445 of the Complaint as if fully set forth herein.

3447. BIC denies the allegations of paragraph 3447 so far as they relate to BIC.

3448. BIC neither admits nor denies paragraph 3448 as the Act referenced within this paragraph speaks for itself.

3449. The allegations of paragraph 3449 constitute legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent a response may be required, BIC denies the allegations of paragraph 3449.

3450. BIC denies the allegations contained in paragraph 3450.

3451. The allegations of paragraph 3451 constitute legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent a response may be required, BIC denies the allegations of paragraph 3451.

### **AS TO SECOND COUNT**

#### **Statutory Contribution**

3452. BIC repeats and realleges its responses to the allegations contained in paragraphs 1 through 3451 of the Complaint as if fully set forth herein.

3453. The allegations of paragraph 3453 constitute legal conclusions to which no response is required. To the extent a response may be required, BIC denies the allegations of paragraph 3453.

### **FIRST AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

The Third-Party Complaint is barred in whole or in part as it fails to state a cause of action against BIC upon which relief can be granted.

### **SECOND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

BIC is not a discharger or a person in any way responsible for a discharge under N.J.S.A. 58:10-23 et seq. ("Spill Act").

### **THIRD AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

The claims of Third-Party Plaintiffs are barred in whole or in part by the statutory defenses to liability provided by the Spill Act and the Water Pollution Control Act, N.J.S.A. 58:10A-1 et seq. ("WPCA").

#### **FOURTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

Third-Party Plaintiffs have no Spill Act claim against BIC because they have not cleaned up and/or removed a discharge of hazardous substances within the meaning of the Spill Act.

#### **FIFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

Third-Party Plaintiffs have no right of contribution against BIC under the WPCA.

#### **SIXTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

Third-Party Plaintiffs' claims are barred, in whole or in part, by the entire controversy doctrine.

#### **SEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

To the extent the Third-Party Complaint purports to seek any relief under New Jersey's Environmental Rights Act, N.J.S.A. 2A:35A-1 et seq., in whole or in part, the pleading is barred because Third-Party Plaintiffs have failed to meet the procedural and/or substantive requirements entitling them to sue BIC under that statute.

#### **EIGHTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

Some or all of Third-Party Plaintiffs do not have standing to sue.

#### **NINTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

Upon information and belief, Third-Party Plaintiffs are mere corporate shells who are periodically infused with cash or equivalent contributions by other corporate entities which money Third-Party Plaintiffs purport to use to address the environmental contamination at issue in this litigation. Consequently, the claims by Third-Party Plaintiffs are barred under the collateral source doctrine or its equitable equivalent.

#### **TENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

Third-Party Plaintiffs are not the real parties in interest for pursuit of the claims set forth in the Third-Party Complaint, nor are Third-Party Plaintiffs acting in the capacity of an executor,

administrator, guardian of a person or property, trustee of an express trust, or a party with whom or in whose name a contract has been made for the benefit of another. Consequently, all claims are barred under R. 4:26-1 of the New Jersey Court Rules.

#### **ELEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

Third-Party Plaintiffs are mere volunteers for remediation of the environmental contamination for which they claim contribution and/or other relief from BIC. Consequently, the claims in the Third-Party Complaint are barred, in whole or in part.

#### **TWELFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

The claims brought by Third-Party Plaintiffs reflect damages that are wholly speculative, conjectural, unreasonable, excessive and/or arbitrary and capricious.

#### **THIRTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

BIC cannot be held liable for or be required to pay Third-Party Plaintiffs' damages or other claims based on actions or inactions by BIC that arise out of conduct lawfully undertaken in compliance with permits or other approvals issued by relevant government agencies, including the State of New Jersey and/or the United States and/or in compliance with applicable laws, regulations, rules, orders, ordinances, directives and common law, and other requirements of all foreign, federal, state and local government entities ("applicable Environmental Laws").

#### **FOURTEENTH THIRD AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

At common law, BIC held, and still holds, a usufructuary interest allowing it, along with all other citizens, the reasonable use of assets held for the benefit of the public by the State of New Jersey under the Public Trust Doctrine. BIC has at all relevant times acted in accordance with its rights of reasonable use of publicly held assets. As a matter of law, Third-Party Plaintiffs' claims are derivative of, and cannot be any greater than, the claims that the State of

New Jersey has or would have against BIC directly. As a result, the claims set forth in the Third-Party Complaint are barred, in whole or in part.

#### **FIFTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

The State of New Jersey is legally barred from asserting direct claims against BIC for the damages sought in its Amended Complaint. Consequently, all claims that are or may be derivative of the State of New Jersey's claims are barred as to BIC as well, including the claims set forth in the Third-Party Complaint.

#### **SIXTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

The Third-Party Complaint is barred and/or is constitutionally impermissible to the extent that it seeks to impose retroactive liability for acts that were previously authorized or condoned by law including applicable Environmental Laws.

#### **SEVENTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

Third-Party Plaintiffs' Complaint is barred to the extent that it seeks relief for damages incurred prior to the effective date of the Spill Act.

#### **EIGHTEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

At all relevant times, BIC complied with all applicable Environmental Laws, regulations, industry standards and ordinances, and otherwise conducted itself reasonably, prudently, in good faith, and with due care for the rights, safety and property of others.

#### **NINETEENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

The claims asserted against BIC in the Third-Party Complaint are barred because at all relevant times BIC exercised due care with respect to hazardous substances, if any, that may have been handled at the subject property or properties, took precautions against foreseeable acts or omissions of others and the consequences that could reasonably result from such acts or omissions, and because any release or threat of release of any hazardous substances, if any, and

any costs or damages resulting therefrom, were caused solely by the negligence, acts or omissions of third parties over whom BIC had no control, whether by, in whole or part, contract or otherwise, or any duty to control, including without limitation the State of New Jersey and its agencies and officials, and the United States and its agencies and officials.

#### **TWENTIETH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

The claims set forth in the Third-Party Complaint are barred in whole or in part by the doctrine of preemption.

#### **TWENTY-FIRST AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

Third-Party Plaintiffs suffered no losses or injuries that were proximately caused by BIC.

#### **TWENTY-SECOND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

Third-Party Plaintiffs' claims against BIC are barred, in whole or in part, by the applicable Statute of Limitations, Statute of Repose, and/or the equitable doctrines of laches and estoppel.

#### **TWENTY-THIRD AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

Third-Party Plaintiffs' claims are barred in whole or in part by the doctrines of accord and satisfaction, waiver, consent, estoppel, release and/or assumption of risk.

#### **TWENTY-FOURTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

Third-Party Plaintiffs' claims are barred, in whole or in part, by the doctrine of "coming to the nuisance."

#### **TWENTY-FIFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

Third-Party Plaintiffs' claims are barred, in whole or in part, by the "unclean hands" doctrine.

#### **TWENTY-SIXTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

The claims for equitable contribution under the Spill Act in the Third-Party Complaint are barred because: (1) equity will not compel action that is impossible of performance; (2) equity will not exceed the rights of parties existing at law; (3) equity will not consciously become an instrument of injustice; and/or (4) equity will not permit double satisfaction.

#### **TWENTY-SEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

Third-Party Plaintiffs' claims are barred, in whole or in part, by the doctrines of collateral estoppel, *res judicata*, and/or judicial estoppel including in connection with prior findings as to Third-Party Plaintiffs' intentional misconduct.

#### **TWENTY-EIGHTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

Third-Party Plaintiffs' claims are barred because the relief sought against BIC, were it claimed directly by Plaintiffs, would amount to unlawful taxation.

#### **TWENTY-NINTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

Third-Party Plaintiffs' claims against BIC are subject to setoff and recoupment and therefore must be reduced accordingly.

#### **THIRTIETH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

BIC did not own or operate a "Major Facility" as defined by the Spill Act or the WPCA.

#### **THIRTY-FIRST AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

Third-Party Plaintiffs' claims are barred, in whole or in part, by Third-Party Plaintiffs' failure to comply with the prerequisites to liability under the Spill Act including, without limitation to, Third-Party Plaintiffs' have not incurred costs authorized by the Spill Act and Third-Party Plaintiffs' have failed to direct cleanup and removal activities in accordance with the National Contingency Plan to the greatest extent possible.

### **THIRTY-SECOND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

Third-Party Plaintiffs' claims are barred because neither they nor Plaintiffs have incurred "costs of restoration and replacement ... of any natural resources damaged or destroyed by a discharge" under the Spill Act.

### **THIRTY-THIRD AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

Third-Party Plaintiffs have failed to join necessary and indispensable parties needed for a just adjudication of the claims asserted in this action, in whose absence complete relief can not be afforded the existing parties pursuant to R. 4:28-1 of the New Jersey Court Rules. These necessary and indispensable parties include, without limitation, State of New Jersey agencies and instrumentalities, including without limitation the State trustees for tidelands, certain United States agencies and instrumentalities with liability under the Spill Act, and certain state and local governmental agencies located outside the boundaries of New Jersey, including the State of New York and its agencies and instrumentalities, all of whom are or may be separately liable for contamination allegedly located in the "Newark Bay Complex," as defined in Plaintiffs' Second Amended Complaint.

### **THIRTY-FOURTH THIRD AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

Third-Party Plaintiffs' claims are not ripe for adjudication, inter alia, because Third-Party Plaintiffs have a joint liability to the Plaintiffs and have not paid and will not pay more than their fair or equitable share of the liability.

### **THIRTY-FIFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

BIC denies that Third-Party Plaintiffs have suffered any harm whatsoever, but in the event that they did suffer any form of injury or damage cognizable under applicable Environmental Law, such injury was caused by the intervening acts, omissions, or superseding acts of persons or entities over whom BIC exercised no control and for whose conduct BIC was

not responsible including, without limitation, unpermitted and storm event discharges from publically owned treatment works.

#### **THIRTY-SIXTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

If Third-Party Plaintiffs sustained any injury or are entitled to any damages, such injury and damages were wholly, or in part, caused by Third-Party Plaintiffs' own acts or omissions, negligence, lack of due care and fault and/or that of Third-Party Plaintiffs' agents or employees. In the event that Third-Party Plaintiffs are found to have sustained any injury and are entitled to damages, Third-Party Plaintiffs' recovery against BIC, if any, must be reduced by the proportionate damages caused by the acts and conduct of Third-Party Plaintiffs and/or its agents or employees.

#### **THIRTY-SEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

Although BIC denies that it is liable for the contamination described in Third-Party Plaintiffs' Complaint, in the event it is found liable, BIC is entitled to an offset against any such liability on its part for the equitable share of the liability of any person or entity not joined as a defendant in this action that would be liable to Third-Party Plaintiffs.

#### **THIRTY-EIGHTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

Under N.J.S.A. 2A:15-97, the amount of damages, if any, should be reduced by any amounts recovered from any other source.

#### **THIRTY-NINTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

Third-Party Plaintiffs' claims are barred to the extent that the conduct of BIC's alleged to give rise to liability in the Third-Party Complaint is the subject of a release, covenant not to sue, or has otherwise been excused by Plaintiffs, including, without limitation, through issuance of a no further action letter, consent order, settlement agreement or other applicable document, with

or without inclusion of contribution protection, or through the Plaintiffs' allowance of any applicable Statute of Limitations or Statute of Repose to lapse.

#### **FORTIETH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

The disposal of waste, if any, which allegedly originated from BIC, was undertaken in accordance with the then state of the art, the then accepted industrial practice and technology, and the then prevailing legal requirements for which BIC cannot be found retroactively liable.

#### **FORTY-FIRST AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

Any discharge that allegedly originated from BIC, was investigated and remediated by a licensed professional and under the direct oversight of state and/or federal agencies with the then state of the art, the then accepted industrial practice and technology, and the then prevailing requirements for which BIC cannot be found retroactively liable.

#### **FORTY-SECOND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

Third-Party Plaintiffs are not entitled to recover costs incurred for cleanup actions not undertaken in coordination or conjunction with federal agencies.

#### **FORTY-THIRD AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

The damages or other relief that Third-Party Plaintiffs seek, if awarded, would result in unjust enrichment to the Third-Party Plaintiffs.

#### **FORTY-FOURTH THIRD AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

Third-Party Plaintiffs' claims are barred due to its own conduct in unilaterally, and without notice to BIC, implementing clean-up plan(s) or taking other actions that resulted in the commingling of formerly divisible areas of environmental harm.

#### **FORTY-FIFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

BIC's liability to Third-Party Plaintiffs, if any, is limited to Spill Act and contribution claims and excludes any such claims which may properly be apportioned to parties pursuant to

*Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Co., et al. v. United States, et al.*, 556 U.S. \_\_\_\_; 129 S.Ct. 1870 (2009), and other comparable decisional law.

#### **FORTY-SIXTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

Third-Party Plaintiffs cannot assert contribution claims against BIC because the discharges for which the Plaintiffs are seeking relief are different from BIC's alleged discharges.

#### **FORTY-SEVENTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

Third-Party Plaintiffs cannot seek contribution under the Joint Tortfeasors Contribution Law because BIC is not liable for "the same injury" caused by Third-Party Plaintiffs' discharges and do not share a common liability to the State of New Jersey.

#### **FORTY-EIGHTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

Third-Party Plaintiffs' claims are barred to the extent they seek to hold BIC liable, in contribution, for any claims for which it would be a violation of public policy to hold BIC liable, including but not limited to punitive damages and penalties.

#### **FORTY-NINTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

Third-Party Plaintiffs' claims are barred, in whole or in part, because no actions or inactions by BIC have resulted in any permanent impairment or damage to a natural resource.

#### **FIFTIETH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

Third-Party Plaintiffs claims for contribution, whether under the Spill Act or the New Jersey statutory provisions for contribution, are derivative of, and are therefore no greater than, Plaintiffs' claims against Third-Party Plaintiffs. Consequently, Third-Party Plaintiffs' claims against BIC are barred to the extent of any legal extinguishments of actual or potential claims by the Plaintiffs against BIC pertaining to the alleged environmental contamination (including natural resource damage) of any site(s) alleged by Third-Party Plaintiffs to be the subject of their

contribution claims against BIC. Examples of legal extinguishments that are or may be applicable to BIC include, with respect to each such site:

- A. Any release or covenant not to sue granted by Plaintiffs to BIC;
- B. Any settlement or other compromise between Plaintiffs and BIC;
- C. Any expiration of the statute of limitations or statute of repose governing Plaintiffs' right to maintain a claim against BIC;
- D. Any failure to join a claim relating to the "Newark Bay Complex" (as defined in the Third-Party Complaint) in a prior litigation between Plaintiffs and BIC, which would result in relinquishment of such a claim by virtue of New Jersey's Entire Controversy Doctrine; and/or
- E. Any issuance by Plaintiffs to BIC, directly or indirectly, of any "No Further Action" (a/k/a "NFA") determination, "Negative Declaration," or similar determination.

#### **FIFTY FIRST AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

Third-Party Plaintiffs' claims are barred because the relief sought against BIC, were it claimed directly by Plaintiffs, would amount to a "taking" of BIC's property in violation of its constitutional rights to due process and/or in violation of its rights under the Eminent Domain Act of 1971, N.J.S.A. 20:3-1 et seq.

#### **FIFTY SECOND AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

Third-Party Plaintiffs' claims are barred to the extent the relief sought by Third-Party Plaintiffs in the Complaint is at odds with BIC's responsibilities to conduct ongoing environmental cleanups under oversight of the Plaintiffs at any site(s) alleged by Third-Party Plaintiffs to be the subject of their contribution claims against BIC, thereby exposing BIC to inconsistent responsibilities, penalties and liabilities, and the possibility of paying twice for the same actions (i.e., double recovery).

### **FIFTY THIRD AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

To the extent BIC is acting or has acted to conduct environmental cleanup at any site(s) alleged by Third-Party Plaintiffs to be the subject of their contribution claims against BIC, the claims for equitable contribution under the Spill Act in the Third-Party Complaint are barred because equity will not compel action that is already being undertaken and/or is unnecessary.

### **FIFTY FOURTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

Without admitting liability, BIC alleges that if it is found to have been engaged in any of the activities alleged in the Third-Party Complaint, such activities were *de minimis* and not the cause of any damages or other claims by Third-Party Plaintiffs.

### **FIFTY FIFTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

BIC incorporates by reference any affirmative defense asserted by other parties in this action to the extent such affirmation defenses are defenses to Third-Party Plaintiffs' claims and do not impose liability on BIC.

### **FIFTY SIXTH AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSE**

BIC reserves the right to assert and hereby invoke each and every Environmental Law defenses that may be available during the course of this action.

### **COUNTER-CLAIMS, CROSS CLAIMS AND THIRD/FOURTH PARTY CLAIMS**

1. No such claims are required to be asserted at this time and are expressly reserved pursuant to CMO V.
2. Pursuant to R. 4:7-5(b), all cross claims and/or counterclaims for statutory and/or common law contribution and indemnification asserted by other parties against BIC, whether filed in the past or future, are deemed denied by BIC without the need for responsive pleadings.

WHEREFORE, Third-Party Defendant BIC respectfully requests that the Court enter an Order dismissing the Third-Party Complaint "B" with prejudice, and awarding costs, attorney fees and any other relief the Court deems just and proper.

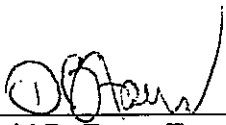
**DESIGNATION OF TRIAL COUNSEL**

In accordance with Rule 4:25-4 you are hereby notified that David B. Farer is assigned to try this case.

Dated: December 14, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

Farer Fersko  
A Professional Association  
Attorneys for Third-Party Defendant  
Belleville Industrial Center  
600 South Avenue  
Westfield, NJ 07091  
Tel:(908) 789-8550  
Fax: (908) 789-8660  
By:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
David B. Farer, Esq.

**CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO R:4:5-1(b)(2)**

Pursuant to R. 4:5-1(b)(2), the undersigned hereby certifies that:

(a) The matter in controversy is not the subject of any other action pending in any court or a pending arbitration proceeding and no action or arbitration proceeding is contemplated by the undersigned; and

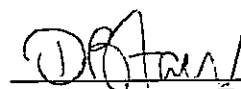
(b) Since it is the legal position of the undersigned that the potential liability, if any, of a Third-Party Defendant for the claims set forth in the Third-Party Complaint "B" is several only, there are no non-parties which should be joined in the action pursuant to R. 4:28; but that

(c) In the event the Court shall determine that the potential liability of a Third-Party Defendant, if any, for the claims set forth in the Third-Party Complaint "B" is in any respect joint and several (which is denied), then all or some of the non-parties listed on the attachments to the letter dated October 7, 2009 from Eric Rothenberg, Esq. of O'Melveny and Myers to the Honorable Marina Corodemus may constitute non-parties who should be joined in the action pursuant to R. 4:28; and

(d) In either event, some or all of such non-parties are subject to joinder pursuant to R. 4:29-1(b) because of potential liability to any party on the basis of the same transactional facts.

Farer Fersko  
A Professional Association  
Attorneys for Third-Party Defendant  
Belleville Industrial Center  
By:

Dated: December 14, 2009

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
David B. Farer, Esq.