

MISSISSIPPI COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY 2622
OFFICIAL MINUTES
JANUARY 22, 2026

The regular monthly meeting of the Commission on Environmental Quality was held on Thursday, January 22, 2026, in-person in the Commission Hearing Room at the offices of the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality, 515 East Amite Street, Jackson, Mississippi, beginning at 9:00 a.m.

Commissioners present were: Jack Norris, Kent Parrish, Jr., Chat Phillips, Jack Winstead and Billy VanDevender.

Commissioner Patrick Johnson, Jr., was not present.

Others present were: Chris Wells, Executive Director, Thomas Wallace, Jaricus Whitlock, Tad Campbell, staff of MDEQ; and other staff members and visitors whose names appear elsewhere in these minutes.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Chat Phillips and after Mr. Winstead led the invocation, the following business was transacted:

Approval of Minutes

On motion made by Mr. Parrish and seconded by Mr. Winstead, the minutes of the December 11, 2025, meeting were approved and adopted by the Commission as the Official Minutes.

Commission Approval of Brownfield Agreement Completion

Mr. Thomas Wallace stated that the Commission approved Brownfield Agreement Order No. 7378-24 on April 24, 2025, between the Commission and McIngvale Square, LLC, for the remediation of the golf course maintenance facility ("Site") located at 820 McIngvale Road, Hernando, DeSoto County, Mississippi. The original brownfield agreement required the remediation of contaminants (1,2-dichloroethane and 1,4-dioxane) greater than the Environmental Protection Agency Screening Level. Remediation consisted of excavating contaminated soils in accordance with MDEQ-approved methods. The completed remedial activities met the requirements of the MDEQ-approved Corrective Action Plan – Rev. 2 dated May 1, 2024. McIngvale Square, LLC, requested the Commission make a determination as to the completion of the Brownfield Agreement. On behalf of staff, Mr. Wallace recommended that the Commission determine that McIngvale Square, LLC, completed Brownfield Agreement Order No. 7378-24, and stated that staff of MDEQ evaluated the Brownfield agreement completion and believes that the Site is in compliance with applicable State and Federal laws and standards and will be protective of public health and the environment. Following staff presentation and deliberation, on motion made by Mr. Winstead and seconded by Mr. Norris, the Commission unanimously voted and determined that McIngvale Square, LLC, completed the Brownfield Agreement between the Commission and McIngvale Square, LLC, for the remediation of the golf course maintenance facility ("Site") located at 820 McIngvale Road, Hernando, DeSoto County, Mississippi.

Commission Approval of Underground Storage Tank Fee for Fiscal Year 2027

Mr. Thomas Wallace stated the Underground Storage Tank (UST) Advisory Council and staff of the MDEQ met on November 13, 2025, to discuss the current status of the UST program and for the UST Advisory Council to provide a recommended tank fee to the Commission for the Fiscal Year 2027. Fiscal Year 2025 expenditures and accomplishments and the expected expenditures for Fiscal Year 2026 were provided in the UST report previously provided to the Commission for review on the UST program. On behalf of staff, Mr. Wallace recommended that the Commission approve the Advisory Council's recommended \$150 tank fee for fiscal year 2027. Mr. Parrish had a brief question about funding allotments under the UST program which Mr. Wallace and Executive Director Chris Wells addressed. Following staff presentation and deliberation, on motion made by Mr. Parrish and seconded by Mr. VanDevender, the Commission unanimously voted to approve the UST Advisory Council's recommended \$150 tank fee for fiscal year 2027.

Request for Approval of 2nd 10-Year 2008 Ozone NAAQS Maintenance Plan - Desoto County

On behalf of staff, Mr. Jaricus Whitlock stated that the Air Division is requesting the Commission's approval of MDEQ's draft 2nd 10-Year 2008 Ozone NAAQS Maintenance Plan for Desoto County, MS for submittal to EPA. Mr. Whitlock provided the Commissioners with some background information regarding the draft plan stating that MDEQ operates and maintains a monitoring station in Hernando, MS to continuously evaluate ambient ozone levels for the overall Desoto County area. In March 2008, the U.S. EPA finalized rulemaking that lowered the national ozone standard from 0.08 parts per million to 0.075 parts per million. In May 2012, based on measured ozone readings from the Desoto County monitor and several contributing factors (most notably air pollution transport from the neighboring city of Memphis), EPA designated the Desoto County area as "non-attainment" for the 2008 national ozone standard. Accordingly, through collaborative efforts between MDEQ and Shelby County, the Desoto County area achieved a status of "in-attainment" in April 2016. As part of the transition from a status of "non-attainment" to "in-attainment", Federal rules require MDEQ to develop a maintenance plan that demonstrates continued compliance with the 2008 national ozone standard for two (2) 10-year periods. The first 10-year maintenance plan (which covered the period 2016 – 2027) was approved by this Commission in December 2015, and it has now come time for MDEQ to finalize the second 10-year maintenance plan (which will cover the period 2027 – 2036). The draft plan was previously sent to the Commissioners for review and has undergone a 30-day comment period for both the general public as well as EPA. No comments were received from either group. Mr. Parrish had a brief question about Desoto County staying in future attainment with EPA's ozone standards which Mr. Whitlock and Executive Director Chris Wells addressed. Following staff presentation and deliberation, on motion made by Mr. Parrish and seconded by Mr. VanDevender, the Commission unanimously voted to approve MDEQ's draft 2nd 10-Year 2008 Ozone NAAQS Maintenance Plan for Desoto County, MS, for submittal to EPA.

Request for Approval - Final FY2027 Title V Fee Recommendation

On behalf of staff, Mr. Jaricus Whitlock stated that the Commission was presented with the Title V fee schedule recommendation at its meeting on December 11, 2025. Air Division staff is now requesting approval to finalize the FY 2027 Title V fee recommendation after completing an associated public notice period and public hearing. The public hearing was held on January 16, 2026, and no comments were received. Mr. Whitlock recommended the Commission set the fee as previously recommended at the proposed rate of \$27 per ton of regulated air pollutants, accompanied by a tiered minimum fee, if applicable, and maintenance fee, which are the same as last year's fees. Following staff presentation and deliberation, on motion made by Mr. Winstead and seconded by Mr. Norris, the Commission unanimously voted to approve the Title V fee at the proposed rate of \$27 per ton of regulated air pollutants, accompanied by a tiered minimum fee, if applicable, and maintenance fee.

Solid Waste Assistance and Waste Tire Grants

On previous authority delegated to the MDEQ Executive Director, the Commission was provided a listing by staff of the following solid waste assistance grants that have been awarded to local governments:

| <u>County/Municipality</u> | <u>Grant Amount</u> |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Alcorn County Board of Supervisors | \$38,830.50 |
| Desoto County Board of Supervisors | \$75,000.00 |
| Franklin County Board of Supervisors | \$23,815.00 |
| Hancock County Board of Supervisors | \$47,104.86 |
| Lawrence County Board of Supervisors | \$15,596.00 |
| Simpson County Board of Supervisors | \$19,634.00 |

On previous authority delegated to the MDEQ Executive Director, the Commission was provided a listing by staff of the following waste tire grants that have been awarded to local governments:

| <u>County/Municipality</u> | <u>Grant Amount</u> |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Alcorn County Board of Supervisors | \$40,000.00 |
| Jasper County Board of Supervisors | \$23,250.00 |
| Jefferson County Board of Supervisors | \$37,000.00 |

Asbestos Certifications

On previous authority delegated to the Head, Office of Pollution Control, the staff reported that 138 asbestos certifications had been issued since the last report.

Lead Paint Certifications

On previous authority delegated to the Head, Office of Pollution Control, the staff reported that 63 lead paint certifications had been issued since the last report.

Underground Storage Tank (UST) Certifications

On previous authority delegated to the Head, Office of Pollution Control, the staff reported that 1 new and 14 renewed certifications to those who install, alter, or remove underground storage tanks had been issued since the last report.

Wastewater Operator Certifications

On previous authority delegated to the Head, Office of Pollution Control, the staff reported that 10 new and 14 renewed wastewater operator certificates had been issued since the last report.

Emergency Clean-Up Expenses

On previous authority delegated to the MDEQ Executive Director, the staff reported the Emergency Clean-Up Expenses incurred since the Commission's last meeting. A list of these expenses is made a part of these minutes and is filed in the Official Minutes File.

Administrative Orders

On previous authority delegated to the MDEQ Executive Director, the staff reported that 32 Administrative Orders have been issued since the Commission's meeting on December 11, 2025. A list of these orders is made a part of these minutes and is filed in the Official Minutes File.

Other Business

Executive Director Chris Wells provided the Commission with a legislative update and stated that MDEQ normally does not push for legislation to be passed. This year, however, the agency has proposed updates to the statute governing the lead-based paint program which would modernize the statute and bring it up to date with current federal regulations. In addition, the agency has suggested revisions to statutes mandating fees in some permitting processes and statutes mandating public hearings on certain solid waste permits to make them more efficient and streamlined. MDEQ has also proposed legislation to amend certain statutes which would provide the agency with more flexibility on how the offices within MDEQ are structured and managed. Mr. Wells also told the Commission that MDEQ's budget hearings were being held this week and that the agency was focused on filling vacancies and the retention of employees so that the agency can continue its quality work into the future. There was some discussion between the Commission and Mr. Wells about the agency and how the permitting process could be more efficient.

Setting of Meeting

The Commission decided to meet next on February 26, 2026, beginning at 9:00 a.m.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned.


CHAIR

ATTEST:


EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

EMERGENCY CLEAN-UP EXPENSES

To: E3 Environmental
Amount: \$10,407.68 **Date of Response:** 08/25/2025
For: Costs associated with providing supervision, labor, equipment and materials to respond to and clean up a diesel spill in Rankin County.

To: E3 Environmental
Amount: \$3,670.40 **Date of Response:** 10/10/2025
For: Costs associated with providing supervision, labor, equipment and materials to respond to and clean up an oil spill in Grenada County.

(Attachment 2)
1/22/2026

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDERS

| | <u>Respondent</u> | <u>Order No.</u> | <u>Summary</u> |
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| 1 | Approval of a Modification to the Walthall County Solid Waste Management Plan | Order No. 7621 25 | This order approves a modified version of the Walthall County Solid Waste Management Plan for the inclusion of the proposed Walthall County Municipal Solid Waste Transfer Station to be located near Tylertown, MS. |
| 2 | DeSoto County Regional Utility Authority, Short Fork WWTF DeSoto Co., MS | Order No. 7622 25 Respondent agreed to pay MDEQ a penalty in the amount of \$7,500.00. | Respondent was in violation of the discharge limitations required by NPDES Permit No. MS0062227. The violations are detailed in Section 1 of this Agreed Order. |
| 3 | Murphy Oil Trading Company (Eastern) Lauderdale Co., MS | Order No. 7623 25 | The Commission agrees not to assert any claim against the Respondent for any costs expended by the Commission or MDEQ for the prior assessment, remediation, and monitoring of the Site or assess penalties related to violations and penalties incurred by the prior ownership or responsible parties as of the date of execution of this Agreed Order by Executive Director of MDEQ, provided Respondent enters into a Brownfield Agreement within one calendar year from the date of the execution of this Agreed Order. Upon execution of this Agreed Order and the Brownfield Schedule Order and acquisition of the Site, Respondent is accepted into the Mississippi Brownfield Program in accordance with Miss. Code Ann. § 49-35-7. |
| 4 | Murphy Oil Trading Company (Eastern) | Order No. 7624 25 | Respondent agrees to the terms and conditions of participation in the Brownfields Program. Respondent will pay all reasonable and necessary costs of MDEQ's actions associated with MDEQ's administration and evaluation of the Site. MDEQ will invoice Murphy Oil Trading Company (Eastern) monthly. Hourly rate and Schedule of Analytical Costs are included in this Agreed Order. |
| 5 | Q LLC Hinds Co., MS | Order No. 7625 25 Respondent agrees to pay MDEQ a penalty in the amount of \$500. | Respondent owns/operates USTs at 3720 Siwell Road, Jackson, MS. Respondent failed to pay tank fees in a timely manner pursuant to Mississippi Code Annotated § 49-17-421 (Rev. 2023). |

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| 6 | Verpal Singh or Pal Singh Copiah Co., MS | Order No. 7626 25 Respondent agrees to pay MDEQ a penalty in the amount of \$500. | Respondent owns/operates USTs at 16160 Highway 51, Hazlehurst, MS. Respondent failed to pay tank fees in a timely manner pursuant to Mississippi Code Annotated § 49-17-421 (Rev. 2023). |
| 7 | Salah Ali Scott Co., MS | Order No. 7627 25 Respondent agrees to pay MDEQ a penalty in the amount of \$500. | Respondent owns/operates USTs at 4814 Highway 80, Morton, MS. Respondent failed to pay tank fees in a timely manner pursuant to Mississippi Code Annotated § 49-17-421 (Rev. 2023). |
| 8 | Bedi Ventures LLC (Owner) Christopher Kalu (Operator) Adams Co., MS | Order No. 7628 25 Respondent agrees to pay MDEQ a penalty in the amount of \$500. | Respondent owns/operates USTs at 101 Wilson Road, Natchez, MS. Respondent failed to pay tank fees in a timely manner pursuant to Mississippi Code Annotated § 49-17-421 (Rev. 2023). |
| 9 | Gurinder Singh (Owner) Henil Patel (Operator) Rankin Co., MS | Order No. 7629 25 Respondent agrees to pay MDEQ a penalty in the amount of \$500. | Respondent owns/operates USTs at 1871 Old Brandon Road, Pearl, MS. Respondent failed to pay tank fees in a timely manner pursuant to Mississippi Code Annotated § 49-17-421 (Rev. 2023). |
| 10 | Salah Ali (Owner) James Hardy (Operator) Newton Co., MS | Order No. 7630 25 Respondent agrees to pay MDEQ a penalty in the amount of \$500. | Respondent owns/operates USTs at 15507 Highway 15 North, Decatur, MS. Respondent failed to pay tank fees in a timely manner pursuant to Mississippi Code Annotated § 49-17-421 (Rev. 2023). |
| 11 | Woodrow Wilson Gulf, LLC (Owner) Stadium Market LLC (Operator) Hinds Co., MS | Order No. 7631 25 Respondent agrees to pay MDEQ a penalty in the amount of \$500. | Respondent owns/operates USTs at 352 Woodrow Wilson, Jackson, MS. Respondent failed to pay tank fees in a timely manner pursuant to Mississippi Code Annotated § 49-17-421 (Rev. 2023). |
| 12 | Gagan Deep Singh Lee Co., MS | Order No. 7632 25 Respondent agrees to pay MDEQ a penalty in the amount of \$500. | Respondent owns/operates USTs at 1484 Main Street, Highway 348, Guntown, MS. Respondent failed to pay tank fees in a timely manner pursuant to Mississippi Code Annotated § 49-17-421 (Rev. 2023). |
| 13 | Vemoci, LLC Hinds Co., MS | Order No. 7633 25 Respondent agrees to comply with the requirements/obligations listed under Section 2 of this Agreed Consent Order. | Respondent owns property located at 4735 S. McRaven Road, Jackson, MS, where MDEQ is seeking legal access to initiate abatement of an unauthorized waste tire stockpile. |
| 14 | Approval of the Lamar County Solid Waste Management Plan | Order No. 7634 25 | This order approves the comprehensively updated version of the Lamar County Solid Waste Management Plan. The plan describes the provisions and services for managing solid waste in the county for the 20-year planning period as required by State |

| | | | Law. |
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| 15 | Gulf South Pipeline Company, LLC Jefferson Davis Co., MS | Order No. 7635 25 | Respondent entered into Restricted Use Agreed Order #7635 25 and Environmental Covenant for the purposes of limiting contact and reducing risk associated with the contamination on the site located at 595 West Whitesand Road, Prentiss, Jefferson Davis County, Mississippi. |
| 16 | Gurdev S Kamboj (Owner) Jimmy's Mini Mart LLC (Operator) Lauderdale Co., MS | Order No. 7636 25 Respondent agrees to pay MDEQ a penalty in the amount of \$1,000. | Respondent owns/operates USTs at 57 Will Garret Road, Toomsuba, MS. Respondent failed to pay tank fees in a timely manner pursuant to Mississippi Code Annotated § 49-17-421 (Rev. 2023). |
| 17 | Gurdev S Kamboj (Owner) Kamalpreet Singh (Operator) Scott Co., MS | Order No. 7637 25 Respondent agrees to pay MDEQ a penalty in the amount of \$1,260. | Respondent owns/operates USTs at 2581 Highway 13 South, Morton, MS. Respondent failed to test pressurized piping shear valves within the previous twelve (12) months {280.35}, failed to test spill prevention integrity once every twelve (12) months {280.30 (c)}, failed to inspect overfill devices once every twelve (12) months. {280.30 (d) } and failed to test automatic line leak detectors once every twelve (12) months {280.44 (a)}. |
| 18 | Punceth Karawadra Jackson Co., MS | Order No. 7638 25 Respondent agrees to pay MDEQ a penalty in the amount of \$500. | Respondent owns/operates USTs at 3074 Government ST / Old Highway 90, Ocean Springs, MS. Respondent failed to pay tank fees in a timely manner pursuant to Mississippi Code Annotated § 49-17-421 (Rev. 2023). |
| 19 | Veja LLC Jackson Co., MS | Order No. 7639 25 Respondent agrees to pay MDEQ a penalty in the amount of \$500. | Respondent owns/operates USTs at 6300 Washington Ave, Ocean Springs, MS. Respondent failed to pay tank fees in a timely manner pursuant to Mississippi Code Annotated § 49-17-421 (Rev. 2023). |
| 20 | V Mart LLC Lee Co., MS | Order No. 7640 25 Respondent agrees to pay MDEQ a penalty in the amount of \$1,000. | Respondent owns/operates USTs at 1074 North Eason Blvd, Tupelo, MS. Respondent failed to pay tank fees in a timely manner pursuant to Mississippi Code Annotated § 49-17-421 (Rev. 2023). |
| 21 | Irfan Uddin (Operator) Jackson Co., MS | Order No. 7641 25 Respondent agrees to pay MDEQ a penalty in the amount of \$1,500. | Respondent owns/operates USTs at 11001 Highway 57, Vancleave, MS. Respondent failed to meet UST system overfill prevention requirements. {280.20 (d)}. Overfill device failed 7/17/24 and was not repaired / replaced within 90 days of failure. |

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| 22 | Northside Texaco LLC Hinds Co., MS | Order No. 7642 25 Respondent agrees to pay MDEQ a penalty in the amount of \$1,000. | Respondent owns/operates USTs at 123 W Northside Drive, Jackson, MS. Respondent failed to pay tank fees in a timely manner pursuant to Mississippi Code Annotated § 49-17-421 (Rev. 2023). |
| 23 | Jishnu Gosain Hinds Co., MS | Order No. 7643 25 Respondent agrees to pay MDEQ a penalty in the amount of \$500. | Respondent owns/operates USTs at 2100 Thousand Oaks Drive, Jackson, MS. Respondent failed to pay tank fees in a timely manner pursuant to Mississippi Code Annotated § 49-17-421 (Rev. 2023). |
| 24 | Hajar Obad Tunica Co., MS | Order No. 7644 25 Respondent agrees to pay MDEQ a penalty in the amount of \$500. | Respondent owns/operates USTs at 1720 Edwards Avenue, Tunica, MS. Respondent failed to pay tank fees in a timely manner pursuant to Mississippi Code Annotated § 49-17-421 (Rev. 2023). |
| 25 | International Paper Company and GCF US Holdings, LLC Lowndes Co., MS | Order No. 7645 25 International Paper Company agreed to pay MDEQ a penalty in the amount of \$200,000.00. GCF US Holdings, LLC agreed to agreed to demonstrate compliance with the Rolling 12-Month Total Sulfur Dioxide limit of 227 tons per year by June 30, 2026. Additionally, GCF US Holdings, LLC agreed to an interim Rolling 3-Month Total Sulfur Dioxide limit of 56.75 tons until it demonstrates compliance with the limit required by Condition No. 3.B.24(b) of Title V Operating Permit No. 1680-00044. | International Paper Company was in violation of 1) ACT 10, Condition R-2 of Stormwater Permit Coverage No. MSR110099 for failing to complete the Annual Comprehensive Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan Evaluation Form for calendar year 2022; 2) Miss. Code Ann. § 49-17-29 (2)(b) for discharging wastewater without a valid permit between November 22-24, 2024; 3) Part II, Section A, Subsection 10 of NPDES Permit No. MS0036412 for bypassing wastewater on April 1, 2025; and 4) Condition No. 3.B.24(b) of Title V Operating Permit No. 1680-00044 for exceeding the Rolling 12-Month Total Sulfur Dioxide limit of 227 tons per year during the 12-month periods ending April 2021, August 2021 through January 2022, and October 2024 to present at Emission Point AA-081 at its Columbus Mill facility in Lowndes County. Since the violations occurred, International Paper Company transferred the facility's applicable environmental permits to GCF US Holdings, LLC. |
| 26 | Southeastern Railway Services Pike Co., MS | Order No. 7646 26 Respondent agreed to pay MDEQ a penalty in the amount of \$4,500.00. | Respondent was in violation of Synthetic Minor Operating Permit No. 2280-00031 for utilizing an unpermitted fuel storage tank, failing to conduct and record monthly maintenance records at Emission Point AA-002, failing |

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| | | | to monitor and record hours of operation at Emission Point AW-001, and failing to submit Synthetic Minor annual reports for calendar years 2022 and 2023. |
| 27 | Pelahatchie Property LLC (Owner) AML Transport (Carrier) Jefferson Davis Co., MS | Order No. 7647 26 Respondent agrees to pay MDEQ a penalty in the amount of \$7,500. | Respondent, Pelahatchie Property LLC, owns/operates USTs at 2880 Columbia Avenue, Prentiss, MS. Respondent, AML Transport sales and delivers fuel to USTs at 2880 Columbia Avenue, Prentiss, MS. Respondent failed to adhere to MDEQ classification of USTs at Smithville Quick Stop Facility # 2506 as ineligible for delivery, deposit, or acceptance of a regulated substance. {280.36}. |
| 28 | Sharaf Albarati Forrest Co., MS | Order No. 7648 26 Respondent agrees to pay MDEQ a penalty in the amount of \$500. | Respondent owns/operates USTs at 669 Eatonville Road, Hattiesburg, MS. Respondent failed to pay tank fees in a timely manner pursuant to Mississippi Code Annotated § 49-17-421 (Rev. 2023). |
| 29 | Macon Oil Company Noxubee Co., MS | Order No. 7649 26 Respondent agrees to pay MDEQ a penalty in the amount of \$500. | Respondent owns/operates USTs at 509 North Jefferson, Macon, MS. Respondent failed to maintain / provide records for inspection by MDEQ {280.35}. |
| 30 | Atlas Associates LLC Alcorn Co., MS | Order No. 7650 26 Respondent agrees to pay MDEQ a penalty in the amount of \$4,459. | Respondent owns/operates USTs at 3107 Highway 72 West, Corinth, MS. Respondent failed to provide adequate release detection method / records for a UST system. {280.40-280.45}; failed to test pressurized piping shear valves within the previous twelve (12) months {280.35}, failed to test spill prevention integrity once every twelve (12) months {280.30 (c)}, failed to inspect overfill devices once every twelve (12) months. {280.30 (d)}, failed to test the automatic tank gauging system once every twelve (12) months {280.43 (d)}, failed to inspect impressed current cathodic protection system once every sixty (60) days. {280.32 (c)} and failed to test automatic line leak detectors once every twelve (12) months {280.44 (a)}. |
| 31 | 51 Express LLC (Owner) Senan Al Zadai (Operator) Tate Co., MS | Order No. 7651 26 Respondent agrees to pay MDEQ a penalty in the amount of \$2,850. | Respondent owns/operates USTs at 706 East Service Drive, Coldwater, MS. Respondent failed to provide adequate release detection method / records for a UST system. {280.40-280.45} and failed to test cathodic |

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| | | | protection system within six (6) months of installation / repair and /or once every three (3) years thereafter {280.32 (b)(1)} |
| 32 | Masum Mostafa (Owner) Maher Alashmely (Operator) Marshall Co., MS | Order No. 7652 26 Respondent agrees to pay MDEQ a penalty in the amount of \$1,000. | Respondent owns/operates USTs at 59 Victoria Road, Victoria, MS. Respondent failed to pay tank fees in a timely manner pursuant to Mississippi Code Annotated § 49-17-421 (Rev. 2023). |