1							
1	OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT BARBARA BAIRD, State Bar No. 81507						
2							
3	Assistant Chief Deputy Counsel						
4	WILLIAM B. WONG, State Bar No. 120354 Principal Deputy District Counsel						
5.	21865 Copley Drive Diamond Bar, California 91765-0940 Telephone (200) 206 2202						
6	Telephone: (909) 396-2302 Fax: (909) 396-2961						
7	Attorneys for Petitioner SOUTH COAST AIR QUA	I ITV MANAGEMEN	T DISTRICT				
8	SOUTH COAST AIR QUA	:	1 DISTRICT				
9	E	: BEFORE THE HEARI	NG BOARD OF THE				
10	SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT						
11							
12	In the Matter of		CASE NO. 5418-3				
13	SOUTH COAST AIR QUA MANAGEMENT DISTRI		FINDINGS AND DECISION FOR AN ORDER FOR ABATEMENT (CTIPLE ATER)				
14		Petitioner,	(STIPULATED)				
15	v.		Health & Saf. Code § 41700, District Rules 402, 1469				
16	HIXSON METAL FINISH [Facility ID No. 11818],	ĮING '	District Rules 402, 1409				
17		Respondent.	Date: May 14, 2014				
18		i - Respondenti	Time: 9:00 a.m. Place: 21865 Copley Drive				
19		1	Diamond Bar, CA 91765				
20	<u>. ·</u>	1 					
21		1					
22	This petition for a Stipulated Order for Abatement was heard on May 14, 2014, pursuant to						
23	notice and in accordance with the provisions of California Health & Safety Code § 40823 and						
24	District Rule 812.						
25	The following members of the Hearing Board were present: Edward Camarena, Chair, Julie						
26	Prussack, Vice-Chair, Robert F. Wayner, M.D., Patricia Byrd, and David Holtzman. Petitioner						
27	Executive Officer, was represented by Barbara Baird, Chief Deputy Counsel for the South Coas						
28	Air Quality Management	District. Responden	HIXSON METAL FINISHING (hereinafte				
			•				

FINDINGS & DECISION FOR AN ORDER FOR ABATEMENT [STIPULATED]

"HIXSON" or "Respondent") was represented by Chris M. Amantea, Esq., of Squire Sanders.

The public was given the opportunity to testify, evidence was received and the matter was submitted.

The Hearing Board finds and decides as follows:

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Petitioner is a body corporate and politic established and existing pursuant to Health & Safety Code §§ 40000, et seq., and §§ 40400, et seq., and is the sole and exclusive local agency with the responsibility for comprehensive air pollution control in the South Coast Air Basin.
- 2. Respondent, HIXSON METAL FINISHING, is a business located at 817-853 Production Place, Newport Beach, CA 92663. It is in the business of providing chromic anodizing services and spray coatings for business customers including the aerospace and defense industries.
- 3. The facility is located within the District's jurisdiction and is subject to the District's regulations. Its facility ID is 11818.
- 4. California Health and Safety Code § 41700 provides, in pertinent part, that except as provided in § 41705, "no person shall discharge from any source whatsoever such quantities of air contaminants or other material which cause injury, detriment, nuisance or annoyance to any considerable number of persons or to the public, or which endanger the comfort, repose, health or safety of any such persons or the public, or which cause, or have a natural tendency to cause, injury or damage to business or property."
- 5. District Rule 402 provides as follows: "A person shall not discharge from any sources whatsoever such quantities of air contaminants or other material which cause injury, detriment, nuisance or annoyance to any considerable number of persons or to the public, or which endanger the comfort, repose, health or safety of any such persons or the public, or which cause, or have a natural tendency to cause, injury or damage to business or property. The provisions of this rule shall not apply to odors emanating from agricultural operations necessary for the growing of crops or the raising of fowl or animals."
- 6. District Rule 1469(e)(7) provides in pertinent part that "the owner or operator of a facility [subject to this rule] using an add-on control device to comply with the requirements of

paragraph (c)(8) through (c)(13), (d)(5), (d)(6), or any source electing to comply with the mg/dscm emission standard in paragraph (c)(14), shall demonstrate that all emissions are captured by the associated ventilation system by a quantitative measurement approved by the District. The demonstration shall be made during any performance test specified in paragraph (e)(1) conducted after December 5, 2008. An example of an approved quantitative measurement is demonstrating that the capture system meets the design criteria and ventilation velocities specified in the American Conference of Governmental Hygienists Industrial Ventilation, A Manual of Recommended Practice.

- 7. **District Rule 203(b)** provides that "The equipment [subject to District permit] or agricultural permit unit shall not be operated contrary to the conditions specified in the permit to operate."
- 8. **District Permit No. G9837** applies to HIXSON's chromic acid anodizing line consisting of 28 process tanks and associated water rinse tanks and dye tanks. The permit includes, among others, the following conditions:
 - (1) Operation of this equipment shall be conducted in accordance with all data and specifications submitted with the application under which this permit is issued unless otherwise noted below.
 - (2) This equipment shall be properly maintained and kept in good operating condition at all times.
 - (8) Tank No. 70 [Chromic Acid Anodizing Tank] shall not be operated unless it is vented to the mist eliminator/HEPA filter that is in full operation and that has been issued a valid permit from the SCAQMD.
- 9. On April 3, 2014, Petitioner filed a Petition for Order for Abatement (Stipulated) alleging that HIXSON was operating in violation of Health & Safety Code § 41700 and District Rule 402 due to hexavalent chromium emissions believed to be emitted from its operations, causing a potential risk of cancer to members of the public. (Petition, Paragraph 17.)

27. 1//

22

23

25

26

28 | / / /

10. On April 3, 2014, Petitioner issued to HIXSON a letter requiring HIXSON to prepare a Health Risk Assessment and Risk Reduction Plan, due in 180 days, pursuant to District Rule 1402 and AB 2588.

On May 9, 2014, Petitioner filed a First Amended Petition for Order for Abatement (Stipulated) alleging:

that HIXSON was violating District Rule 1469(e)(7) by operating its chrome anodizing tank (tank 70) using an air pollution control system with inadequate collection efficiency, and that such operations further violated Rule 203(b), by violating conditions 1, 2, and 8 of Permit No. G9837 (First Amended Petition, Paragraph 23);

that HIXSON was violating Rule 203(b), by violating conditions 1 and 2 of Permit No. D00746, by having an inadequate collection efficiency for some of the tanks-vented by Scrubber No.1 (First Amended Petition, Paragraph 24); and

that HIXSON was violating Rule 203(b), by violating conditions 1 and 2 of Permit No. D00754, by having inadequate collection efficiency for Tank #104 vented into Scrubber No. 2 (First Amended Petition, Paragraph 25).

12. The District issued several Notices of Violation on April 18 to Respondent, all of which alleged violations occurring on April 2, 2014, including (i) Notice of Violation No. 53008 for alleged violation of Rule 1469(e)(7) and Rule 203(b) by operating the chrome anodizing tank (tank 70) using an air pollution control system with inadequate collection efficiency, contrary to conditions 1, 2 and 8 of permit to operate No. G9837, (ii) Notice of Violation No. 53009, for allegedly violating Rule 1469(c)(4)(D) for failure to clean surfaces that may accumulate dust; (iii) Notice of Violation No. 53010 for allegedly violating Rule 1469(c)(4)(H) for failure to handle parts such that chromic acid is not dripped outside the anodizing tank, (iv) Notice of Violation No. 53011 for allegedly violating Rule 203(b) by operating Scrubber No. 2 without adequate collection efficiency for Tank 104 vented to it, contrary to conditions 1 and 2 of the permit to operate D00754, and (v) Notice of Violation No. 53012 for allegedly violating Rule 203(b) by operating Scrubber No. 1 contrary to Conditions Nos. 1 and 2 of permit to operate No. D00746 by having inadequate collection efficiency for some of the tanks vented by the Scrubber. Respondent denies

FINDINGS & DECISION FOR AN ORDER FOR ABATEMENT ISTIPULATED

FINDINGS & DECISION FOR AN ORDER FOR ABATEMENT [STIPULATED]

- 15. HIXSON is proceeding pursuant to Health & Safety Code Section 42451(b) under which the Hearing Board may issue an Order for Abatement upon the stipulation of the air pollution control officer and the person accused of violating Section 41700 or a district rule, without making a finding of violation. By stipulating to this Order, HIXSON does not admit that there are or were any violations of state law or District regulations at its facility.
- 16. The issuance of this Stipulated Order for Abatement on terms acceptable to HIXSON will not constitute the arbitrary or unreasonable taking of property or the practical closing and elimination of a lawful business. This Stipulated Order for Abatement is not intended to and shall not have the affect of allowing a variance from District Rules or state law.
- 17. The implementation of the conditions set forth in the Order is likely to result in operations by Respondent that are compliant with District Rules 1469(e)(7), 203(b), and 402, and Health & Safety Code § 41700, where the District has alleged violations (see above).

ORDER

THEREFORE, subject to the above Findings and Conclusions and good cause appearing, the Hearing Board hereby orders Respondent HIXSON to immediately cease and desist from the alleged violations of District Rule 402 and Health & Safety Code § 41700, and to either immediately cease and desist from operating the tanks listed in Exhibit B, or in the alternative, comply with the following conditions and increments of progress:

CONDITIONS AND INCREMENTS OF PROGRESS

Respondent shall:

1. Not operate any of the tanks in Building No. 2 (except as listed on Exhibit A hereto, or as subsequently cleared in writing by the District), including specifically but without limitation Tank 70 (chrome anodizing) and Tank 75 (Sodium Dichromate Seal Tank) until it demonstrates that operation of any of such tanks is not likely to significantly contribute to air-borne hexavalent chromium emissions emanating from the facility. Before starting operation of any of these tanks, HIXSON shall discuss with the District and obtain District approval of a procedure for testing, sampling, and monitoring the tanks and will allow for SCAQMD to monitor all source tests.

HIXSON shall conduct the testing, sampling, and monitoring as required by the District. HIXSON shall not resume operation of any such tank before receiving written authorization from the District.

2. Not operate Tank 70 (chrome anodizing) until (a) the changes to the air pollution control system for the tank have been fully implemented (assuming that the District finds it necessary to modify the existing equipment per the modification application submitted by HIXSON on May 2, 2014) and the air pollution control system has been demonstrated by source testing, pursuant to a protocol approved by the District, that operation of the tank complies with District rules, and (b) HIXSON and the District have discussed the results of the source tests and the District agrees in writing that the tests demonstrate that the tank can be operated without emitting levels of hexavalent chrome that are in violation of the District's rules and regulations, or permit conditions applicable to HIXSON's equipment. The prohibition on operating Tank 70 shall not apply to the extent any operation is necessary to conduct the testing described herein, and to the extent and in accordance with conditions approved by the District.

3. Not operate the tanks using chromium, as set forth on Exhibit B if air monitoring results reported from either of the District's off-site monitors (located at Robert A. Millett Company and on the roof of the carport at Newport Villa Apartments) reveals a seven-day rolling average of hexavalent chromium exceeding 0.6 nanograms per cubic meter. HIXSON may resume operations of the tanks using chrome, as set forth on Exhibit B, seven days after the last day in which the rolling average monitored levels of hexavalent chromium exceeded 0.6 nanograms per cubic meter. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the District may authorize HIXSON to resume operating all or some of the Exhibit B tanks using chromium prior to the expiration of the seven-day period (i) upon a showing by HIXSON, to the satisfaction of the District, as documented in written communication from the Executive Officer or Mohsen Nazemi (or other designee of the Executive Officer), that the cause or causes of the exceedance have been identified and remedied; or (ii) if the offsite monitoring results are determined by the Executive Officer (or his designee) not to be caused by HIXSON. In addition, the District may, by written notification, remove tanks from Exhibit B if the tank emissions are tested under conditions representing normal operations and it is

shown to the satisfaction of the District that a particular tank does not or would not contribute to an exceedance of the 0.6 nanograms per cubic meter standard. With respect to spray booth operations in Building 3, as an interim measure pending completion and approval of its Health Risk Assessment and Risk Reduction Plan under Rule 1402, HIXSON will implement a procedure requiring that at least 6 changes of air occur within the spray booth after spraying operations have ceased and before the spray booth door is opened. HIXSON, in consultation with the District, will implement additional interim measures in and between Buildings 3 and 4, as necessary and appropriate, based on internal monitoring results and its ongoing assessment of chrome-related operations in those buildings.

- 4. With respect to the tanks listed in Exhibit A, and any other tanks subsequently approved in writing by the District for operation, HIXSON shall comply with the following conditions:
- (a) For a period of at least eight weeks, take weekly samples from each tank and analyze the samples using a pre-qualifying screening test for total chrome. HIXSON shall provide the screening results to the District. If the total chrome concentration exceeds 5 ppm, HIXSON will provide the samples to a qualified laboratory that shall test the samples for hexavalent chromium and provide the results to the District: attention Mohsen Nazemi; thereafter, sampling shall be performed upon a schedule agreeable to the District and HIXSON;
 - (b) Allow the District to sample the tanks at any time; and
- (c) If any of the sample results indicate levels of hexavalent chromium above 5 ppm, HIXSON shall immediately cease operation of the tank. HIXSON may resume operation of the tank only after draining and cleaning the tank and providing 24 hours notice to the District: attention Mohsen Nazemi (or other designee of the Executive Officer). With respect to the rinse tanks, HIXSON will completely swap out the contents of each rinse tank once per week. For informational purposes, HIXSON will collect a sample of the water from each rinse tank immediately prior to swapping out the contents of the rinse tank, and will analyze the samples using a pre-qualifying screening test for total chrome. HIXSON will provide the screening results to the District. If the total chrome concentration exceeds 5 ppm, HIXSON will provide the samples

cleaning would create an unsafe condition for workers or the public.

27

28

111

FINDINGS & DECISION FOR AN ORDER FOR ABATEMENT ISTIPULATED

				•		
1	16. This Order for Abatement is not and does not act as a varia	ance.	and Res	nondent	ie	
2.						
3						
4						
5	<u>ll</u>		, 01101,	or to see	<u>"</u>	
6		en e		موسد مرتب و محمود	÷	
7	BOARD MEMBER:	V				
-8	DATED: 5/2011		٠.	• •	-	
9	- 3/WS/1/		4- "	-		
10	Prepared by Barbara Baird			* *	ļ	
1.1	Reviewed by Chris M. Amantea					
12			=			
. 13				- "J 		
14	·	-				
15				-		
16						
17						
18	·		*.		+	
19		٠.				
20						
21						
22						
23			²	,		
24						
25						
26				, n		
27						
28					ŀ	

-12-FINDINGS & DECISION FOR AN ORDER FOR ABATEMENT [STIPULATED]

EXHIBIT A

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS FOR A STIPULATED ORDER FOR ABATEMENT: HIXSON METAL FINISHING, Case No. 5418-3

Tanks Cleared for Operation (Subject to Condition 1 of the Order of May 14, 2014)

6	6 Tap Water Rinse, Tanl	c A-1A
7	7 Tap Water Rinse, Tanl	c A-1B
8	Tap Water Rinse, Tanl	A-1C
9	De-ionized Water Tar	ık 77A
ł	Aluminum etch, Tank	71
0	Oakite 166 (A1 cleane	r), Tank 64
11	Tap Water Rinse, Tanl	k A-2
12	Tap Water Rinse, Tanl	k A-3
13	Tap Water Rinse, Tanl	k A-4
14	Tap Water Rinse, Tan	k A -6 1
15	Tap Water Rinse, Tan	k A-6
·	ARDROX 6471 Clean	er, Tank 64 A
Ì	Anodize Neutralizer,	Tank 109
17	Metalast Anodize, Tar	ık 68
18	Hard Anodize #2, Tan	k 67
19	Ni Acetate Seal, Tank	76
20	Black Dye, Tank 74	
21	Red Dye, Tank AD-02	2
	Sulfuric Acid, Tank 69	9
	HF Acid, Tank 148A	
	Teflon Seal, Tank 80	
	Desmut, Tank 163	
25	Desmut, Tank 163A	
26	Blue Dye, Tank AD01	
27	Green Dye, Tank AD	03
20	20	•

EXHIBIT B 1 FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS FOR A 2 STIPULATED ORDER FOR ABATEMENT: 3 HIXSON METAL FINISHING, Case No. 5418-3 5 Building 2 6 Chromic Anodize, Tank 70 7 Aluminum Deoxidizer, Tank 73 8 Dichromate Seal, Tank 75 9 Dow 7, Tank 150 Cold Anodize Strip, Tank 162 10 Metalast TCP-HF, Tank 630 11 12 Building 1 Cad Chromate Film, Tank 100 13 14 **Building 3** 15 General Plate Dept. 16 Type II Passivate, Tank 43 17 Cad Chromate-Gold, Tank 57 Clear Cadmium Chromate, Tank 58 18 FPL Etch, Tank 59A 19 Chromic Rinse, Tank 118 20 Cadmium chromate O.D., Tank 119A 21 Chromic Sea, Tank 126 22 Sodium Dichromate, Tank 160 Precious Metal Dept. 23 Douglas Cadmium Chrome, Tank 138 24 Etch, Tank 1101 25 26 27 28