

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT  
OFFICE OF COMPLIANCE AND INSPECTION**

In Re: Joseph Accaoui  
Antoinette Accaoui

FILE No.: FW C08-0009  
AAD No. 11-006/FWE

**CONSENT AGREEMENT**

**A. INTENT & PURPOSE**

This Agreement is entered by and between the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management's Office of Compliance & Inspection ("RIDEM") and Joseph Accaoui and Antoinette Accaoui (the "Respondents"). This Agreement is entered in accordance with Section 42-17.1-2 et seq. of the Rhode Island General Laws ("R.I. Gen. Laws") for the purpose of resolving the administrative enforcement action set forth in a Notice of Violation ("NOV") issued to the Respondents by RIDEM on August 9, 2011.

**B. STIPULATED FACTS**

- (1) WHEREAS, the subject property is located at 10 Grandstand Drive, Assessor's Plat 42, Lot 219 in the Town of Lincoln, Rhode Island (the "Property").
- (2) WHEREAS, the Respondents own the Property.
- (3) WHEREAS, on August 9, 2011 RIDEM issued a NOV to the Respondents alleging certain violations of the Rhode Island Freshwater Wetlands Act and the RIDEM's Rules and Regulations Governing the Administration and Enforcement of the Freshwater Wetlands Act.
- (4) WHEREAS, the Respondents requested an administrative hearing to contest the NOV.
- (5) WHEREAS, in lieu of proceeding to an administrative adjudicatory hearing on the NOV and to effect a timely and amicable resolution of the NOV, RIDEM and the Respondents hereby agree that it is in the best interest of the parties and in the public interest to resolve the issues raised in the NOV.
- (6) WHEREAS, RIDEM finds that this Agreement is a reasonable and fair settlement and adequately protects the public interest in accordance with the Rhode Island Freshwater Wetlands Act and the RIDEM's Rules and Regulations Governing the Administration and Enforcement of the Freshwater Wetlands Act.

### **C. AGREEMENT**

- (1) JURISDICTION – RIDEM has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this Agreement and has personal jurisdiction over the Respondents.
- (2) FORCE and EFFECT – This Agreement shall have the full force and effect of a final compliance order of the Director issued after a full hearing on the merits pursuant to the Administrative Procedures Act, R.I. Gen. Laws Section 42-35-1 et seq. from which no timely appeal was taken, and which is enforceable in Superior Court in accordance with R.I. Gen. Laws Section 42-17.1-2(21)(v).
- (3) APPLICATION – The provisions of this Agreement shall apply to and be binding upon RIDEM, the Respondents and their agents, servants, employees, successors, assigns and all persons, firms and corporations acting under, through and for the Respondents in the performance of work relating to or impacting the requirements of this Agreement.
- (4) RECORDING OF AGREEMENT – Within ten (10) days of the receipt of the fully executed Agreement from RIDEM, the Respondents shall record this Agreement with the Town of Lincoln, Rhode Island and shall provide a copy of the recorded Agreement to RIDEM. The recording shall be at the sole expense of the Respondents.
- (5) CONDITIONS –
  - (a) The Respondents shall complete the following actions to comply with the Order section of the NOV:
    - (i) If any or all of the plantings that were observed by RIDEM on July 13, 2011 fail to survive at least one year, the same plant species shall be replanted and maintained until such time that survival is maintained over one year.
    - (ii) All restored wetland areas must be allowed to revegetate naturally and revert to a natural wild state. No future clearing, mowing, cutting, trimming, grading, filling or other alterations are allowed in the restored wetland areas, or within other freshwater wetlands on the subject property, without first obtaining a permit from RIDEM.
  - (b) Contact Mr. Howard Cook at (401)222-1360 ext. 7161 prior to replanting any vegetation that does not survive in accordance with condition (5)(a)(i) above. No planting shall commence until such time that you have contacted a representative of OC&I.
  - (c) Penalty – Respondents shall pay to RIDEM the sum of Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars and no cents (\$2,500.00) in administrative penalties assessed as follows:

- (i) Upon execution of this Agreement by the Respondents, the Respondents shall pay to RIDEM the sum of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00).
- (ii) The remainder of the penalty, Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00), shall be paid to RIDEM in four (4) equal and consecutive monthly installments of Five Hundred Dollars (\$ 500.00). The remaining payments shall be made on the first of each month following the execution of the Agreement.
- (iii) Penalties that the Respondents agree to pay in this Agreement are penalties payable to and for the benefit of the State of Rhode Island and are not compensation for actual pecuniary loss.
- (iv) In the event that the Respondents fail to remit to RIDEM a payment on or before its due date, that payment will be considered late and the Respondents will be in default. If the payment is not received within thirty (30) days of its due date, interest shall begin to accrue on the entire unpaid balance at the rate of twelve percent (12%) per annum. Interest will accrue at this rate beginning with the day after the due date specified in this Agreement until such date all past due installment payments and interest owed are remitted. Interest shall be calculated using the following generally established accounting principle:

Interest due = (number of days late/365) x (0.12) x (amount of unpaid balance)

This provision does not preclude RIDEM from seeking additional penalties according to Section D for failure to comply with the remaining provisions of this Agreement.

- (v) All penalty payments shall be in the form of a certified check, cashiers check, or money order, payable to the ***R.I. General Treasurer – Water and Air Protection Account***. All payments shall be delivered to:

Chief, RIDEM Office of Compliance and Inspection  
235 Promenade Street  
Providence, RI 02908-5767

- (6) **RIGHT OF ACCESS** – The Respondents shall provide to RIDEM, its authorized officers, employees and representatives an irrevocable right of access to the property at all reasonable times for the purpose of monitoring compliance with this Agreement. The Respondents shall ensure that assignees, successors in interest, lessees, sublessees, tenants in possession and/or occupants of the Property shall provide the same access and cooperation as long as they control the Property. The Respondents shall provide a copy of this Agreement to any current lessee, sublessee, tenant in possession and/or occupant of the Property as of the effective

date of this Agreement. Any subsequent leases, subleases, assignments or transfers of the Property or an interest in the Property shall include this right of access provision and shall otherwise be consistent with the terms of this Agreement.

**D. COMPLIANCE**

- (1) EFFECT OF COMPLIANCE – Compliance with and fulfillment of this Agreement shall be deemed to resolve all issues raised in the NOV. Upon the Respondents successful completion of the requirements set forth in this Agreement, RIDEM shall issue a Release and Discharge of the NOV and Agreement to the Respondents for recording. The recording of the Releases shall be at the sole expense of the Respondents.
- (2) FAILURE TO COMPLY – In the event that the Respondents fail to comply with the items specified in Sections C(5)(a) of the Agreement, the Respondents shall pay a stipulated penalty of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) per month for each and every month during which the noncompliance continues, except that RIDEM may, for good cause shown, defer or reduce such penalty. The payment of a penalty in accordance with this paragraph shall not preclude RIDEM from seeking any other appropriate remedy (i.e., injunctive relief in Superior Court).
- (3) COMPLIANCE WITH OTHER APPLICABLE LAWS – Compliance with the terms of this Agreement does not relieve the Respondents of any obligation to comply with any other applicable laws or regulations administered by, through or for RIDEM or any other governmental entity.
- (4) ADDITIONAL ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS – Upon a determination by the Director that there is a threat to the public health or the environment, or upon discovery of any new information, RIDEM reserves the right to take additional enforcement actions as provided by law or regulation, including, but not limited to, the issuance of “Immediate Compliance Orders” as authorized by R.I. Gen. Laws Section 42-17.1-2(21). This Agreement shall not restrict any right to hearing or other right available by statute or regulation that the Respondents may have regarding any new enforcement action commenced by RIDEM after the execution of this Agreement.
- (5) FUTURE ACTIVITIES AND UNKNOWN CONDITIONS – This Agreement shall not operate to shield the Respondents from liability arising from future activities, as of the date of execution of this Agreement.
- (6) SCOPE OF THE AGREEMENT – The scope of the Agreement is only violations alleged in the NOV.
- (7) NOTICE AND COMMUNICATION - Communications regarding this Agreement shall be directed to:

**Harold K. Ellis, Supervising Environmental Scientist**  
RIDEM Office of Compliance and Inspection  
235 Promenade Street  
Providence, RI 02908-5767  
(401) 222-1360 ext. 7401

**Joseph LoBianco, Esquire**  
RIDEM Office of Legal Services  
235 Promenade Street  
Providence, RI 02908-5767  
(401) 222-6607 ext. 2302

- (a) At any time prior to full compliance with the terms of this Agreement, the Respondents agree to notify RIDEM in writing of any change in ownership of the Property, and provide the name and address of the new owner(s). Notice of any change in address/telephone/fax of either party shall be sent to all other parties by certified mail.
- (b) All communications regarding compliance with this Agreement shall be forwarded to the above-referenced addressees by certified mail.
- (8) DEFERRAL – The Director may, for good cause shown, defer any of the compliance dates prescribed herein. Good cause for deferral of any compliance date shall be forwarded to RIDEM in writing at least fifteen (15) days prior to the prescribed deadline.
- (9) AMENDMENT – The Agreement may be amended by mutual agreement of the parties in writing.
- (10) EFFECTIVE DATE – This Agreement shall be deemed entered as of the date of execution by all parties.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned consent to this Agreement in substance and in form.**

*For Joseph Accaoui*

\_\_\_\_\_  
By: \_\_\_\_\_ (Print Name)

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

In \_\_\_\_\_, in said County and State, on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2011, before me personally appeared Joseph Accaoui to me known and known by me to be the party executing the foregoing instrument and he acknowledged said instrument and the execution thereof, to be his free act and deed.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public  
My Commission Expires: \_\_\_\_\_

*For Antoinette Accaoui*

\_\_\_\_\_  
By: \_\_\_\_\_ (Print Name)

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

In \_\_\_\_\_, in said County and State, on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2011, before me personally appeared Antoinette Accaoui to me known and known by me to be the party executing the foregoing instrument and she acknowledged said instrument and the execution thereof, to be her free act and deed.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public  
My Commission Expires: \_\_\_\_\_

For the State of Rhode Island Department of  
Environmental Management

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David E. Chopy, Chief  
Office of Compliance and Inspection

Date: \_\_\_\_\_