

**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT**

**OFFICE OF COMPLIANCE & INSPECTION**

**IN RE: 285 East Main Road, Inc.  
d/b/a Premier Toyota of Newport**

**FILE No.: WP13-73  
X-Ref RIPDES RIR100993**

NOTICE OF VIOLATION

A. Introduction

Pursuant to Sections 42-17.1-2(21) and 42-17.6-3 of the Rhode Island General Laws, as amended, (“R.I. Gen. Laws”) you are hereby notified that the Director of the Department of Environmental Management (the “Director” of “DEM”) has reasonable grounds to believe that the above-named party (“Respondent”) has violated certain statutes and/or administrative regulations under DEM's jurisdiction.

B. Facts

- (1) The subject property is located at 285 East Main Road in the town of Middletown, Rhode Island (the “Property”).
- (2) The Property includes an automobile dealership under the name Premier Toyota of Newport.
- (3) The Rhode Island Secretary of State corporation database identifies Premier Toyota of Newport as the fictitious name of 285 East Main Road, Inc.
- (4) On February 12, 2013, DEM issued a General Permit for Stormwater Discharge Associated with Construction Activity, No. RIR100993 to Premier Toyota of Newport (the “Permit”).
- (5) The Permit requires Premier Toyota of Newport to:
  - (a) Maintain all pollution prevention measures to prevent uncontrolled releases of sediment or sediment laden water from traveling beyond the limits of disturbance.
  - (b) Maintain a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (“SWPPP”) at the Property at all times.

- (6) On September 4, 2013, DEM inspected the Property. The inspection revealed the following:
  - (a) The SWPPP was not on site. During the inspection an agent for Premier Toyota of Newport contacted its consultant, and the consultant delivered a copy of the SWPPP to the site while the inspector was still present; and
  - (b) The area of the Property where a new retaining wall was being constructed did not have controls installed to prevent sediment from traveling beyond the limits of disturbance.

C. Violation

Based on the foregoing facts, the Director has reasonable grounds to believe that you have violated the following statutes and/or regulations:

- (1) **Rhode Island's Water Pollution Act Section 46-12-5(b)** – requiring the discharge of any pollutant into waters of the State comply with the terms and conditions of a permit and applicable regulations.
- (2) **DEM's Water Quality Regulations**
  - (a) **Rule 11(B)** – requiring the discharge of pollutants into the waters of the State comply with the terms and conditions of a permit issued by DEM.
  - (b) **Rule 16(A)** – mandating compliance with all terms, conditions, management practices and operation and maintenance requirements set forth in a permit.
- (3) **DEM's Regulations for the Rhode Island Pollutant Discharge Elimination System, Rule 14.02(a)** – requiring the permittee to comply with all conditions of a permit issued by DEM.

D. Penalty

- (1) Pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws Section 42-17.6-2, the following administrative penalty, as more specifically described in the attached penalty summary and worksheets, is hereby ASSESSED, jointly and severally, against each named respondent:

**Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00)**

- (2) The proposed administrative penalty is calculated pursuant to the DEM's *Rules and Regulations for Assessment of Administrative Penalties*, as amended, and must be paid to the DEM within thirty (30) days of your receipt of this NOV. Payment shall be in the form of a certified check, cashiers check or money order made payable to the "General Treasury - Water & Air Protection Program Account" and shall be forwarded to the DEM Office of Compliance and

Inspection, 235 Promenade Street, Suite 220, Providence, Rhode Island 02908-5767.

- (3) Penalties assessed against the Respondent in this NOV are penalties payable to and for the benefit of the State of Rhode Island and are not compensation for actual pecuniary loss.

E. Right to Administrative Hearing

- (1) Pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws Chapters 42-17.1, 42-17.6, 42-17.7 and 42-35, each named respondent is entitled to request a hearing before the DEM Administrative Adjudication Division regarding the allegations, orders and/or penalties set forth in Sections B through D above. All requests for hearing MUST:

- (a) Be in writing. See R.I. Gen. Laws Sections 42-17.1-2(21)(i) and 42-17.6-4(b);
- (b) Be **RECEIVED** by DEM's Administrative Adjudication Division, at the following address, within twenty (20) days of your receipt of this NOV. See R.I. Gen. Laws Sections 42-17.1-2(21)(i) and 42-17.7-9:

Administrative Clerk  
DEM - Administrative Adjudication Division  
One Capitol Hill, 2<sup>ND</sup> Floor  
Providence, RI 02903

- (c) Indicate whether you deny the alleged violations and/or whether you believe that the administrative penalty is excessive. See R.I. Gen. Laws Section 42-17.6-4(b); **AND**
  - (d) State clearly and concisely the specific issues which are in dispute, the facts in support thereof and the relief sought or involved, if any. See Rule 7.00(b) of the DEM Administrative Rules of Practice and Procedure for the Administrative Adjudication Division of Environmental Matters.
- (2) A copy of each request for hearing must also be forwarded to:

Marisa Desautel, Esquire  
DEM - Office of Legal Services  
235 Promenade Street, 4<sup>TH</sup> Floor  
Providence, RI 02908-5767

- (3) Each named respondent has the right to be represented by legal counsel at all administrative proceedings relating to this matter.
- (4) Each respondent must file a separate and timely request for an administrative hearing before DEM's Administrative Adjudication Division as to each violation alleged in the written NOV. If any respondent fails to request a hearing in the

above-described time or manner with regard to any violation set forth herein, then this NOV shall automatically become a Final Compliance Order enforceable in Superior Court as to that respondent and/or violation and any associated administrative penalty proposed in the NOV shall be final as to that respondent. See R.I. Gen. Laws Sections 42-17.1-2(21)(i) and (v) and 42-17.6-4(b) and (c).

- (5) Failure to comply with this NOV may subject each respondent to additional civil and/or criminal penalties.
- (6) This NOV does not preclude the Director from taking any additional enforcement action nor does it preclude any other local, state, or federal governmental entities from initiating enforcement actions based on the acts or omissions described herein.

If you have any legal questions, you may contact (or if you are represented by an attorney, please have your attorney contact) Marisa Desautel at the DEM Office of Legal Services at (401) 222-6607. All other inquiries should be directed to Patrick Hogan of the DEM Office of Compliance and Inspection at (401) 222-1360 ext. 7119.

Please be advised that any such inquiries do not postpone, eliminate, or otherwise extend the need for a timely submittal of a written request for a hearing, as described in Section E above.

FOR THE DIRECTOR

\_\_\_\_\_  
David E. Chopy, Chief  
DEM Office of Compliance and Inspection

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

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_  
the within Notice of Violation was forwarded to:

285 East Main Road, Inc.  
c/o Michael W. Miller, Registered Agent  
285 East Main Road  
Middletown, RI 02842

by Certified Mail.

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# ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTY SUMMARY

Program: OFFICE OF COMPLIANCE AND INSPECTION, Water Pollution

File No.: WP13-73

Respondent: 285 East Main Road, Inc.

GRAVITY OF VIOLATION					
SEE ATTACHED "PENALTY MATRIX WORKSHEETS."					
VIOLATION No. & CITATION	APPLICATION OF MATRIX		PENALTY CALCULATION		AMOUNT
	Type	Deviation	Penalty from Matrix	Number or Duration of Violations	
C (1), C(2), & C(3) – Failure to have a SWPPP on site	Type I (\$25,000 Max. Penalty)*	Minor	\$2,500	1 violation	\$2,500
C (1), C(2), & C(3) – Failure to maintain pollution prevention measures	Type I (\$25,000 Max. Penalty)*	Minor	\$2,500	1 violation	\$2,500
<b>SUB-TOTAL</b>					<b>\$5,000.00</b>

\*Maximum Penalties represent the maximum penalty amounts per day, per violation.

## ECONOMIC BENEFIT FROM NONCOMPLIANCE

COSTS OF COMPLIANCE, EQUIPMENT, O&M, STUDIES OR OTHER DELAYED OR AVOIDED COSTS, INCLUDING INTEREST AND/OR ANY COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE DERIVED OVER ENTITIES THAT ARE IN COMPLIANCE. NOTE: ECONOMIC BENEFIT MUST BE INCLUDED IN THE PENALTY UNLESS:

- THERE IS NO IDENTIFIABLE BENEFIT FROM NONCOMPLIANCE; OR
- THE AMOUNT OF ECONOMIC BENEFIT CAN NOT BE QUANTIFIED.

A review of the record in this matter has revealed that the Respondent has either enjoyed no identifiable benefit from the noncompliance alleged in this enforcement action or that the amount of economic benefit that may have resulted can not be quantified.

## COST RECOVERY

ADDITIONAL OR EXTRAORDINARY COSTS INCURRED BY THE DIRECTOR DURING THE INVESTIGATION, ENFORCEMENT AND RESOLUTION OF AN ENFORCEMENT ACTION (EXCLUDING NON-OVERTIME PERSONNEL COSTS), FOR WHICH THE STATE IS NOT OTHERWISE REIMBURSED.

A review of the record in this matter has revealed that the DEM has not incurred any additional or extraordinary costs during the investigation, enforcement and resolution of this enforcement action (excluding non-overtime personnel costs), for which the State is not otherwise reimbursed.

**TOTAL PENALTY PROPOSED UNDER PENALTY REGULATIONS = \$5,000.00**

# PENALTY MATRIX WORKSHEET

CITATION: Failure to have a SWPPP on site

VIOLATION NO.: C(1) – C(3)

<b>TYPE</b>		
<p style="text-align: center;"><u><b>X</b></u> <b>TYPE I</b></p> <p><u>DIRECTLY</u> related to protecting health, safety, welfare or environment.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">_____ <b>TYPE II</b></p> <p><u>INDIRECTLY</u> related to protecting health, safety, welfare or environment.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">_____ <b>TYPE III</b></p> <p><u>INCIDENTAL</u> to protecting health, safety, welfare or environment.</p>
<b>DEVIATION FROM THE STANDARD</b>		
THE DEGREE TO WHICH A PARTICULAR VIOLATION IS OUT OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENT VIOLATED.		
<p><b><u>FACTORS CONSIDERED:</u></b></p> <p>Taken from Section 10 (a) (2) of the DEM <i>Rules and Regulations for Assessment of Administrative Penalties</i></p> <p>(A) <b>The extent to which the act or failure to act was out of compliance:</b> The Respondent failed to comply with the conditions of its permit by keeping a copy of the SWPPP on site. Maintaining a SWPPP on site is important to the regulatory program.</p> <p>(B) <b>Environmental conditions:</b> The property is undergoing a construction project that involves the discharge of storm water to waters of the State.</p> <p>(C) <b>Amount of the pollutant:</b> Considered, but not utilized for this calculation.</p> <p>(D) <b>Toxicity or nature of the pollutant:</b> Considered, but not utilized for this calculation.</p> <p>(E) <b>Duration of the violation:</b> Unknown. Violation documented on September 4, 2013.</p> <p>(F) <b>Areal extent of the violation:</b> Considered, but not utilized for this calculation.</p> <p style="text-align: right; margin-top: 20px;">(continued)</p>		

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- (G) **Whether the person took reasonable and appropriate steps to prevent and/or mitigate the noncompliance:** The Respondent did not take reasonable action to comply with the permit. The Respondent failed to keep a copy of the SWPPP on site. The Respondent did promptly act to mitigate the noncompliance. The Respondent contacted its consultant, and the consultant brought a copy of the SWPPP to the property while the DEM inspector was still present.
- (H) **Whether the person has previously failed to comply with any regulations, order, statute, license, permit or approval issued or adopted by the Department, or any law which the Department has the authority or responsibility to enforce:** Considered, but not utilized for this calculation.
- (I) **The degree of willfulness or negligence, including but not limited to, how much control the violator had over the occurrence of the violation and whether the violation was foreseeable:** Negligence is attributable to the Respondent for its failure to comply with the permit.
- (J) **Any other factor(s) that may be relevant in determining the amount of a penalty:** Considered, but not utilized for this calculation.

<b>MAJOR</b>	<b>MODERATE</b>	<u><b>X</b></u> <b>MINOR</b>
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Penalty Matrix where the applicable statute provides for a civil penalty up to \$25,000		<b>TYPE I</b>	<b>TYPE II</b>	<b>TYPE III</b>
DEVIATION FROM STANDARD	<b>MAJOR</b>	\$12,500 to \$25,000	\$6,250 to \$12,500	\$2,500 to \$6,250
	<b>MODERATE</b>	\$6,250 to \$12,500	\$2,500 to \$6,250	\$1,250 to \$2,500
	<b>MINOR</b>	\$2,500 to \$6,250 <b>\$2,500</b>	\$1,250 to \$2,500	\$250 to \$1,250

**PENALTY MATRIX WORKSHEET**

CITATION: Failure to maintain pollution prevention measures

VIOLATION NO.: C(1) – C(3)

TYPE		
<u>  X  </u> <b>TYPE I</b> <u>DIRECTLY</u> related to protecting health, safety, welfare or environment.	<u>      </u> <b>TYPE II</b> <u>INDIRECTLY</u> related to protecting health, safety, welfare or environment.	<u>      </u> <b>TYPE III</b> <u>INCIDENTAL</u> to protecting health, safety, welfare or environment.
DEVIATION FROM THE STANDARD		
THE DEGREE TO WHICH A PARTICULAR VIOLATION IS OUT OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENT VIOLATED.		
<b><u>FACTORS CONSIDERED:</u></b> Taken from Section 10 (a) (2) of the DEM <i>Rules and Regulations for Assessment of Administrative Penalties</i>		
(A) <b>The extent to which the act or failure to act was out of compliance:</b> The Respondent failed to comply with the conditions of its permit by installing controls to keep sediment from traveling beyond the limit of disturbance. Maintaining sediment controls on site is important to the regulatory program.		
(B) <b>Environmental conditions:</b> The property is undergoing a construction project that involves the discharge of storm water to waters of the State.		
(C) <b>Amount of the pollutant:</b> Considered, but not utilized for this calculation.		
(D) <b>Toxicity or nature of the pollutant:</b> Considered, but not utilized for this calculation.		
(E) <b>Duration of the violation:</b> Unknown. Violation documented on September 4, 2013.		
(F) <b>Areal extent of the violation:</b> Considered, but not utilized for this calculation.		
(continued)		

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- (G) **Whether the person took reasonable and appropriate steps to prevent and/or mitigate the noncompliance:** The Respondent did not take reasonable action to comply with the permit. The Respondent failed to install sediment controls on site as required by the permit. The Respondent did act to mitigate the noncompliance. In response to an informal written notice issued by DEM to the Respondent on September 16, 2013, the Respondent's consultant submitted documents to DEM that were received on October 2, 2013 showing that proper controls were installed.
- (H) **Whether the person has previously failed to comply with any regulations, order, statute, license, permit or approval issued or adopted by the Department, or any law which the Department has the authority or responsibility to enforce:** Considered, but not utilized for this calculation.
- (I) **The degree of willfulness or negligence, including but not limited to, how much control the violator had over the occurrence of the violation and whether the violation was foreseeable:** Negligence is attributable to the Respondent for its failure to comply with the permit.
- (J) **Any other factor(s) that may be relevant in determining the amount of a penalty:** Considered, but not utilized for this calculation.

<b>MAJOR</b>	<b>MODERATE</b>	<u>  <b>X</b>  </u> <b>MINOR</b>
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Penalty Matrix where the applicable statute provides for a civil penalty up to \$25,000		<b>TYPE I</b>	TYPE II	TYPE III
DEVIATION FROM STANDARD	<b>MAJOR</b>	\$12,500 to \$25,000	\$6,250 to \$12,500	\$2,500 to \$6,250
	<b>MODERATE</b>	\$6,250 to \$12,500	\$2,500 to \$6,250	\$1,250 to \$2,500
	<b>MINOR</b>	\$2,500 to \$6,250 <b>\$2,500</b>	\$1,250 to \$2,500	\$250 to \$1,250