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CLERK U.S. DISTRICT COURT **ajg i** 9 **1999** NTRAL DISTRICT OF GALIFORNIA ENTERED CE:..n.L DISTING NO. CV 90-3122-AAH (JRx) CONSENT DECREE WITH CBS CORPORATION MED COPY NLD NOTICE &

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-- DISTRICT COURT

-- DISTRICT COURT Assistant United States Attorney Los Angeles, California Los An 13 WESTERN DIVISION UNITED STATES OF AMERICA and 19 STATE OF CALIFORNIA, 20 Plaintiffs, 21 MONTROSE CHEMICAL CORPORATION OF CALIFORNIA, et al., 23

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Defendants.

AND RELATED COUNTER, CROSS,

AND THIRD PARTY ACTIONS.

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CONSENT DECREE

This Consent Decree ("Decree") is made and entered into by and among the United States of America ("the United States"), on behalf of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration ("NOAA"), the Department of the Interior ("DOI"), and the United States Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA"), and the State of California ("State"), on behalf of the State Lands Commission, the Department of Fish & Game, the Department of Parks and Recreation, the Department of Toxic Substances Control ("DTSC"), and the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region ("Regional Board"), and defendant, counterclaimant, cross-claimant and third-party plaintiff CBS Corporation formerly known as Westinghouse Electric Corporation ("CBS"). This Decree is not intended to affect in any way the United States' and the State's claims against any entity other than CBS.

INTRODUCTION

The United States, on behalf of NOAA and DOI in their capacities as natural resource trustees (hereafter the "Federal Trustees"), and on behalf of EPA, and the State, on behalf of the State Lands Commission, the Department of Fish & Game and the Department of Parks and Recreation in their capacities as natural resource trustees (hereafter the "State Trustees") (the Federal Trustees and State Trustees collectively are referred to as "the Trustees"), filed the original complaint in this action on June 18, 1990, under Section 107 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, as amended ("CERCLA"), 42 U.S.C. § 9607, seeking, inter alia, recovery of

damages, including damage assessment costs and related response costs, for injury to, destruction of, and loss of natural resources resulting from releases of hazardous substances, specifically including dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane and its metabolites (hereafter collectively "DDT"), and polychlorinated biphenyls (hereafter "PCBs"), from facilities in and around Los Angeles, California, into the environment, and for response costs incurred and to be incurred by EPA in connection with releases of hazardous substances into the environment from the Montrose Chemical Corporation site located at 20201 South Normandie Avenue, Los Angeles, California. The original complaint was amended on June 28, 1990, and again on August 16, 1991 ("Second Amended Complaint" or "Complaint").

CBS filed its answer to the Complaint, its counterclaims against the State, and cross-claims against co-defendant County Sanitation District No. 2 of Los Angeles County ("LACSD") on September 30, 1991, and third party complaints against the City of Los Angeles and County of Orange as of April 10, 1991.

In the First Claim for Relief of the Complaint, plaintiffs asserted a claim against ten defendants, including CBS, under Section 107(a)(1-4)(C) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9607(a)(1-4)(C), for the alleged natural resource damages, including damage assessment costs and related response costs. The Complaint alleges that CBS operated a plant located at 18020 South Santa Fe Avenue ("Westinghouse Plant"), in an unincorporated part of Los Angeles County, California, that repaired and serviced electrical equipment (including transformers and capacitors). The Complaint further alleges, on information and belief, that CBS, in the

operation of the Westinghouse Plant, discharged wastewater containing hazardous substances, including PCBs, from the Westinghouse Plant into the LACSD collection system that conveys wastewater to the Joint Water Pollution Control Plant ("JWPCP") through the White's Point Outfall into the San Pedro Channel, and that such discharges caused injury to natural resources.

In the Second Claim for Relief of the Complaint, the United States asserts a claim for recovery of costs incurred and to be incurred by EPA in response to the release or threatened release of hazardous substances into the environment at and/or from the Montrose DDT Plant Property, as that term is defined and used herein, pursuant to Section 107(a)(1-4)(A) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9607(a)(1-4)(A). The Second Claim for Relief, brought at the request of and on behalf of EPA, does not allege liability on the part of CBS.

EPA is the lead agency with regard to the conduct of response activities at the Montrose NPL Site, as that term is defined and used herein. The State, through its agencies DTSC and the Regional Board, also participates in Montrose NPL Site response activities consistent with Subpart F of CERCLA's National Contingency Plan ("NCP"), 40 C.F.R. §§ 300.500 - 300.525, and both DTSC and the Regional Board have incurred response costs in connection therewith.

CERCLA and the NCP require that a site investigation gather the data necessary to assess the threat to human health and the environment of actual or threatened releases of hazardous substances from a facility, to include any place where a hazardous substance has come to be located. Consistent with

those requirements, EPA's continuing investigation of the Montrose NPL Site indicates that the Montrose NPL Site is contaminated significantly by DDT and other hazardous substances released during the manufacture of DDT, with DDT and those other hazardous substances present at the Montrose NPL Site in soil, groundwater, storm water channel sediments, and sediments in portions of LACSD's Joint Outfall ("J.O.") "D" and District 5 Interceptor sewer lines. As a result of the ongoing investigation of the Montrose NPL Site, a series of response activities is currently underway, including a remedial investigation and a feasibility study ("RI/FS") of the DDT contaminated soil and groundwater underlying the Montrose DDT Plant Property and surrounding areas of the Montrose NPL Site, the conduct of a time-critical removal action at the Montrose NPL Site to investigate and remove Montrose DDT from soil in residential areas within four blocks of the Montrose DDT Plant Property, the conduct of an Engineering Evaluation and Cost Analysis ("EE/CA") to investigate the aerial fallout of DDT dust emitted from the former Montrose DDT plant on residential and commercial areas in close proximity to the Montrose DDT Plant Property, and the conduct of a removal action to remove DDT contaminated sediments from the J.O. "D" sewer adjacent to and downstream of the Montrose DDT Plant Property.

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In addition, as a result of information developed and assembled, inter alia, in connection with the Trustees' damage assessment relating to DDT and PCB contamination of the offshore area alleged in the First Claim for Relief in this action, EPA began an investigation of that portion of the Montrose NRD Area

comprised of the offshore area contaminated by DDT and PCBs released into the LACSD sewer lines and subsequently deposited in the sediments of the Palos Verdes shelf near the White's Point Outfall ("the Palos Verdes Shelf Investigation"). EPA's Palos Verdes Shelf Investigation includes the effluent-affected DDT and PCB contaminated sediment described and discussed in Lee, H., The Distribution and Character of Contaminated Effluent-Affected Sediment. Palos Verdes Margin. Southern California (October 1994). For purposes of this Decree, the term "Montrose NPL Site" has been defined to include the area comprising the Palos Verdes Shelf Investigation. As of May 18, 1998, EPA had not extended either its Palos Verdes Shelf Investigation or its investigation of releases from the Montrose DDT Plant Property to include the Los Angeles and the Long Beach Harbors (other than the Consolidated Slip in Los Angeles Harbor).

EPA is conducting the Palos Verdes Shelf Investigation under the authority of CERCLA to determine the nature and extent of contamination of the Palos Verdes shelf, to assess effects of the contamination on the environment and human health, and to determine whether to select response actions, if any, to address the contamination. By its letter of May 27, 1997, EPA invited CBS to participate in the Palos Verdes Shelf Technical Advisory Committee ("TAC"), a group formed to assist EPA in its Palos Verdes Shelf Investigation. EPA has provided to CBS, in the TAC, inter alia, its draft Human Health Risk Assessment ("HHRA") and, in response to EPA's request, CBS has provided EPA with written comments on EPA's HHRA. In discovery, EPA has provided drafts of both its EE/CA and Environmental Risk Assessment ("ERA") with

respect to its Palos Verdes Shelf Investigation, and depositions have been taken concerning EPA's Palos Verdes Shelf Investigation, its draft EE/CA and its draft HHRA.

EPA has conducted a preliminary evaluation under CERCLA of contamination in the Santa Monica Bay (hereafter referred to as "the Santa Monica Bay CERCLIS Site"), which included an evaluation of portions of the Palos Verdes shelf. On September 17, 1990, after the filing of this action, EPA determined that it would conduct no further investigation or response activities under CERCLA regarding the Santa Monica Bay CERCLIS Site. EPA's "no further action" determination may be reconsidered by EPA; DDT contamination on the Palos Verdes shelf was excluded from EPA's preliminary evaluation of the Santa Monica Bay CERCLIS Site.

On August 21, 1997, EPA provided notice of its rulemaking proposing to add the contaminated sediments on the sea floor of the Palos Verdes shelf to the Montrose NPL Site. See 62 Fed. Reg. 44430, August 21, 1997. CBS submitted written comments to that proposed rulemaking, through its counsel, on October 16, 1997.

By its letter of October 17, 1997, EPA notified CBS that it was potentially responsible under CERCLA for response costs and other costs incurred or to be incurred by EPA with respect to the alleged Palos Verdes shelf contamination.

Thereafter, on November 21, 1997, plaintiffs filed a Motion for Leave To File and Serve a Third Amended Complaint. By that motion, plaintiffs sought permission to add to the Second Claim for Relief of the Complaint allegations concerning recovery of response costs incurred or to be incurred by EPA in connection

with its Palos Verdes Shelf Investigation, to add DTSC as a plaintiff to the Second Claim for Relief, and to add CBS as a defendant to the Second Claim for Relief as so amended. CBS filed its Memorandum in Opposition to Plaintiffs' Motion for Leave To Amend Their Complaint, with supporting papers, on January 20, 1998.

Without limiting plaintiffs' position at trial, plaintiffs' current estimate of total damages and costs for settlement purposes with all parties is between \$225 million and \$250 million. Plaintiffs' explanation of the bases for their estimate is found in the "Introduction" to the Amended Consent Decree with the Settling Local Governmental Entities, lodged with the Court on March 25, 1997, Plaintiffs' Interrogatory Responses to the Special Master's May 28, 1997 Civil Minute Order, as Corrected on June 3, 1997, dated June 17, 1997, and the transcripts of the Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 30(b)(6) deposition of the plaintiffs ordered by the Court on October 6, 1997. For the purposes of settlement, the payment of \$9.5 million by CBS is reasonable.

In determining the settlement amount paid for EPA/DTSC response costs and for the Trustees' damage assessment costs and natural resource damages, the United States and the State have considered the current estimates of potential costs and damages and the proportional relationship between the amount to be paid in settlement and potential costs and damages. In addition, the United States and the State have considered the nature of CBS's operations at the Westinghouse Plant, the litigation risks and associated costs from continuing to prosecute this case against

CBS, the total amount of available settlement funds from the settlement with Potlatch Corporation and Simpson Paper Company, and from the settlement with the Settling Local Governmental Entities, the expenses incurred by the Trustees in connection with the characterization of the effluent-affected DDT and PCB contaminated sediment deposit on the Palos Verdes shelf and the assessment of the effect of contaminated sediments on the environment and the usefulness of much of their work to EPA; EPA's current estimate of the expenses associated with conducting response activity with respect to the Palos Verdes shelf; and the Trustees' current estimates of the funds required to plan and conduct biological restoration programs designed to aid in the recovery of injured trust resources.

In addition to the factors discussed in the preceding paragraph, plaintiffs have also considered the relative volumetric contribution of hazardous substances by CBS and the other defendants to the Palos Verdes shelf. In entering the consent decree relating to defendants Potlatch Corporation and Simpson Paper Company, the District Court quoted the plaintiffs' estimates of the contributions of the generator defendants as follows:

Potlatch/Simpson -- 4,500 pounds of PCBs discharged;
Westinghouse [CBS] -- 38,000 pounds of PCBs discharged;
DDT Defendants -- 5,500,000 pounds of DDT discharged.

United States v. Montrose Chemical Corp. of California, 793 F.

Supp. 237, 240 (C.D. Cal. 1992). Since 1992, plaintiffs have continued to evaluate the estimates of the volume of PCBs allegedly discharged by CBS. Although plaintiffs and CBS

disagree over the actual volume of PCBs allegedly discharged by CBS from the Westinghouse Plant, and there are facts that remain in dispute, plaintiffs currently believe that facts elicited during discovery indicate that the 38,000 pounds originally estimated by plaintiffs is an overestimate of the actual amount of PCBs which CBS discharged. See, e.g., CBS Corporation's Memorandum in Opposition to Plaintiff's Motion for Leave To Amend Their Complaint, dated January 20, 1998, and the exhibits attached thereto, and CBS Corporation's Supplemental Response to Interrogatories Nos. 1-5 in the United States of America's Second Set of Interrogatories to CBS Corporation, dated May 4, 1998.

Plaintiffs are currently aware of no facts that indicate that CBS has released any PCBs from the Westinghouse Plant into the Joint Outfall System other than into that portion of the Joint Outfall System known as JO "A" and JO "G". Plaintiffs are also currently aware of no facts that indicate that CBS has released any PCBs from the Westinghouse Plant to the Los Angeles Harbor, the Long Beach Harbor or the Santa Monica Bay, save and except only such PCBs, if any, which were conveyed to the sediments of the Palos Verdes shelf through the Joint Outfall System.

The United States and the State also have agreed on the application of the settlement funds between EPA/DTSC response costs relating to the Montrose NPL Site (as defined herein to include the effluent-affected sediments on the Palos Verdes shelf) and the Trustees' damage assessment costs and natural resource damages relating to the Montrose NRD Area. The United States and the State have agreed that CBS should pay a total of

\$2.25 million to the Trustees to resolve any alleged liability of CBS for Natural Resource Damages and should pay a total of \$7.25 million to EPA and DTSC to resolve any potential liability of CBS for Response Costs.

All claims against CBS, including claims for costs, damages, contribution and other claims, are addressed and covered by this Decree. This Decree resolves CBS's liability to the United States, on behalf of the Federal Trustees, and the State, on behalf of the State Trustees, for Natural Resource Damages and liability to the United States (including EPA) and the State (including DTSC and the Regional Board) for Response Costs, and provides contribution protection to CBS for all matters addressed herein. Except where otherwise specifically stated, this Decree is intended to cover all past and future claims for Response Costs which the United States and the State (through its authorized agencies) may have against CBS.

This settlement is made in good faith after arm's-length negotiations conducted under the supervision of Special Master Harry V. Peetris pursuant to Pretrial Order No. 1. Entry of this Decree is the most appropriate means to resolve the matters covered herein and is fair, reasonable and in the public interest.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED:

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

1. The Parties to this Decree agree that the Court has personal jurisdiction over the Parties and has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this action and the Parties to this Decree pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331, 1345 and 1367, and Sections 106,

107 and 113(b) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 9606, 9607 and 9613(b), and the principles of supplemental jurisdiction. The Parties waive all objections and defenses that they may have to jurisdiction of the Court or to venue in this District and to service of process.

APPLICABILITY OF DECREE

2. The provisions of this Decree, including the covenants not to sue and contribution protection, shall be binding on, apply to, and inure to the benefit of the United States and the State, to CBS, including their past, present and future officials, directors, officers, employees, agents, predecessors, successors and assigns. No change in the ownership or organizational form or status of CBS shall affect its rights or obligations under this Decree.

EFFECT OF SETTLEMENT/ENTRY OF JUDGMENT

hereto in good faith at arm's length to avoid the continuation of expensive and protracted litigation and is a fair and equitable settlement of claims which were vigorously contested. CBS does not admit any of plaintiffs' statements, allegations or claims set forth herein and denies any liability whatsoever for their claims against CBS set forth in both the Complaint and in the proposed Third Amended Complaint. This Decree should not constitute or be interpreted, construed or used as evidence of any admission of liability, law or fact. Except as otherwise provided in the Federal Rules of Evidence, this Decree is not admissible in evidence against CBS by any person or entity not a party to the Decree in any judicial or administrative proceeding.

Nothing in this Decree is intended to affect the authority or jurisdiction of EPA to take action beyond the boundaries of the Montrose NPL Site.

4. Upon approval and entry of this Decree by the Court, this Decree shall constitute a final judgment between and among the United States and the State, and CBS.

DEFINITIONS

- 5. This Decree incorporates the definitions set forth in Section 101 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9601, including but not limited to the definitions of the terms "release" and "response". In addition, whenever the following terms are used in this Decree, they shall have the following meanings:
- A. "Damage Assessment Costs" shall mean all costs associated with the planning, design, implementation and oversight of the Trustees' damage assessment process, which addresses the fact, extent and quantification of the injury to, destruction of or loss of natural resources and the services provided by these resources resulting from releases of hazardous substances alleged in the First Claim for Relief in the Complaint, and with the planning of restoration or replacement of such natural resources and the services provided by those resources, or the planning of the acquisition of equivalent resources or services, and any other costs necessary to carry out the Trustees' responsibilities with respect to those natural resources, including all related enforcement costs.
- B. "Date of Execution of this Decree" shall mean the date by which this Decree has been signed by all of the following: the authorized representative(s) of CBS, of the State, and of the

EPA, and by the Assistant Attorney General of the Environment and Natural Resources Division of the United States Department of Justice.

- C. "Date of Initial Approval of this Decree" shall mean the date on which this Decree has been initially approved and signed by the United States District Court.
- D. "Date of Final Approval of this Decree" shall mean the later of (1) the date on which the District Court has approved and entered this Decree as a judgment and all applicable appeal periods have expired without an appeal being filed, or (2) if an appeal is taken, the date on which the District Court's judgment is affirmed and there is no further right to appellate review.
- E. "Joint Outfall System" shall mean that wastewater collection, treatment and disposal facility of certain county sanitation districts of Los Angeles County discharging effluent through the White's Point Outfall and consisting of the Joint Water Pollution Control Plant and the associated sewers, pumping plants, inland water reclamation plants, treatment plants, treatment plant outfall sewers and incidental sanitation works operated pursuant to the 1995 Amended Joint Outfall Agreement by LACSD and as defined therein, including subsequent modifications to that system, as contemplated by that agreement.
- F. "Montrose DDT Plant Property" shall mean for purposes of this Decree the thirteen (13) acre parcel at 20201 South Normandie Avenue, Los Angeles, California 90044, which is the site of Montrose Chemical Corporation of California's former DDT production and formulation plant.