UNITED STATES OF AMERICA BEFORE THE NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD

NEXEO SOLUTIONS, LLC,

Respondent,

: Cases 13-CA-46694 and : 13-CA-62072

TRUCK DRIVERS, OIL DRIVERS, FILLING:
STATION AND PLATFORM WORKERS':
UNION, LOCAL NO. 705, AN AFFILIATE OF:
THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF:

TEAMSTERS,

and

BROTHERHOOD OF TEAMSTERS AND AUTO TRUCK DRIVERS, LOCAL NO. 70 OF ALAMEDA COUNTY, AFFILIATED WITH THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF TEAMSTERS

Charging Parties.

RESPONDENT NEXEO SOLUTION, LLC'S ANSWERING BRIEF TO TEAMSTERS LOCAL 70'S EXCEPTIONS TO THE ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE'S DECISION

David A. Kadela Littler Mendelson, P.C. 21 East State Street, Suite 1600 Columbus, Ohio 43215

20-CA-35519

Telephone: 614.463.4201 Facsimile: 614.221.3301 Email: dkadela@littler.com

Attorney for Respondent Nexeo Solutions, LLC

Dated: November 30, 2012

As in its response to the exceptions filed by Local 70¹ on October 18, 2012, to the decision and recommended order issued by the ALJ in these cases on August 30, 2012, Nexeo incorporates herein the Statement of Facts and arguments it makes in its briefs answering the General Counsel's exceptions and Local 705's exceptions. The contentions advanced by Local 70 that are different from the ones made by the General Counsel and Local 705 are addressed in this brief.

Local 70 devotes most of its brief to a number of unique arguments relating to the terms of the APS and the overall structure of Nexeo's agreement to purchase the assets of Ashland Distribution. The arguments, however, do not fit, and the Union does not argue that they fit, under the test adopted by the Board in *Spruce Up Corp.*, 209 NLRB 194, (1974), *enforced*, 529 F.2d 516 (4th Cir. 1975), for determining perfectly clear successor status.

Local 70 also argues that Ashland's and Nexeo's obligations under the WARN Act, 29 U.S.C. § 2101, et seq., and the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, 29 U.S.C. § 621, et seq., served to ensure that Nexeo would retain Ashland Distribution's employees. The short answer to this argument is that those acts had no such effect.

Lastly, Local 70 argues that the ALJ erred in narrowing an expansive document subpoena that Local 70 served upon Nexeo to cover only documents relating to the terms and conditions of employment of the Local 70-represented employees. The ALJ, however, correctly recognized

Counsel for the Acting General Counsel are referred to herein as the "General Counsel"; Respondent Nexeo Solutions, LLC is referred as "Nexeo" or the "Company"; Nexeo's predecessor, Ashland, Inc., is referred to as "Ashland"; Charging Party Truck Drivers, Oil Drivers, Filling Station and Platform Workers' Union, Local No. 705, is referred to as "Local 705"; Charging Party Brotherhood of Teamsters and Auto Truck Drivers, Local No. 70 of Alameda County, is referred to as "Local 70" or the Union; Administrative Law Judge William G. Kocol is referred to as the "ALJ"; references to the ALJ's decision and recommended order are abbreviated "ALJD p.__"; the Agreement of Purchase and Sale between Ashland and Nexeo is referred to as the "APS."

that the Union had requested documents that had no possible relevance to the issues involved here and that requiring Nexeo to comply with the subpoena would be unduly burdensome, time-consuming and costly. He properly exercised his discretion in narrowing the subpoena the way he did.

For these reasons and the reasons stated in its briefs answering the General Counsel's and Local 705's exceptions, Nexeo respectfully requests that the Board adopt the ALJ's findings that the General Counsel failed to prove, and the ALJ's recommended order dismissing the paragraphs of the complaint alleging, that Nexeo is a perfectly clear successor and violated the Act by unilaterally implementing its retirement and healthcare plans in place of the plans in which the Local 70- and Local 705-represented employees participated as Ashland employees.

Respectfully submitted,

David A. Kadela

Littler Mendelson, P.C.

21 East State Street, Suite 1600

Columbus, Ohio 43215

Telephone: 614.463.4201 Facsimile: 614.221.3301 Email: dkadela@littler.com

Attorney for Respondent Nexeo Solutions, LLC

2

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on this 30th day of November 2012, I served the foregoing Brief upon the following via email:

J. Edward Castillo, Esq.
National Labor Relations Board – Region 13
209 South Lasalle Street, Suite 900
Chicago, Illinois 60604
Counsel for the General Counsel

and

Richard McPalmer, Esq.
National Labor Relations Board, Region 20
901 Market Street, Suite 400
San Francisco, CA 94103
Counsel for the General Counsel

Thomas D. Allison, Esq.
N. Elizabeth Reynolds, Esq.
Allison, Slutsky & Kennedy, P.C.
230 West Monroe Street, Suite 2600
Chicago, Illinois 60606
Attorney for Charging Party IBT Local 705

and

David A. Rosenfeld, Esq. Weinberg, Roger & Rosenfeld, P.C. 1001 Marina VLG Parkway, Suite 200 Alameda, CA 94501-6430 Attorney for IBT Local 70

David A. Kadela