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CONSENT DECREE

WHEREAS, Plaintiff Los Angeles Waterkeeper ("LA Waterkeeper" or "Plaintiff") is a 501(c)(3) non-profit public benefit corporation organized under the laws of the State of California, with its main office in Los Angeles, California;

WHEREAS, LA Waterkeeper is dedicated to the preservation, protection and defense of the surface, ground, coastal and ocean waters of Los Angeles County from all sources of pollution and degradation;

WHEREAS, Defendant OWENS CORNING ("Defendant") owns and operates a facility a 1501 North Tamarind Avenue, in Compton, California, under Waste Discharger Identification number 4 19I003711 ("Facility");

WHEREAS, the Facility's industrial activities consist of manufacturing roofing products. The Facility is categorized under Standard Industrial Classification ("SIC") Code 2952, covering ("Asphalt Felts and Coatings") and SIC Code 2951 ("Asphalt Paving Mixtures and Blocks");

WHEREAS, storm water discharges associated with industrial activity at the Facility are regulated by the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System ("NPDES") General Permit No. CAS000001 [State Water Resources Control Board], Water Quality Order 2014-0057-DWQ, as amended by Order Nos. 2015-0122-DWQ and 2018-0028-DWQ ("General Permit" or "Permit")¹, and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, 33 U.S.C. §§ 1251, *et seq.* ("Clean Water Act" or "CWA"), Sections 301(a) and 402, 33 U.S.C. §§ 1311(a), 1342;

WHEREAS, Defendant's operations at the Facility result in discharges of pollutants into waters of the United States and are regulated by the Clean Water Act

into a new §XI.B.6.c and §XI.B.6.d.

¹ Any references to the "General Permit" or "Permit" herein shall be to the then-effective version, regardless of whether such changes are the result of amendments, revisions, reissuance, or similar modification of material terms. Any reference in this Consent Decree to specific sections or subsections of the General Permit that are moved, modified, or otherwise changed in a subsequent version of the General Permit shall be to such subsequent reference(s) as if set forth herein, *e.g.*, the current §XI.B.6.c may be renumbered as §XI.B.7.c, combined into the current §XI.B.6.d, or split

Sections 301(a) and 402. 33 U.S.C. §§ 1311(a), 1342;

WHEREAS, the General Permit requires all permittees, including Defendant, to comply with, inter alia, the following mandates: (1) develop and implement a storm water pollution prevention plan and a storm water monitoring implementation plan, (2) control pollutant discharges using, as applicable, best available technology economically achievable or best conventional pollutant control technology to prevent or reduce pollutants through the development and application of Best Management Practices, which must be detailed in and timely updated in the SWPPP, (3) reduce and eliminate discharges necessary to comply with any and all applicable Water Quality Standards, and (4) implement a monitoring and reporting program, including the MIP, designed to assess compliance with the Permit;

WHEREAS, on June 16, 2022, the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region ("Regional Board") issued Time Schedule Order ("TSO") No. R4-2022-0015 pursuant to California Water Code sections 13300 and 13385(j)(3), requiring Defendant to comply with certain requirements stated in the TSO to ensure compliance with effluent limitations for total zinc and total copper contained in the General Permit. The TSO requirements include the installation of filtration and treatment systems at the Facility to enable Defendant to achieve compliance with zinc and copper effluent limitations by December 31, 2024. The TSO further set interim effluent limitations for total zinc and total copper to be in effect at the Facility from June 16, 2022 through December 31, 2024.

WHEREAS, on November 1, 2023, Plaintiff issued a notice of intent to file suit ("60-Day Notice Letter") to Defendant, its registered agent, the Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA"), the Executive Director of the State Water Resources Control Board ("State Board"), the Executive Director of the Regional Board, and the Regional Administrator of EPA Region IX, alleging violations of the Clean Water Act and the General Permit Water Quality Order 2014-0057-DWQ, as amended by Order Nos. 2015-0122-DWQ and 2018-0028-DWQ

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incorporating: 1) Federal Sufficiently Sensitive Test Method Ruling; 2) Total Maximum Daily Load Implementation Requirements; and 3) Statewide Compliance Options Incentivizing On-Site or Regional Storm Water Capture and Use, at the Facility;

WHEREAS, on February 1, LA Waterkeeper filed a complaint against Defendant in the Central District of California ("Court"), Civil Case No. 2:24-cv-00880-AS ("Complaint");

WHEREAS, Plaintiff's Complaint alleged violations of the General Permit and the Clean Water Act for Defendant's discharges of pollutants into storm drains and surface waters, including Compton Creek, the Los Angeles River, and ultimately to the Los Angeles River Estuary, Queensway Bay, San Pedro Bay, and the Pacific Ocean (collectively, "Receiving Waters");

WHEREAS, Plaintiff and Defendant (collectively, "Settling Parties" or "Parties") agree that it is in their mutual interest to enter into a Consent Decree setting forth terms and conditions appropriate to resolving the allegations set forth in the 60-Day Notice Letter and Complaint without further proceedings;

WHEREAS, all actions taken by Defendant pursuant to this Consent Decree shall be made in compliance with all applicable federal, state and local laws, rules and regulations.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED BETWEEN THE SETTLING PARTIES AND ORDERED AND DECREED BY THE COURT AS FOLLOWS:

- 1. The Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this action pursuant to Section 505(a)(1)(A) of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 1365(a)(1)(A).
- 2. Venue is appropriate in the Central District Court pursuant to Section 505(c)(1) of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 1365(c)(1), because the Facility at which the alleged violations are taking place is located within this District.

- 3. The Complaint states a claim upon which relief may be granted against Defendant pursuant to Section 505 of the CWA, 33 U.S.C. § 1365.
 - 4. LA Waterkeeper has standing to bring this action.
- 5. The Court shall retain jurisdiction over this action for purposes of interpreting, modifying, or enforcing the terms of this Consent Decree, or as long thereafter as necessary for the Court to resolve any motion to enforce this Consent Decree, but only regarding issues raised within the Term (as defined below) of this Consent Decree.

I. OBJECTIVES

- 6. It is the express purpose of the Settling Parties through this Consent Decree to further the objectives of the Clean Water Act, and to resolve all issues alleged by LA Waterkeeper in its 60-Day Notice Letter and Complaint. These objectives include compliance with the provisions of this Consent Decree, compliance with all terms and conditions of the General Permit, compliance with all applicable sections of the CWA, and compliance with the Regional Board TSO.
- 7. In light of these objectives and as set forth fully below, Defendant agrees to comply with the provisions of this Consent Decree, terms and conditions of the General Permit, all applicable sections of the CWA at the Facility, and remain in compliance with the TSO.

II. AGENCY REVIEW AND DEFINITIONS

A. AGENCY REVIEW OF CONSENT DECREE

8. Agency Review. Plaintiff shall submit this Consent Decree to the United States Department of Justice and the EPA (the "Federal Agencies") for agency review consistent with 40 C.F.R. § 135.5. The agency review period expires forty-five (45) calendar days after receipt by the Federal Agencies, as evidenced by certified return receipts, or upon the date that the Federal Agencies provide a no objection letter, whichever is earlier ("Agency Review Period"). In the event that the Federal Agencies object to entry of this Consent Decree or to any portion of this Consent

Decree, the Parties agree to meet and confer to attempt to resolve the issue(s) raised by the Federal Agencies. If the Parties are unable to resolve any issue(s) raised by the Federal Agencies in their comments, the Parties agree to expeditiously seek a settlement conference with the assigned Magistrate Judge to resolve any issue(s).

- 9. <u>Court Notice</u>. Plaintiff shall notify the Court of the receipt date by the Federal Agencies, as required by 40 C.F.R. § 135.5, in order to coordinate the Court's calendar with the 45-day review period.
- 10. <u>Entry of Consent Decree</u>. Following the expiration of the Agency Review Period, Plaintiff shall submit the Consent Decree to the Court for entry.

B. DEFINITIONS

- 11. Unless otherwise expressly defined herein, terms used in this Consent Decree which are defined in the CWA or in regulations or rules promulgated under the CWA have the meaning assigned to them in the statutes or regulations or rules. Whenever terms listed below are used in this Consent Decree, whether or not capitalized, the following definitions apply:
 - a. "BAT" means the Best Available Technology Economically Achievable.
 - "BCT" means the Best Conventional Pollutant Control
 Technology, and collectively with BAT is referred to herein as "BAT/BCT."
 - c. "BMPs" means Best Management Practices as defined in Attachment C (Glossary) of the General Permit.
 - d. "Consent Decree" means this Consent Decree and any attachments or documents incorporated by reference.
 - e. "Day" means a calendar day. In computing any period of time under this Consent Decree, where the last day of such period is a Saturday, Sunday, or Federal or State Holiday, the period runs

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1		until the close of business on the next day that is not a Saturday,
2		Sunday, or Federal or State Holiday.
3	f.	"Design Storm" means the volume and flow rate of runoff
4		produced from a design storm as defined by General Permit
5		Section X.H.6."
6	g.	"Discharge Point" means each discharge location designated in
7		the then-current SWPPP for the Facility.
8	h.	"Effective Date" means the effective date of this Consent Decree,
9		which shall be the date of full execution by the Parties.
10	i.	"Entry Date" means the day this Consent Decree is approved and
11		entered by the Court.
12	j.	"Forecasted Rain Event" means a forecasted rain event as
13		determined by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric
14		Administration (http://forecast.weather.gov/) for "90222,
15		Compton, CA, USA".2
16	k.	"In writing" means in written electronic or hard copy form.
17	1.	"MIP" means a Monitoring Implementation Plan.
18	m.	"PPT" means Pollution Prevention Team.
19	n.	"Qualified Industrial Storm Water Practitioner" or "QISP" shall
20		have the definition set forth in Section IX.A.1 of the General
21		Permit.
22	o.	"Qualifying Storm Event" or "QSE" shall have the definition set
23		forth in Section XI.B.1 of the General Permit.
24	p.	"Reporting Year" means the period from July 1 of a given
25		calendar year to June 30 of the following calendar year.
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² Available at: https://forecast.weather.gov/MapClick.php?lat=33.9111&lon=-118.2365.

- q. "SMARTS" means the California State Water Resources Control Board's Stormwater Multiple Application and Report Tracking System.
- r. "SWPPP" means a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan.
- s. "Term" means the period between the Effective Date and the "Termination Date."
- t. "Termination Date" means the latest of:
 - i. June 30 following four (4) years from the Effective Date;
 - ii. June 30 following two (2) years after the proposed advanced treatment system for drainage area S-3 is fully installed, operational, and optimized;
 - iii. seven (7) days from the conclusion of any proceeding or process to enforce the Consent Decree initiated prior to the later of dates in (i) and (ii) above; or
 - iv. seven (7) days from Defendant's completion of all payments and other affirmative duties required by this Consent Decree;
 - v. Except if the Facility discontinues industrial use of zinc oxide and copper oxide powder, in which case the Termination Date shall be the date on which the parties, after meeting and conferring pursuant to the Dispute Resolution procedures in Section IV below, agree to a stipulation, filed herein, notifying the Court and the Department of Justice that the Consent Decree has been terminated and the reasons therefore. As part of this process, Plaintiff shall be entitled to an additional Facility inspection to verify the discontinued use of zinc oxide and copper oxide powder as well as General Permit compliance

and the absence of additional zinc or copper pollutant sources warranting continued attention under this Consent Decree.

u. "Wet Season" means the period beginning October 1st of any given calendar year and ending June 30th of the following calendar year.

III. COMMITMENTS OF THE SETTLING PARTIES

- A. STORM WATER POLLUTION CONTROL BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES
- 12. <u>Non-Storm Water Discharge Prohibition.</u> Any unauthorized non-storm water discharge, as defined in the General Permit, shall be a violation of this Consent Decree.
- 13. Current and Additional Best Management Practices. At all times, Defendant shall implement BMPs identified in its SWPPP and BMPs described herein, and shall develop and implement additional BMPs as necessary to comply with the provisions of this Consent Decree and the General Permit, including but not limited to those (1) necessary to comply with BAT/BCT-level pollutant reductions; and (2) the General Permit's Receiving Water Limitations, which require that discharges from the Facility "not cause or contribute to an exceedance of any applicable water quality standards" contained in a Statewide Water Quality Control Plan or the applicable Regional Board's Basin Plan.
- 14. <u>Structural and Non-Structural BMPs for the Facility</u>. Within forty-five (45) days of the Effective Date, unless otherwise stated, Defendant shall develop and implement the following BMPs at the Facility:
 - a. Improved Raw Materials Storage for Zinc and Copper Oxides. Install Shipping Containers for the storage, whether permanent or temporary, of all raw materials at the Facility containing zinc oxide or copper oxide (with all deliveries of such raw materials to the Facility stored indoors or placed directly in

the Shipping Containers by the end of the day on the date of the raw material delivery);

- b. Improved Inlet Protections (Drainage Areas S-1, S-2 and S-4). At all existing drainage inlets in Drainage Areas S-1, S-2 and S-4, install new filter socks and drain inlet filters and implement weekly inspections of these drainage inlets as required by the General Permit. Each such drainage inlet shall include filtration through Abtech Smart Sponge Media HM or an equivalent filter medium. Each of these visual inspections shall be contemporaneously logged with the Facility SWPPP, indicating the inspector's name, and the date and time of the inspection of each drainage inlet pursuant to a pre-printed checklist identifying each inlet to be inspected. During the Wet Season, as necessary, Defendants shall replace the wattles/filters/socks in when degraded or ineffective, including without limitation when there are rips, tears or other visual damage, and/or sampling data demonstrating the wattles/filters/socks are not sufficiently reducing pollutant concentrations.
- c. Cover or remove final product storage (Drainage Areas S-2 and S-4). Within sixty (60) days of the Effective Date, implement a program to cover (e.g., using tarp or storm-resistant shelter) all outdoor final product storage in Drainage Areas S-2 and S-4 prior to Forecasted Rain Events or move all outdoor final product storage out of Drainage Areas S-2 and S-4. This change will be incorporated in the SWPPP.
- d. Advanced Treatment System (Drainage Area S-3). Within twenty-four (24) months of the Effective Date, if still using zinc and copper-containing powder in its industrial processes,

Defendant shall design and implement a detention storage and advanced treatment system ("Treatment System"). The Treatment System shall be designed to meet NELs and NALs for copper and zinc at discharge point S-3, using media filtration, and sized to meet the design standards in section X.H.6 of the General Permit. All roof runoff from the Cooling Section Roof as delineated in Exhibit A attached hereto will be routed to the Treatment System. Defendants shall provide written quarterly status reports to Plaintiff ("Status Reports") on the feasibility, engineering, designing, permitting and building of the Treatment System beginning one hundred twenty (120) days from the Effective Date and continuing until the project is fully built. The first Status Report, due one hundred twenty (120) days from the Effective Date, shall include the proposed comprehensive design for the Treatment System, including but not limited to, the hydrology and hydraulics analysis for the Facility, projected volume storage, and the treatment design flowrates.

- e. **Waste Removal.** Cover or remove all shingle waste bins in Drainage Areas S-1, S-2 and S-4 to locations under either new or existing roof cover, or into Area S-3.
- f. Improved Sweeping Program. On all paved areas, implement a sweeping program on a monthly frequency using a sweeper certified by the South Coast Air Quality Management District with the capacity to collect and retain PM-10 (10 μm) particles. On a weekly frequency during the Wet Season, and within twenty-four (24) hours prior to a Forecasted Rain Event, implement a sweeping program using the existing facility-owned sweeper. Also employ hand sweeping and/or vacuuming on the same schedule in

all areas a mechanical sweeper cannot access that potentially contribute to contamination of stormwater discharge, subject to safety considerations. These sweeping events shall be contemporaneously logged with the Facility SWPPP, indicating the personnel involved, and the date(s) for each sweeping event.

g. **Pre-Rain Protocols.** Institute a formal pre-rain protocol throughout the Wet Season to be implemented within twenty-four (24) hours prior to a Forecasted Rain Event, and requiring the inspection of all drainage inlets, removal of any exposed waste material, and relocation of uncontained or uncovered shingle waste bins under cover sufficient to prevent exposure to rainfall, including without limitation those stored outside and where roof protection is inadequate, or otherwise move them into a covered structure adequate to prevent exposure to rainfall;

Within seven (7) days of each of the above BMPs being implemented, Defendant shall confirm to LA Waterkeeper in writing, with photographs, that such BMP has been implemented as set forth above.

B. SAMPLING AT THE FACILITY

15. Defendant shall develop a monitoring program consistent with the General Permit. During the Term, Defendant shall collect samples of storm water discharge from each Discharge Point for a minimum of four (4) Qualifying Storm Events each Reporting Year as required by the General Permit, and shall use best efforts to collect such samples during the first two (2) Qualifying Storm Events in each half of the Reporting Year. Such sampling shall take place as soon as possible within the four (4) hour period required by the General Permit § XI.B.5. If Defendant would have been required to collect samples during a rain event pursuant to the qualified storm event definition of this Consent Decree had such rain event produced a sampleable discharge, but Defendant did not collect samples because such rain

event did not produce a sampleable discharge, then Defendant shall use best efforts to document the inability to sample by taking representative photographs during the rain event of each Discharge Point from which no discharge occurred. Defendant shall submit such photographs to LA Waterkeeper by email, along with nearby publicly available rain gauge/sensor data for the date of such rain event, within five (5) days of a written request for such records by LA Waterkeeper.

- Decree shall be analyzed, at minimum, for the parameters listed in Table 1. Should Defendant intend to modify sampling for any of the parameters listed in Table 1 or additional parameters that are listed in 40 C.F.R. § 131.38 and/or in the General Permit for any reason, including without limitation as a result of changed operations, a revised pollutant source assessment, or a new mandate from a regulatory agency, such modification shall be incorporated into this Consent Decree as if listed in Table 1 for all purposes, including any Action Plan requirements (as defined below). Defendant shall promptly notify LA Waterkeeper of its intent to modify sampling for any parameters and the Parties shall meet and confer regarding the applicable Table 1 limit for such purposes within ten (10) days of such notification, unless such modification will be addressed pursuant to the review and comment provisions applicable for SWPPP revisions in paragraph 27.
- 17. <u>Laboratory and Holding Time</u>. Defendant shall deliver all samples collected pursuant to this Consent Decree to a California-certified environmental laboratory for analysis within allowable hold times, pursuant to 40 C.F.R. Part 136.
- 18. <u>Detection Limit</u>. Defendant shall request that the laboratory use analytical methods adequate to detect the individual contaminants at or below the values specified in the General Permit and Table 1 below.
- 19. <u>Reporting</u>. Defendant shall provide complete laboratory results of all samples collected at the Facility to SMARTS in accordance with the General Permit,

and shall provide copies to LA Waterkeeper within ten (10) days of receiving the laboratory report with the results.

C. REDUCTION OF POLLUTANTS IN DISCHARGES

20. <u>Table 1 Numeric Limits</u>. Defendant shall develop and implement BMPs for storm water discharges from the Facility that reduce pollutant concentrations to levels below those in Table 1.

TABLE 1

Parameter	Numeric Limit	Source of Limit
Copper	0.06749	NEL
Zinc	0.159	NEL

- 21. <u>Table 1 Exceedances</u>. An "Exceedance" of Table 1 is defined as follows: where the concentration of any pollutant in any two (2) storm water samples from a given sampling location during a Reporting Year exceeds any numeric limit contained in Table 1, except during storms that exceed structural BMP sizing criteria of section X.H.6 of the General Permit. An exceedance shall constitute a violation of this Consent Decree, except it shall not be considered a violation for S-3 until after complete installation of the treatment system pursuant to Paragraph 14.d above.
- 22. Action Plan for Table 1 Exceedances. As of the Effective Date (and, for S-3 after complete installation of the treatment system pursuant to Paragraph 14.d above), and for the remainder of the Term, if Defendant has an unauthorized non-storm water discharge in violation of Paragraph III.A.12, above, or storm water samples demonstrate an Exceedance as defined above, Defendant shall prepare and submit to LA Waterkeeper a plan for reducing and/or eliminating the relevant discharge of pollutants for the Facility and/or achieving compliance with the non-storm water discharge prohibition ("Action Plan"). However, an Action Plan shall not be required when the BMPs for the applicable unauthorized non-storm water discharge or Exceedance for the same pollutant in the same drainage area were

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addressed in a previous Action Plan in the same Reporting Year and such BMPs were not yet implemented as of the date of the applicable unauthorized non-storm water discharge or QSE sampling that led to the Exceedance.³ The complete Action Plan shall be submitted to LA Waterkeeper within thirty (30) days of the unauthorized non-storm water discharge or the receipt of the laboratory report demonstrating the Exceedance, as applicable.

Action Plan Requirements. Each complete Action Plan submitted shall include at a minimum: (1) the identification of the contaminant(s) discharged in excess of the numeric limit(s) and/or the applicable unauthorized non-storm water discharge; (2) an assessment of the source of each contaminant exceedance and/or applicable unauthorized non-storm water discharge; (3) the identification of any additional BMPs or other steps that are proposed to be implemented to achieve compliance with the numeric limit(s) and/or unauthorized non-storm water discharge prohibition, as well as the design plans and calculations of any additional BMPs; and (4) time schedules for implementation of any proposed BMPs. The time schedule(s) for implementation shall ensure that all BMPs are implemented as soon as practicable, but in no event later than ninety (90) days following the submission of the Action Plan, unless a later implementation date is mutually agreed upon by the Settling Parties. Within seven (7) days of any of the BMPs set forth in the Action Plan being implemented, Defendant shall confirm to LA Waterkeeper in

³ For clarity, an Action Plan based on an Exceedance shall be required if: (i) the applicable Exceedance is demonstrated for a pollutant and/or in a drainage area not addressed in a previous Action Plan in the same Reporting

Year; and/or (2) when the applicable Exceedance is demonstrated for the same pollutant in the same drainage area as in a previous Action Plan in the same Reporting Year and the BMPs in the previous Action Plan were fully implemented before the applicable QSE that led to the Exceedance was sampled.

- writing, with photographs, that such BMP has been implemented as set forth in the Action Plan.
- b. <u>Action Plan Proposed BMPs.</u> The following BMPs should generally be evaluated for inclusion in Action Plans to attain the Table 1 levels in the Facility's storm water discharges:
 - i. <u>Fleet Tires Upgrade</u>. Upgrade all truck and forklift tires with zinc-free tires or other durable alternatives that minimize the release of dust.
 - ii. <u>Improved Sweeping</u>. The increased/more frequent use of sweepers and manual sweeping in otherwise inaccessible areas.
 - iii. Treatment System Improvements (Drainage Area S-3).

 Installing additional components or systems, or otherwise improving, the Treatment System, or making changes to the operation and maintenance protocols for such system, to provide more effective filtration treatment of storm water prior to discharge.
 - iv. Evaluation of Existing BMPs. Replacing, rehabilitating, or eliminating existing BMPs, taking into account the age of the BMPs involved or employed, the engineering aspect of the application of various BMPs, and any adverse environmental impact of the BMPs.
 - v. New treatment (Drainage Area S-1). Similar to the Treatment System described above for Drainage Area S-3. Alternatively, this could involve routing stormwater from S-1 to the S-3 Treatment System, and upgrading that Treatment System to maintain sizing consistent with IGP section X.H.6 for the new larger combined drainage area.

- vi. Improved Downspout Protections (All Facility Roofing).

 Install Zinc-B-Gone Pro roof downspout filters at all roof downspouts where such filter has not already been installed and where BMPs are not already present, and replace media at existing Zinc-B-Gone filters with standard, vendor-provided metal cation exchanging media.
- c. Action Plan Review. LA Waterkeeper shall have thirty (30) days upon receipt of Defendant's complete Action Plan to provide Defendant with comments. Within fourteen (14) days of receiving LA Waterkeeper's proposed revisions to an Action Plan, Defendant shall consider each of LA Waterkeeper's recommended revisions and accept them or justify in writing why any comment is not incorporated. Action Plan(s) developed and implemented pursuant to this Consent Decree are an obligation of this Consent Decree. Any disputes as to the adequacy of an Action Plan shall be resolved pursuant to the dispute resolution provisions of this Consent Decree, set out in Section IV below. Disputes regarding the adequacy of a particular BMP shall not impact the schedule for implementing any other BMP set forth in the Action Plan.
- d. Defendant shall revise the then-current SWPPP to reflect the changes implemented pursuant to the Action Plan, as set forth in Paragraph 27, below.
- e. <u>Action Plan Payments</u>. Defendant shall pay Four Thousand Dollars (\$4,000.00) each time an Action Plan is submitted to LA Waterkeeper. Payments are due at the same time that the applicable Action Plan is submitted and shall be made to "Los Angeles Waterkeeper" via certified mail, return receipt requested to Los Angeles Waterkeeper, c/o Barak Kamelgard, 360 E 2nd

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Street Suite 250, Los Angeles, CA 90012. Failure to submit a payment as required under this Paragraph will constitute a breach of the Consent Decree.

D. VISUAL OBSERVATIONS

- 23. <u>Storm Water Discharge Observations</u>. During the Term, appropriately trained staff of Defendant shall conduct visual observations during the Facility's operating hours during a minimum of four (4) QSEs each Reporting Year as required by the General Permit. Such inspections shall comply with all requirements of Section XI.A.2 of the General Permit, and any successor thereof.
- 24. Monthly Visual Observations. During the Term, appropriately trained staff of Defendant shall conduct monthly non-storm water visual observations of the Facility. Such inspections shall comply with all requirements of Section XI.A.1 of the General Permit, and any successor thereof. Such monitoring shall include outfalls, Discharge Points, outdoor industrial equipment and storage areas, outdoor industrial activities areas, BMPs, and all other potential sources of industrial pollutants. All Discharge Points shall also be inspected for accumulation of dust, sediment, sand, grit, oily substances, oily sheens upon any standing water, and other materials associated with operations at the Facility. During the Wet Season, such inspections shall further include observations of all storm water BMPs that are used only during the Wet Season at the Facility to ensure that operational BMPs are being implemented, structural BMPs are in good condition or working order, and that BMPs have been effective in producing clean conditions at the Facility. Such inspections shall further include observation as to whether there are any non-storm water discharges from the Facility.
- 25. <u>Visual Observations Records</u>. Defendant shall maintain observation records, including representative photographs, to document compliance with Paragraphs 23 and 24. Such records shall include, but not be limited to, the persons who completed the inspection, the date of the inspection, and notes sufficient to

describe the completed activity and all observations thereof, including but not limited to: (i) whether BMPs are in a proper, working condition; (ii) whether any repair, replacement, or operation and maintenance is needed for any BMPs; (iii) other conditions that have the potential to lead to pollutant loading in storm water discharges; and (iv) representative photographs of all of the foregoing where feasible. Defendant shall provide LA Waterkeeper with a copy of those records within seven (7) days of receipt of a written request from LA Waterkeeper for those records.

- 26. Employee Training Program. Within thirty (30) days of the Effective Date, Defendant shall develop and implement an employee training program that meets the following requirements and ensures (1) that there is a sufficient number of employees at the Facility designated to achieve compliance with the General Permit and this Consent Decree ("Designated Employees"), and (2) that these Designated Employees are properly trained to perform the activities required by the General Permit and this Consent Decree ("Training Program"):
 - a. <u>Materials</u>. Training materials should include, at minimum, a detailed Training Manual or Standard Operating Procedure, including drawings and diagrams where appropriate, for reference and use by Defendant's personnel to ensure effective implementation of all BMPs at the Facility;
 - b. <u>Language</u>. The training and training materials shall be available and offered in the language(s) in which relevant employees are fluent. If necessary, Defendant shall provide a translator or translators at all trainings where such translation is likely to improve staff comprehension of the Training Program and improve compliance with this Consent Decree and the General Permit;
 - c. <u>Training Frequency</u>. Training shall be provided by a QISP familiar with the requirements of this Consent Decree and the

General Permit, and shall be repeated as necessary to ensure that all relevant employees are familiar with the requirements of this Consent Decree, the Permit, and the Facility's SWPPP. All relevant new staff shall receive this training before assuming responsibilities for implementing the SWPPP;

- d. <u>Sampling Training</u>. Defendant shall designate an adequate number of employees necessary to collect storm water samples as required by this Consent Decree, including training to ensure samples are properly collected, stored, and submitted to a certified laboratory;
- e. <u>Visual Observation Training</u>. Defendant shall provide training on how and when to properly conduct visual observations to Designated Employees;
- f. Non-Storm Water Discharge Training. Defendant shall train all Designated Employees at the Facility on the General Permit's prohibition of non-storm water discharges, so that Designated Employees know what non-storm water discharges are and how to detect and prevent non-storm water discharges;
- g. <u>Employees</u>. All Designated Employees at the Facility shall participate in the Training Program annually. New Designated Employees shall participate in the Training Program within thirty (30) days of their hiring date; and
- h. Records. Defendant shall maintain training records to document compliance with this Paragraph and shall provide LA Waterkeeper with a copy of these records within seven (7) days of receipt of a written request.

27. <u>SWPPP Revisions</u>.

a. <u>Initial SWPPP Revisions</u>. Defendant shall amend the Facility's
 SWPPP to incorporate the requirements in this Consent Decree

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and comply with the General Permit and submit the complete, updated SWPPP to LA Waterkeeper within thirty (30) days of the Effective Date for LA Waterkeeper's review and comment. The complete, updated SWPPP shall contain, at a minimum, the following elements:

- i. A revised pollutant source assessment, including all elements required by section X.G of the General Permit as well as assessments of the potential for the Facility's storm water discharges to contain pollutants for which the Receiving Waters are 303(d) listed and/or have Total Maximum Daily Loads and that are associated with an industrial activity or material that is exposed to rainwater/stormwater;
- ii. A detailed narrative description and assessment of each industrial activity with the potential to impact storm water quality occurring at the Facility as required by section X.G of the General Permit;
- iii. Descriptions of all BMPs in accordance with section X.H.4 of the General Permit, including without limitation BMPs required by this Consent Decree;
- iv. A set of site maps that comply with section X.E of the General Permit and provisions of this Consent Decree;
- v. A MIP as required by sections XI and X.I of the General Permit;
- vi. A designation (by position/title) of employees responsible for carrying out storm water management, monitoring, sampling and SWPPP implementation, e.g., visual

inspection of each specific area, monitoring each specific BMP, sampling, etc.; and

vii. A Training Program as described above in Paragraph 26.

b. Additional SWPPP Revisions.

- i. Within thirty (30) days after acceptance of any Action Plan by LA Waterkeeper (or resolution pursuant to Dispute Resolution), Defendant shall revise the then-current SWPPP to reflect the changes required by the Action Plan and submit the complete, updated SWPPP to LA Waterkeeper for LA Waterkeeper's review and comment.
- ii. Within thirty (30) days after any changes in industrial activities, sources of industrial pollutants, monitoring parameters, changes to Discharge Points, or material (i.e., non-administrative) changes to sections of the SWPPP identified in the SWPPP as requiring a SWPPP revision (including but not limited to, changes in or additions of industrial activities that impact storm water discharge), Defendant shall revise the then-current SWPPP to reflect such changes and submit the complete, updated SWPPP to LA Waterkeeper for LA Waterkeeper's review and comment.
- c. Review of SWPPP. For any SWPPP updates during the Term of this Consent Decree pursuant to Paragraphs 28.a. and 28.b., LA Waterkeeper shall have thirty (30) days upon receipt of Defendant's complete SWPPP to provide Defendant with comments. Within thirty (30) days of receiving LA Waterkeeper's comments and proposed changes to the SWPPP, Defendant shall consider each of the comments and proposed changes and either

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accept them or justify in writing why a change is not incorporated. The Parties agree to work in good faith to resolve any disputes with respect to the SWPPP, and any remaining disputes will be resolved through timely initiation of the dispute resolution procedures in Section IV below. Following its incorporation of proposed modification or additions (if any) into each revised SWPPP, Defendant shall upload the revised SWPPP to SMARTS.

E. COMPLIANCE MONITORING AND REPORTING

28. LA Waterkeeper may conduct one annual site inspection ("Site Inspection") during each Reporting Year during the Term for the purpose of ensuring compliance with this Consent Decree and the General Permit. In the event of a dispute regarding Defendant's compliance with this Consent Decree, and provided a Site Inspection would be relevant to resolving the Parties' dispute, the Parties agree to meet and confer regarding an additional Site Inspection at Plaintiff's request. Plaintiff shall not unreasonably request, and Defendant shall not unreasonably deny, one additional Site Inspection. Any Site Inspection shall occur during normal business hours, and LA Waterkeeper will provide Defendant with at least forty-eight (48) hours' notice prior to a Site Inspection, and specify the time and date of the proposed inspection. For any Site Inspection requested to occur in wet weather, Plaintiff shall be entitled to adjust timing or reschedule during normal business hours in the event the forecast changes and anticipated precipitation appears unlikely, and thus frustrates the purpose of visiting the Facility in wet weather. Notice will be provided by electronic mail to the individual(s) designated below at Paragraph 56. During the Wet Weather inspection, Plaintiff may request that Defendant collect a sample of industrial storm water discharge from the Facility's designated industrial discharge point(s) referenced in its SWPPP, to the extent that such discharges are occurring, unless four (4) samples in the reporting year have already been collected, or the timing of the inspection fails to meet the QSE definition, or samples were already

collected earlier by Defendant for that same QSE. Defendant shall collect the sample and provide a split sample to LA Waterkeeper. LA Waterkeeper's representative(s) may observe the split sample(s) being collected by Defendant's representative LA Waterkeeper shall be permitted to take photographs or video recording relevant to storm water discharges during any Site Inspection.

- 29. <u>Document Provision</u>. During the Term, Defendant shall notify and submit documents to LA Waterkeeper as follows:
 - a. By the 1st day of each month, Defendant shall provide LA

 Waterkeeper with copies of all documents materially relevant to
 storm water quality at that facility, including compliance
 documents, monitoring and/or sampling data, or written
 communications and/or correspondences that have been submitted
 to or received from the Regional Board, the State Board, and/or
 any state or local agency, county or municipality in the previous
 month, unless the documents are publicly accessible through
 SMARTS.
- 30. <u>Compliance Monitoring</u>. Defendant shall partially defray costs associated with Plaintiff's monitoring of Defendant's compliance with this Consent Decree during the Term by paying Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) per year of the Consent Decree, beginning on the Entry Date. The first such payment shall be made within thirty (30) days of the Entry Date, and each subsequent payment shall be made upon the applicable anniversary of the Effective Date. In the event that, pursuant to Paragraph 29, there is an additional Site Inspection in a given year to resolve a dispute pursuant to the Consent Decree, Defendant shall reimburse LA Waterkeeper an additional Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00) during such year. Payment shall be made within thirty (30) days after any additional Site Inspection, as applicable. The payment shall be made via check, made payable to: "Los Angeles Waterkeeper" via certified mail, return receipt requested to Los Angeles Waterkeeper, c/o Barak

Kamelgard, 360 E 2nd Street Suite 250, Los Angeles, CA 90012. Failure to submit payment as required under this Paragraph will constitute breach of the Consent Decree.

- F. ENVIRONMENTALLY BENEFICIAL PROJECT, LITIGATION FEES AND COSTS, MISSED DEADLINES, AND INTEREST
- 31. Environmentally Beneficial Project. To fund environmentally beneficial project activities that will reduce or mitigate the impacts of storm water pollution occurring in the watersheds of Compton Creek and the Los Angeles River, and the Pacific Ocean near the mouth of the Los Angeles River, Defendant shall make a payment totaling Thirty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$35,000.00) to the Think Watts Foundation made within thirty (30) days of the Entry Date, payable to the Think Watts Foundation and sent via overnight mail to Think Watts Foundation, 1225 E 100th Street, Los Angeles, CA 90002. Failure to submit payment as required under this Paragraph will constitute breach of the Consent Decree.
- 32. LA Waterkeeper's Fees and Costs. Defendant shall pay a total of Seventy Thousand Dollars (\$70,000) to LA Waterkeeper to partially reimburse Plaintiff for their investigation fees and costs, expert/consultant fees and costs, reasonable attorneys' fees, and other costs incurred as a result of investigating and filing the lawsuit, and negotiating a resolution of this matter within thirty (30) days of the Entry Date. The payment shall be made payable to: the "Law Offices of Andrew L. Packard Attorney-Client Trust Account." and delivered by overnight carrier to:

Attn.: Law Offices of Andrew L. Packard 245 Kentucky Street, Suite B3 Petaluma, CA 94952

Failure to submit payment as required under this Paragraph will constitute breach of the Consent Decree.

33. <u>Missed Deadlines</u>. In the event that Defendant fails to submit to LA Waterkeeper any payment, document, report, or communication required by this

34. Interest on Late Payments. Defendant shall pay interest on any payments, fees, or costs owed pursuant to this Consent Decree that are not received by the due date. The interest shall accrue starting the next business day after the payment is due and shall be computed at a rate equal to the lower of: (i) 7% per year (0.583% per month); or (ii) the maximum rate permitted by applicable law. Interest shall continue to accrue daily on any outstanding balance until Defendant is current on all payments then due under this Consent Decree, and shall be paid at the same time that the payments, fees, or costs owed are paid to LA Waterkeeper. Interest on late payments shall be paid by check payable to: Think Watts Foundation and such funds shall be used for the sole purpose of funding environmentally beneficial projects, as described in Paragraph 31. Payment shall be sent via overnight mail to Think Watts Foundation at the address above.

IV. DISPUTE RESOLUTION

- 35. This Court shall retain jurisdiction over this matter for the Term for the purposes of enforcing its terms and conditions, and adjudicating all disputes among the Parties that may arise under the provisions of this Consent Decree. The Court shall have the power to enforce this Consent Decree with all available legal and equitable remedies, including contempt.
- 36. <u>Meet and Confer</u>. Either party to this Consent Decree may invoke the dispute resolution procedures of this Section IV by notifying the other party in writing of the matter(s) in dispute and of the disputing party's proposal for resolution.

The Parties shall then meet and confer in good faith (either telephonically or in person) within ten (10) days of the date of the notice in an attempt to fully resolve the dispute no later than thirty (30) days of the meet and confer.

- 37. <u>Settlement Conference</u>. If the Parties cannot resolve the dispute within thirty (30) days of the meet and confer described in Paragraph 36 the Parties agree that the dispute may be, but is not required to be, submitted for formal resolution by filing a motion before the United States District Court for the Central District of California. The Parties agree to request an expedited hearing schedule on the motion.
- 38. In resolving any dispute arising from this Consent Decree before the Court, the prevailing Party shall be entitled to seek fees and costs incurred pursuant to the provisions set forth in Section 505(d) of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1365(d), and applicable case law interpreting such provisions, or as otherwise provided for by statute and/or case law.

V. MUTUAL RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND COVENANT NOT TO SUE

- 39. Plaintiff's Waiver and Release of Defendant. In consideration of the above, upon the Effective Date of this Consent Decree, Plaintiff, on its own behalf and on behalf of its officers and directors, release Defendant, its officers, directors, managers, employees, members, parents, subsidiaries, divisions, affiliates, successors or assigns, agents, attorneys and other representatives, from and waives all claims that were raised in the 60-Day Notice Letter and/or the Complaint up to and including the Termination Date of this Consent Decree.
- 40. <u>Defendant's Waiver and Release of Plaintiff</u>. In consideration of the above, upon the Effective Date of this Consent Decree, Defendant, on its own behalf and on behalf of its officers, directors, employees, parents, subsidiaries, affiliates and each of their successors or assigns, release Plaintiff, its officers and directors, from and waives all claims related to the 60-Day Notice Letter and/or the Complaint up to and including the Termination Date of this Consent Decree.

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41. Nothing in this Consent Decree limits or otherwise affects Plaintiff's rights to address or take any position that it deems necessary or appropriate in an informal or formal proceeding before the State Board, Regional Board, EPA, or any other judicial or administrative body on any matter relating to Defendant's compliance at the Facility with the General Permit or the Clean Water Act occurring or arising after the Effective Date.

VI. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

- 42. <u>No Admission of Liability</u>. The Parties enter into this Consent Decree for the purpose of avoiding prolonged and costly litigation. Neither the Consent Decree nor any payment pursuant to the Consent Decree shall constitute or be construed as a finding, adjudication, or acknowledgement of any fact, law or liability, nor shall it be construed as an admission of violation of any law, rule, or regulation. Defendant maintains and reserves all defenses it may have to any alleged violations that may be raised in the future.
- 43. <u>Counterparts</u>. This Consent Decree may be executed in any number of counterparts, all of which together shall constitute one original document. Telecopy and/or facsimile copies of original signature shall be deemed to be originally executed counterparts of this Consent Decree.
- 44. <u>Authority</u>. The undersigned representatives for Plaintiff and Defendant each certify that s/he is fully authorized by the party whom s/he represents to enter into this Consent Decree. A Party's signature to this Consent Decree transmitted by facsimile or electronic mail shall be deemed binding.
- 45. <u>Construction</u>. The language in all parts of this Consent Decree shall be construed according to its plain and ordinary meaning, except as to those terms defined in the Permit, the Clean Water Act, or specifically herein. The captions and paragraph headings used in this Consent Decree are for reference only and shall not affect the construction of this Consent Decree.

- 46. <u>Full Settlement</u>. This Consent Decree constitutes a full and final settlement of this matter.
- 47. <u>Integration Clause</u>. This is an integrated Consent Decree. This Consent Decree is intended to be a full and complete statement of the terms of the agreement between the Parties and expressly supersedes any and all prior oral or written agreements, covenants, representations, and warranties (express or implied) concerning the subject matter of this Consent Decree.
- 48. <u>Severability</u>. In the event that any provision, paragraph, section, or sentence of this Consent Decree is held by a court to be unenforceable, the validity of the enforceable provisions shall not be adversely affected.
- 49. <u>Choice of Law</u>. The laws of the United States shall govern this Consent Decree.
- 50. <u>Diligence</u>. Defendant shall diligently file and pursue all required permit applications for any required BMPs and shall diligently procure contractors, labor, and materials needed to complete all BMPs by the required deadlines.
- 51. <u>Effect of Consent Decree</u>. Compliance with this Consent Decree does not mean that Defendant is complying with the General Permit, the Clean Water Act, or any other law, rule, or regulation.
- 52. <u>Negotiated Settlement</u>. The Settling Parties have negotiated this Consent Decree, and agree that it shall not be construed against the party preparing it, but shall be construed as if the Settling Parties jointly prepared this Consent Decree, and any uncertainty and ambiguity shall not be interpreted against any one party.
- 53. <u>Modification of the Consent Decree</u>. This Consent Decree, and any provisions herein, may not be changed, waived, discharged, or terminated unless by a written instrument, signed by the Parties and approved by the Court. Any request to modify any provision of the Consent Decree, including but not limited to any deadline(s) set forth herein, must be made in writing at least fourteen (14) days before the existing deadline(s) applicable to the provision(s) proposed to be modified.

- 55. Force Majeure. Neither of the Parties shall be considered to be in default in the performance of any of their respective obligations under this Consent Decree when performance becomes impossible due to a Force Majeure event. A Force Majeure event is any circumstance beyond a Settling Party's control, including without limitation, any act of God, war, fire, earthquake, flood, windstorm, pandemic, public health crisis, or natural catastrophe; criminal acts; civil disturbance, vandalism, sabotage, or terrorism; restraint by court order or public authority or agency; or action or non-action by, or the inability of Defendant to obtain the necessary permits, authorizations or approvals from any governmental agency. A Force Majeure event shall not include normal inclement weather, economic hardship, inability to pay, or employee negligence. Any party seeking to rely upon this Paragraph to excuse or postpone performance shall have the burden of establishing that it could not reasonably have been expected to avoid the Force Majeure event and which by exercise of due diligence has been unable to overcome the failure of performance. The Parties shall exercise due diligence to resolve and remove any Force Majeure event.
- 56. <u>Notice</u>. All notices required herein or any other correspondence pertaining to this Consent Decree shall be, the extent feasible, sent via electronic mail transmission to the e-mail address listed below, or if electronic mail is not feasible, then by certified U.S. mail with return receipt, or by hand delivery to the following addresses:

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If to Defendant: 1 If to Plaintiff: **Owens Corning** Los Angeles Waterkeeper 2 Barak Kamelgard Madeline Fleisher 3 Benjamin Harris Senior Counsel, Environmental and Madeleine Siegel Regulatory Law 4 360 E 2nd St., Suite 250 2790 Columbus Road 5 Los Angeles, CA 90012 Granville, Ohio 43023 Email: barak@lawaterkeeper.org Email: 6 Email: ben@lawaterkeeper.org madeline.fleisher@owenscorning.com 7 Email: madeleine@lawaterkeeper.org Phone: (857) 636-0371 Phone: (310) 394-6162 8 9 With copies to: With copies to: Andrew L. Packard Alan N. Bick 10 Law Offices of Andrew L. Packard Bick Law LLP 11 245 Kentucky Street, B3 520 Newport Center Dr., #750 Petaluma, CA 94952 Newport Beach, CA 92660 12 Email: andrew@packardlawoffices.com Email: abick@bicklawllp.com 13 Phone: (707) 782-4060, Ext. 1. Phone: (949) 432-3501 14 Notifications of communications shall be deemed submitted three (3) days after the 15 date that they are postmarked and sent by first-class mail, or immediately after 16 acknowledgement of receipt via email by the receiving party. Any change of address 17 or addresses shall be communicated in the manner described above for giving notices. 18 If for any reason the Federal Agencies should object to entry of this 19 57. Consent Decree or to any portion of this Consent Decree or the Court should decline 20 to approve this Consent Decree in the form presented, the Parties shall use their best 21 efforts to work together to modify the Consent Decree within thirty (30) days so that it is acceptable to the Federal Agencies or the Court. If the Parties are unable to 23 modify this Consent Decree in a mutually acceptable manner that is also acceptable

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inadmissible as a settlement communication under Federal Rule of Evidence 408 and

to the Court, this Consent Decree shall immediately be null and void as well as

California Evidence Code section 1152.

1	The Parties hereto enter into this Consent Decree and submit it to the Court for				
2	its approval and entry as a final judgment.				
3	IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned have executed this Consent Decree				
4	as of the date first set forth below.				
5	APPROVED AS TO CONTENT				
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7	Dated:, 2024 B				
8		Bruce Reznik Executive Director			
9		Los Angeles Waterkeeper			
10	# I	modelen Jeden			
11	Dated: <u>August 2</u> , 2024 B	y: Madeline Fleisher			
12		Senior Counsel, Environmental and			
13		Regulatory Law Owens Corning			
14					
15	APPROVED AS TO FORM				
16		AW OFFICES OF ANDREW L. ACKARD			
17					
18	Dated: Aux+Z, 2024 B				
19	Dated:	Andrew L. Packard			
20		Attorney for Plaintiff Los Angeles Waterkeeper			
21		265			
22		BICK LAW LLP			
23					
24		By: Al. R. Sicc			
25	Dated: <u>August 2</u> , 2024	By: Alan N. Bick			
26		Attorney for Defendant			
27		Owens Corning			

IT IS SO ORDERED. FINAL JUDGMENT Upon approval and entry of this Consent Decree by the Court, this Consent Decree shall constitute a final judgment between the Plaintiff and Defendant. JOSEPHINE L. STATON DATED: September 24, 2024 HON. JOSEPHINE L. STATON UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE





