USA v. Sterling Centrecorp Inc. et al

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1	PATRICIA L. HURST (DC Bar No. 438882)
2	PETER KRZYWICKI (MI Bar No. P75723) DAVIS FORSYTHE (MA Bar No. 667115)
3	Environmental Enforcement Section
4	Environment & Natural Resources Division U.S. Department of Justice
	999 18th Street, South Terrace Suite 370 Denver, CO 80202
5	Telephone: (303) 844-1391
6	Facsimile: (303) 844-1350 patricia.hurst@usdoj.gov
7	peter.krzywicki@usdoj.gov
8	davis.forsythe@usdoj.gov
9	ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
10	
11	XAVIER BECERRA (State Bar No. 118517)
12	Attorney General of California TIMOTHY R. PATTERSON (State Bar No. 72209)
13	Supervising Deputy Attorney General JOHN W. EVERETT (State Bar No. 259481)
14	Deputy Attorney General
15	600 West Broadway, Suite 1800 San Diego, CA 92101
16	P.O. Box 85266
17	San Diego, CA 92186-5266 Telephone: (619) 738-9305
18	Fax: (619) 645-2271
19	E-mail: John.Everett@doj.ca.gov
20	ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF
21	CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TOXIC SUBSTANCES CONTROL
	GARY J. SMITH (State Bar No. 141393)
22	GSmith@bdlaw.com
23	KAITLYN D. SHANNON (State Bar No. 296735) KShannon@bdlaw.com
24	BEVERIDGE & DIAMOND, P.C.
25	456 Montgomery Street, Suite 1800 San Francisco, CA 94104-1251
26	Telephone: (415) 262-4000
27	Facsimile: (415) 262-4040
28	ATTORNEYS FOR DEFENDANT STERLING CENTRECORP, INC.
	JOINT STIPULATION AND ORDER RE: EXTENSION FOR REPLY BRIEFS AND HEARING ON MOTION FOR ENFORCEMENT COSTS

United States et al. v. Sterling Centrecorp Inc. et al., No. 2:08-CV-02556-MCE-DB

WHEREAS, on March 25, 2009, the Court entered the Bifurcation Order (ECF No. 26) separating the discovery and trial of defendants' liability ("Phase I") from the discovery and trial on Plaintiffs' entitlement to response costs ("Phase II");

WHEREAS, only the enforcement costs portion of Plaintiffs United States of America and California Department of Toxic Substances Control ("Plaintiffs") response costs remains unresolved;

WHEREAS, Plaintiffs' filed separate Motions for Enforcement Costs on February 21, 2017 (ECF Nos. 304 and 305), and Sterling filed its Opposition to those motions on April 21, 2017 (ECF No. 307);

WHEREAS, by stipulation and order of this Court, the deadline for Plaintiffs' to file a Reply to Sterling's Opposition is currently set for July 17, 2017, and the hearing on Plaintiffs' Motions for Enforcement Costs is currently set for July 27, 2017 (ECF No. 314);

WHEREAS, Plaintiffs served their Requests for Production (Phase II – Enforcement Costs) and Interrogatories (Phase II – Enforcement Costs) on cost-related matters on May 3, 2017, and Sterling served its Responses on June 2, 2017;

WHEREAS, Plaintiffs have reviewed Sterling's Responses and intend to file a Motion to Compel with regard to certain of the Responses, and whereas the Parties met and conferred on June 5, 2017 pursuant to Local Rule 251 but were unable to resolve their disagreement as to the intended Motion to Compel;

WHEREAS, Plaintiffs intend to proceed with their Motion to Compel, and the Parties are currently drafting a Joint Statement re Discovery Dispute pursuant to Local Rule 251, which they intend to complete in time for Plaintiffs to timely file their Motion to Compel for a hearing by Magistrate Barnes on July 14, 2017, or as soon thereafter as she may be available to hear the matter; and

WHEREAS, judicial economy and the interests of the Parties will be best served if Plaintiffs' Reply briefing is due and the hearing on Plaintiffs' Motions for Enforcement Costs is held after the Motion to Compel is resolved;

IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED BY AND BETWEEN PLAINTIFFS AND STERLING, BY AND THROUGH THEIR UNDERSIGNED COUNSEL, THAT:

Plaintiffs separate or joint reply briefs in support of their respective Motions for Enforcement Costs shall be due on the later of: a) July 17, 2017; b) 10 days after the Court has ruled on the Motion to Compel (if the Motion to Compel is denied); or c) 10 days after Sterling has supplemented its discovery responses and/or produced all additional documents as directed by the Court (if the Motion to Compel is granted in whole or in part); and

The hearing on Plaintiffs' Motions for Enforcement Costs shall be continued to August 31, 2017. The Parties shall petition the Court to further continue this hearing if it appears likely that Plaintiffs' reply brief(s) in support of their respective Motions for Enforcement Costs would be due less than seven days before the scheduled hearing date.

Respectfully submitted,

FOR THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

/s/ Davis H. Forsythe
DAVIS H. FORSYTHE
Trial Attorney
Environmental Enforcement Section
Environment and Natural Resources Division
U.S. Department of Justice

Attorney for Plaintiff United States of America

FOR THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TOXIC SUBSTANCES CONTROL:

/s/ John W. Everett JOHN W. EVERETT Deputy Attorney General

Attorney for Plaintiff
California Department of Toxic Substances Control

FOR STERLING CENTRECORP, INC.:

/s/ Kaitlyn D. Shannon GARY J. SMITH KAITLYN D. SHANNON BEVERIDGE & DIAMOND, P.C.

Attorneys for Defendant Sterling Centrecorp, Inc.¹

ORDER

In accordance with the foregoing stipulation, and good cause appearing, the deadline for the Plaintiffs' separate or joint reply briefs in support of their respective Motions for Enforcement Costs shall be due on the later of: a) July 17, 2017; b) 10 days after the Court has ruled on the Motion to Compel (if the Motion to Compel is denied); or c) 10 days after Sterling has supplemented its discovery responses and/or produced all additional documents as directed by the Court (if the Motion to Compel is granted in whole or in part. In addition, because the August 31, 2017 hearing date requested in the stipulation is unavailable on the Court's calendar, after conferring with counsel the date for the hearing on the Motions for Enforcement Costs shall be September 29, 2017 at 2:00 p.m. in Courtroom No. 7.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: June 23, 2017

MORRISON C. ENGLAND, JR UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

¹ Counsel for Defendant Sterling Centrecorp, Inc. has authorized counsel for the United States to electronically sign and file this Joint Stipulation on its behalf. Counsel for the United States will retain documents evidencing this authorization.