SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT AND RELEASE

This SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT AND RELEASE (hereinafter "Agreement") is entered into between the STATE OF CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD (hereinafter "ARB") 1001 I Street, Sacramento, California 95814, and VILLEN TRUCKING (hereinafter "VILLEN"), 1156 Shaylene Court, Yuba City, California 95993.

I. RECITALS

(1) California Health and Safety Code section 44011.6 (HSC § 44011.6) established the Heavy Duty Vehicle Inspection Program (HDVIP). It authorizes ARB to inspect on-road heavy-duty vehicles for excessive smoke emissions and engine tampering and to issue citations, accordingly. The program also requires the vehicle owner to repair its engines that exceed the prescribed ARB smoke opacity standards, perform a post-repair opacity test, and submit proof of repairs and any assessed penalties under the Regulations of the Heavy-Duty Smoke Inspection Program, chapter 3.5, California Code of Regulations, title 13, sections 2180-2188 (13 CCR §§ 2180-2188).

(2) HSC § 43701 provides that ARB shall adopt regulations that require owners or operators of heavy-duty diesel motor vehicles to perform regular inspections of their vehicles for excessive smoke emissions.

(3) 13 CCR § 2190 *et seq.* were adopted under the authority of HSC § 43701 and, with limited exceptions, which are not applicable here, apply to all heavy-duty diesel powered vehicles with gross vehicle weight ratings greater than 6,000 pounds that operate on the streets or highways within the State of California.

(4) 13 CCR § 2190 *et seq.* authorize the Periodic Smoke Inspection Program (PSIP) which requires the owners and operators of California based vehicle fleets of two or more heavy duty diesel motor vehicles with gross vehicle weight ratings greater than 6,000 pounds that operate on the streets or highways within the State of California to conduct annual smoke opacity inspections of their vehicles equipped with engines that are four years and older.

(5) 13 CCR § 2192(a) requires inter alia that the owner of the vehicle "[t]est the vehicle for excessive smoke emissions periodically according to the inspection intervals specified in section 2193(a), (b), and (c)", "[m]easure the smoke emissions for each test…", "[r]ecord the smoke test opacity levels and other required test information as specified in section 2194…" and "[k]eep the records specified in section 2194 for two years after the date of inspection."

(6) HSC § 43016 states, "Any person who violates any provision of this part, or any order, rule, or regulation of the state board adopted pursuant to this part, and for which there is not provided in this part any other specific civil penalty or fine, shall

be subject to a civil penalty of not to exceed five hundred dollars ($500.00) per vehicle."

(7) ARB considers testing, measuring, recording, and recordkeeping to be critical components in reducing excessive smoke emissions from these heavy-duty vehicles.

(8) Health and Safety Code, Sections 39650-39675 (HSC §§ 39650-39675) mandates the reduction of the emissions of substances that have been determined to be toxic air contaminants (TACs). In 1998, following an exhaustive 10-year scientific assessment process, the Air Resources Board identified particulate matter (PM) from diesel-fueled engines as a toxic air contaminant. In-use On-Road diesel vehicles are powered by diesel fueled engines that emit toxic particulate matter. On-Road vehicles are controlled under section 13 CCR § 2025.

(9) 13 CCR § 2025(r) sets forth the requirements for reporting all vehicles with engines subject to the regulation if the owner of a fleet has elected to utilize the compliance options of section 2025(f)(4), 2025(g)(3), 2025(g)(4), 2025(h), 2025(i), the credits of section 2025(j), and the agricultural provisions of section 2025(m), single-engine and two-engine street sweeper provisions of section 2025(n), extension or exemptions for vehicles used exclusively in NOx exempt areas of section 2025(p)(1), and the extension for low-mileage construction trucks of section 2025(p)(2).

(10) VILLEN has elected to utilize the compliance options/credits/provisions of 13 CCR § 2025(h).

(11) Failure to comply with the requirements of 13 CCR § 2025 is a violation of state law resulting in penalties. California HSC sections 39674(a) and (b) authorize civil penalties for the violation of the programs for the regulation of toxic air contaminants not to exceed one thousand dollars ($1,000) or ten thousand dollars ($10,000), respectively, for each day in which the violation occurs.

(12) 13 CCR § 2025(e)(8) states: "All information specified in section 2025(r) must be reported to the Executive Officer.

(13) ARB has documented that VILLEN has failed to timely report all required information for all vehicles in the fleet for which the owner has elected to utilize the compliance options/credits/provisions of 13 CCR § 2025(h).

(14) In order to resolve these alleged violations, VILLEN has taken, or agreed to take, the actions enumerated below under "RELEASE". Further, ARB accepts this Agreement in termination and settlement of this matter.

(15) In consideration of the foregoing, and of the promises and facts set forth herein,

the parties desire to settle and resolve all claims, disputes, and obligations relating to the above-listed violations, and voluntarily agree to resolve this matter by means of this Agreement. Specifically, ARB and VILLEN agree as follows:

II. TERMS AND RELEASE

In consideration of ARB not filing a legal action against VILLEN for the alleged violations referred to above, and VILLEN's payment of the penalties set forth in Section 1 below, ARB and VILLEN agree as follows:

(1) Upon execution of this Agreement, the sum of three hundred seventy five dollars ($375.00) shall be paid on behalf of VILLEN no later than **October 3, 2014**, as follows:

- **$282.00** to the **Air Pollution Control Fund**
- **$ 93.00** to the **Peralta Colleges Foundation**

Please submit the signed Settlement Agreement no later than October 3, 2014 to:

Ms. Wendy Maienknecht
Air Resources Engineer
California Air Resources Board
Enforcement Division
P.O. Box 2815
Sacramento, CA 95812

And please submit payment along with the attached Payment Transmittal Form (Attachment A) no later than October 3, 2014 to:

California Air Resources Board
Accounting Office
P.O. Box 1436
Sacramento, CA 95812

(2) If the Attorney General files a civil action to enforce this settlement agreement, VILLEN shall pay all costs of investigating and prosecuting the action, including expert fees, reasonable attorney's costs, and costs.

(3) VILLEN shall not violate HSC §§ 43701 *et seq.*, 44011.6 *et seq.*, and 13 CCR §§ 2180 *et seq.*, 2190 *et seq.*, and 2485 *et seq.*

(4) VILLEN shall comply with one or both of the following options to attend the CCDET II class (Diesel Exhaust After Treatment and Maintenance), described on the ARB's webpage http://www.arb.ca.gov/enf/hdvip/ccdet/ccdet.htm. This class

is conducted by various California Community Colleges and instructs attendees on California's emission regulations and the proper care and maintenance of diesel exhaust after-treatment systems (DEATS).

(a) VILLEN shall have the fleet maintenance manager (or equivalent) and all staff responsible for maintenance of DEATS attend the CCDET II class. Proof of CCDET II completion shall be provided to ARB within six months of the date of this Agreement and also be maintained in each applicable employee's file for the term of his or her employment.

(b) In case VILLEN uses a contractor for the maintenance of DEATS, in addition to having the fleet maintenance manager (or equivalent) attend the CCDET II course, VILLEN shall obtain proof that the contractor's staff maintaining the DEATS device(s) completed the CCDET II course within the last four years. This proof of the CCDET II completion shall be provided by VILLEN to Ms. Wendy Maienknecht at the California Air Resources Board, Enforcement Division, P.O. Box 2815, Sacramento, CA 95812, within six months of the date of this settlement and shall also be maintained with the DEATS installation and maintenance records.

(5) Each 1974 or newer diesel powered heavy-duty vehicle in VILLEN's fleet shall remain in compliance with the ECL regulation as codified in 13 CCR § 2183.

(6) VILLEN shall instruct all employees who operate diesel-fueled vehicles to comply with the idling regulations set forth in 13 CCR § 2485.

(7) VILLEN shall not violate the Truck & Bus regulation as codified in 13 CCR § 2025 *et seq.*

(8) This Agreement shall apply to and be binding upon VILLEN, and its officers, directors, receivers, trustees, employees, successors and assignees, subsidiary and parent corporations and upon ARB and any successor agency that may have responsibility for and jurisdiction over the subject matter of this Agreement.

(9) This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement and understanding between ARB and VILLEN concerning the subject matter hereof, and supersedes and replaces all prior negotiations and agreements between ARB and VILLEN concerning the subject matter hereof.

(10) No agreement to modify, amend, extend, supersede, terminate, or discharge this Agreement, or any portion thereof, is valid or enforceable unless it is in writing and signed by all parties to this Agreement.

(11) Severability. Each provision of this Agreement is severable, and in the event that any provision of this Agreement is held to be invalid or unenforceable, the remainder of this Agreement remains in full force and effect.

(12) This Agreement shall be interpreted and enforced in accordance with the laws of the State of California, without regard to California's choice-of-law rules.

(13) This Agreement is deemed to have been drafted equally by the Parties; it will not be interpreted for or against either party on the ground that said party drafted it.

(14) Senate Bill 1402 (Dutton, Chapter 413, statutes of 2010) requires ARB to provide information on the basis for the penalties it seeks (HSC § 39619.7). This information, which is provided throughout this settlement agreement, is summarized here:

The manner in which the penalty amount was determined, including a per unit or per vehicle penalty.

Penalties must be set at levels sufficient to discourage violations. The penalties in this matter were determined in consideration of all relevant circumstances, including the eight factors specified in HSC §§42403 and 43024.

Truck and Bus Violations

The per unit penalty for the Truck and Bus violations involved in this case is a maximum of $1,000 per vehicle per day for strict liability violations or $10,000 per vehicle per day for negligent or intentional violations.

The penalty obtained for the Truck and Bus violations involved in this case for failure to timely report all required information for all vehicles in the fleet is $375 for one vehicle reported after the deadline, or $375 per vehicle, per violation.

The penalty was discounted based on the fact that this was a first time violation and the violator made diligent efforts to comply and to cooperate with the investigation.

The provision of law the penalty is being assessed under and why that provision is most appropriate for that violation.

Truck and Bus Violations

The penalty provision being applied for the Truck and Bus regulation (title 13 CCR, section 2025) violations in this case is HSC section 39674 because the Truck and Bus regulation is a Toxic Air Contaminant Control Measure adopted pursuant to authority contained in HSC section 39002 et seq., 39650-39675 and because VILLEN failed to timely report all required information for all vehicles in the fleet for which they have elected to utilize compliance options/credits/provisions as required in title 13 CCR, section 2025(r).

Is the penalty being assessed under a provision of law that prohibits the emission of pollution at a specified level, and, if so a quantification of excess emissions, if it is practicable to do so.

Truck and Bus Violations

The provisions cited above do not prohibit emissions above a specified level of g/hp-hr.

(15) VILLEN acknowledges that ARB has complied with Senate Bill 1402 in prosecuting or settling this case. Specifically, ARB has considered all relevant facts, including those listed at HSC § 43024, has explained the manner in which the penalty amount was calculated, has identified the provision of law under which the penalty is being assessed and has considered and determined that this penalty is being assessed under a provision of law that prohibits the emission of pollutants at a specified level.

(16) Penalties were determined based on the unique circumstances of this matter, considered together with the need to remove any economic benefit from noncompliance, the goal of deterring future violations and obtaining swift compliance, the consideration of past penalties in similar cases, and the potential costs and risk associated with litigating these particular violations. Penalties in future cases might be smaller or larger on a per unit basis.

(17) The penalty was based on confidential settlement communications between ARB and VILLEN that ARB does not retain in the ordinary course of business. The penalty is the product of an arms length negotiation between ARB and VILLEN and reflects ARB's assessment of the relative strength of its case against VILLEN, the desire to avoid the uncertainty, burden and expense of litigation, obtain swift compliance with the law and remove any unfair advantage that VILLEN may have secured from its actions.

(18) Now therefore, in consideration of the payment on behalf of VILLEN to the Air Pollution Control Fund and the Peralta Colleges Foundation, ARB hereby releases VILLEN and their principals, officers, agents, predecessors and successors from any and all claims, ARB may have or have in the future based on the circumstances described in paragraph (1) through (13) of the Recitals. The undersigned represent that they have the authority to enter into this Agreement

California Air Resources Board

Signature: _____

Print Name: James Ryden

Title: Chief, Enforcement Division

Date: 9/30/14

VILLEN TRUCKING

Signature: Gurdup Singh

Print Name: GURDEEP SINGH

Title: OWNER

Date: 9/16/14