

2001, Detroit, Michigan 48266 (contact Peter A. Caplan, (313) 226-3800), and at the offices of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5, 77 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois 60604-3590 (contact Gaylene Vasaturo, (312) 886-1811). Copies may also be obtained by mail from the Department of Justice Consent Decree Library, P.O. Box 7611, Washington, DC 20044-7611. In requesting copies, please refer to the case name and DOJ reference number and enclose a check in the amount of \$11.25 (25 cents per page reproduction cost) payable to the Consent Decree Library.

William D. Brighton,

Assistant Chief, Environmental Enforcement Section, Environment and Natural Resources Division.

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Notice of Lodging of Consent Decree Pursuant to the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act ("CERCLA")

Notice is hereby given that a proposed consent decree in *United States v. Royal Recovery Systems, Inc. and Elliot Packer*, Civ. No. 02-1148 (WGB), was lodged on March 21, 2002 with the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey. The Consent Decree concerns hazardous waste contamination at the Royal Recovery Systems, Inc. Superfund Site (the "Site"), located in Newark, Essex County, New Jersey. The Consent Decree, which takes into account the Settling Defendants' limited ability to pay, would resolve the liability of Elliot Packer and Royal Recovery Systems, Inc. against whom the United States filed a complaint on behalf of the United States Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") for reimbursement of past response costs incurred by the United States in connection with the Site. EPA incurred approximately \$342,000 in past response costs relating to this Site. Under the terms of the Consent Decree, the Settling Defendants would be obligated to pay the United States \$70,000 plus interest. In addition to this amount, Defendant Packer may be required to pay the United States an additional sum of up to \$40,000 in three years.

The Department of Justice will receive, for a period of thirty (30) days from the date of this publication, comments relating to the proposed consent decree. Comments should be

addressed to the Assistant Attorney General, Environment and Natural Resources Division, P.O. Box 7611, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC 20044-7611, and should refer to *United States v. Royal Recovery Systems, et al.*, DOJ Ref. #90-11-3-06154.

The proposed consent decree may be examined at the office of the United States Attorney for the District of New Jersey, 502 Federal Building, 970 Broad Street (contact Assistant United States Attorney Susan Cassell); and the Region II Office of the Environmental Protection Agency, 290 Broadway, New York, New York 10007-1866 (contact Assistant Regional Counsel, Muthu Sundram). A copy of the proposed consent decree may be obtained by mail from the Consent Decree Library, P.O. Box 7611, Washington, DC 20044-7611 or by faxing a request to Tonia Fleetwood, fax no. (202) 514-0097, phone confirmation number (202) 514-1547. In requesting a copy please refer to the referenced case and enclose a check in the amount of \$6.00 (25 cents per page reproduction costs) for the Consent Decree, payable to the U.S. Treasury.

Ronald Gluck,

Assistant Section Chief, Environmental Enforcement Section, Environment and Natural Resources Division.

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Guidance to Federal Financial Assistance Recipients Regarding Title VI Prohibition Against National Origin Discrimination Affecting Limited English Proficient Persons

AGENCY: Department of Justice.

ACTION: Policy guidance document.

SUMMARY: The United States Department of Justice (DOJ) is publishing for public comment policy guidance on Title VI's prohibition against national origin discrimination as it affects limited English proficient persons. This policy guidance is intended to supplant the policy guidance published January 19, 2001.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before May 20, 2002. DOJ will review all comments and will determine what modifications, if any, to this policy guidance are necessary.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons should submit written comments to Ms. Merrily Friedlander, Chief, Coordination and Review Section, Civil Rights Division, Department of Justice, 950 Pennsylvania

Avenue, NW-NYA, Washington, DC 20530; Comments may also be submitted by facsimile at 202-307-0595.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Christine Stoneman or Sebastian Aloat at the Civil Rights Division, 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW-NYA, Washington, DC 20530. Telephone 202-307-2222; TDD: 202-307-2678.

Arrangements to receive the policy in an alternative format may be made by contacting the named individuals.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of this policy guidance is to further clarify the responsibilities of recipients of federal financial assistance from the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) ("recipients"), and assist them in fulfilling their responsibilities to limited English proficient (LEP) persons, pursuant to DOJ regulations implementing Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. The policy guidance explains that to avoid discrimination against LEP persons on the ground of national origin, recipients must take reasonable steps to ensure that LEP persons have meaningful access to the programs, services, and information those recipients provide, free of charge.

Guidance on recipients' obligations to take reasonable steps to ensure access to programs and activities by persons with limited English proficiency was originally published on January 16, 2001 and became effective immediately. See 66 FR 3834. That document, like the following guidance, was based on policy guidance issued by the Department of Justice entitled "Enforcement of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964—National Origin Discrimination Against Persons with Limited English Proficiency." 65 FR 50123 (August 16, 2000).

On January 18, 2002, the January 16, 2001 guidance document was republished for additional public comment. See 67 FR 2671. Over 75 comments were received, and the following guidance was developed after review and consideration of those comments. Prior comments on the original guidance need not be re-submitted.

On March 14, 2002, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) issued a Report To Congress titled "Assessment of the Total Benefits and Costs of Implementing Executive Order No. 13166: Improving Access to Services for Persons with Limited English Proficiency." The Report made several recommendations designed to minimize confusion and ensure that funds dedicated to LEP services best advance meaningful access for LEP individuals.