

**ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT  
DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

**LIS: 23- 029  
AFIN: 53-00083  
Facility ID: 53001505**

**KANG INVESTMENT GROUP, LLC  
d/b/a WILLIAM JUNCTION, and  
GURIGUBAL SINGH, Individually  
3151 HIGHWAY 10 East  
Perryville, AR 72126**

**Registered Agent  
GURIGUBAL SINGH  
23724 HIGHWAY 10  
LITTLE ROCK, AR 72223**

**DATE: April 19, 2023**

**EMERGENCY ORDER OF THE DIRECTOR**

**TO: GURIGUBAL SINGH  
KANG INVESTMENT GROUP, LLC  
d/b/a WILLIAM JUNCTION  
3151 HIGHWAY 10 East  
Perryville, AR 72126  
Williamjunction3151@gmail.com**

The Director of the Arkansas Department of Energy and Environment, Division of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has determined that emergency conditions exist as a result of a release of a regulated substance and that said release presents an imminent hazard and an emergency requiring immediate action to protect the public health, safety, and welfare, and the environment.

Pursuant to authority provided by Ark. Code Ann. §§ 8-1-202(b)(3), 8-7-809, and 8-4-220, and the rules promulgated thereunder; and the Arkansas Water and Air Pollution Control Act as set forth in Ark. Code Ann. § 8-4-101 *et seq.* and the rules promulgated thereunder, the Director makes the following Findings of Fact and orders the following actions to be taken immediately to remedy the emergency conditions:

## **FINDINGS OF FACT**

1. Kang Investment Group, LLC owns the property located at 3151 Highway 10 East, near Perryville, Perry County, Arkansas. This location is operated by Kang Investment Group, LLC under the fictitious name "William Junction." Colloquially the location is referred to as the Williams Junction Grocery.
2. Gurigubal Singh is identified as the registered agent and Incorporator/Organizer of Kang Investment Group, LLC.
3. The Williams Junction Grocery has a service station that sells fuel from pumps. The gasoline is stored in Aboveground Storage Tanks (ASTs) that are connected to the pumps through underground pipes.
4. Gurigubal Singh is the individual responsible for operating the Williams Junction Grocery and has ultimate control over the ASTs at that location.
5. Kang Investment Group, LLC and Gurigubal Singh are responsible parties (RP) for these ASTs and the connected pumps that dispense fuel.
6. On April 12, 2023, Arkansas Testing Services reported to DEQ's Office of Land Resources (OLR) that the Williams Junction Grocery, located at 3151 Highway 10 East near Perryville, had inventory discrepancies in its gasoline fuel. Arkansas Testing Services tested the line servicing the pump for Unleaded 87E gasoline, and that line failed this test. Arkansas Testing Services capped this line off from the ASTs used to store the gasoline.
7. On April 18, 2023, Arkansas Petroleum contacted OLR and reported that Williams Junction Grocery informed Arkansas Petroleum that Williams Junction Grocery was losing gasoline from its ASTs, and that Arkansas Testing had confirmed a line had failed its test. Arkansas Petroleum also reported that Williams Junction Grocery informed Arkansas Petroleum that close to 5,000 gallons had been lost, and Williams Junction Grocery had notified DEQ.
8. On April 18, 2023, Arkansas Petroleum reported to OLR that fresh product was observed in the ground near the outhouse of the Williams Junction Grocery building. Arkansas Petroleum proceeded to rope off the area. At that time, Arkansas Petroleum reported that fuel was not observed coming out of the hill that is down gradient (south) from the facility.
9. On April 18, 2023, OLR provided the Arkansas Department of Energy and Environment, Emergency Response Section (Emergency Response) with the name and contact information for the responsible party: Gurigubal Singh.
10. On April 18, 2023, Emergency Response requested an immediate response to this release of gasoline. Emergency Response also provided Gurigubal Singh with a list of contractors who have previously handled this type of response.

11. On April 18, 2023, Emergency Response contacted Gurigubal Singh. Gurigubal Singh stated that he had been in consultation with Pollution Management, Inc. (PMI) with the intent of hiring them to manage this incident. Gurigubal Singh stated that he would provide updates as necessary.
12. On April 19, 2023, Jarrod Zweifel, PG, Associate Director, OLR spoke to Gurigubal Singh. In that conversation, Gurigubal Singh indicated that he could not afford to hire a contractor to respond to the release of gasoline to the environment.
13. On April 19, 2023, Associate Director Jarrod Zweifel sent an email to Gurigubal Singh confirming Gurigubal Singh's statement that Gurigubal Singh could not afford to hire a contractor to respond to the release of gasoline to the environment. In that email, Associate Director Jarrod Zweifel stated that DEQ had evidence that corrective actions and remediation are needed both on- and off-site to address the release of gasoline. Associate Director Jarrod Zweifel requested that Gurigubal Singh take the following actions:
  1. Empty the tanks and lines until Singh can confirm the fuel system is operational according to applicable standards.
  2. Provide a brief statement as soon as possible that reflects Singh's intention to hire an environmental contractor to respond to this release immediately to protect the waters of the state.
14. On April 19, 2023, Gurigubal Singh replied to the email from Associate Director Jarrod Zweifel and stated, "I am the new owner of Williams Junction Market. We have realized all that has happened and we are taking action but regarding the financial aspect, we will not be able to afford this."
15. On April 19, 2023, DEQ observed gasoline in the ditch near the Williams Junction Grocery and in an interceptor trench near the ASTs. The gasoline is migrating down gradient from the ASTs towards waters of the State of Arkansas. Emergency Response placed absorbent booms in the ditch near the Williams Junction Grocery.

Based on the facts and nature of this situation, the Director determines that an emergency exists and issues this Emergency Order pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. §§ 8-1-202(b)(3), 8-7-809, and 8-4-220; and the Arkansas Water and Air Pollution Control Act as set forth in Ark. Code Ann. § 8-4-101 et seq.

#### **ORDER OF THE DIRECTOR**

The Director, on April 20, 2023, ordered the following actions be taken:

1. Immediate cessation of operation of the ASTs and pump system at the Williams Junction Grocery located at 3151 Highway 10 East near Perryville in Perry County, Arkansas.
2. The RP shall immediately initiate the corrective actions necessary to protect the environment from the release of gasoline from the ASTs and pump system at the Williams

Junction Grocery, including without limitation, removal of all existing product from the ASTs and the connected pump system.

3. Because the RP stated that the RP does not have the financial ability to adequately respond to the release of gasoline from the RP's ASTs, DEQ shall take immediate corrective action to protect the public health, welfare, and the environment by removing the petroleum contamination coming from the ASTs and pump system at the Williams Junction Grocery as quickly as possible to eliminate further migration of fuel into waters of the State of Arkansas, and corrective action to remove fuel that has entered waters of the State of Arkansas.
4. To prevent endangerment to public health, safety, and welfare and to the environment, DEQ shall take necessary actions to include hiring and paying for personnel and equipment to properly abate the endangerments with the costs being billed to the RP along with applicable charges as allowed by law, in accordance with Ark. Code Ann. § 8-7-801 et seq., § 8-7-901 et seq., and § 8-4-101 et seq.

Nothing in this Order shall limit the rights of DEQ to issue further orders to pursue any further enforcement actions for remediation, penalties, and costs from any party.

This Order is effective immediately upon issuance and is confirmed by the signature of the Director.

DATED THIS 20th DAY of APRIL, 2023



Caleb J. Osborne, DEQ Director