THE STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF KANSAS

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Before Commissioners:	Susan K. Duffy, Chair
	Shari Feist Albrecht
	Dwight D. Keen

In the Matter of the Investigation of **Rebecca Veith, d/b/a RNR Farms of Lenapah, OK**, Regarding the Violation of the Motor Carrier Safety Statutes, Rules and Regulations and the Commission's Authority to Impose Penalties, Sanctions and/or the Revocation of Motor Carrier Authority.

Docket No. 20-TRAM-338-PEN

ORDER AMENDING PENALTY ASSESSMENT

The above-captioned matter comes before the State Corporation Commission of the State of Kansas (Commission) for consideration. Having examined its files and records, and being duly advised in the premises, the Commission finds and concludes as follows:

BACKGROUND

1. On February 13, 2020, this Commission issued a Penalty Order to Rebecca Veith, d/b/a RNR Farms (hereinafter RNR Farms), assessing it a civil penalty of \$2,400. The penalty was for five (5) violation(s) of Kansas law that governs motor carriers, including various provisions of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (FMCSRs), as adopted by the Kansas Administrative Regulations.

2. RNR Farms was advised that it was a New Entrant motor carrier being reviewed for the first time, and may be eligible for a reduced penalty of fifty-percent (50%), as long as it complies with the terms and obligations described in the Reduced Penalty Agreement.

3. On February 26, 2020, Staff filed a Motion for Order Amending Penalty Assessment, recommending the Commission assess RNR Farms a fifty-percent (50%) reduced penalty of \$1,200, and set out specific terms and obligations.

4. Staff states that on February 25, 2020, RNR Farms timely submitted the signed Reduced Penalty Agreement. A copy of the Reduced Penalty Agreement was attached to Staff's Motion. The carrier further submitted a Corrective Action Plan (CAP), which has been approved by Transportation Staff.

FINDINGS OF FACT

5. The Penalty Order issued on February 13, 2020, assessed RNR Farms a civil penalty of \$2,400 for five (5) violation(s) of the motor carrier safety statutes, rules and regulations.

6. Staff recommended in its Motion that due to RNR Farms' agreement to comply with the terms and obligations for a fifty-percent (50%) reduced penalty and approval of its CAP, an Order Amending Penalty Assessment is recommended to be issued by the Commission assessing RNR Farms a reduced penalty of \$1,200, and setting out the terms and obligations as stated in its motion.

7. K.S.A. 66-1,142c authorizes the Commission to determine the amount of civil penalty and states in pertinent part:

"Any civil penalty may be compromised by the state corporation commission. In determining the amount of the penalty or the amount agreed in compromise, the appropriateness of the penalty to the size of the business, the gravity of the violation and the good faith of the person charged in attempting to achieve compliance, shall be considered."

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IT IS, THEREFORE, BY THE COMMISSION ORDERED THAT:

A. The civil penalty of \$2,400 assessed to Rebecca Veith, d/b/a RNR Farms in the Penalty Order dated February 13, 2020, is hereby amended to \$1,200.

B. Payment of \$1,200 is due within thirty (30) days from the date of service of this Order Amending Penalty Assessment. Payment must be made through your personal account with the Kansas Corporation Commission's KTRAN system located at <u>https://puc.kcc.ks.gov/ktran/</u>. You must have an account with KTRAN to pay the penalty owed.

C. RNR Farms is ordered to, within thirty (30) days from the date of the Penalty Order dated February 13, 2020, send an individual responsible for safety compliance to attend a Commission-sponsored safety seminar, and submit proof of attendance to Litigation Counsel.

D. RNR Farms must submit to a follow-up compliance review within eighteen (18) months from the date of the Penalty Order. Transportation Staff will contact RNR Farms to schedule the review.

E. If RNR Farms fails to pay the reduced fine of \$1,200 and/or fails to comply with the terms and conditions ordered above, the Commission may order RNR Farms additional sanctions, including enforcement of an out-of-service order, revoking its authority or any further sanctions as the Commission deems necessary.

F. The Commission retains jurisdiction over the subject matter and the parties for the purpose of entering such further orders as it may deem necessary and proper.

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BY THE COMMISSION IT IS SO ORDERED.

Duffy, Chair; Albrecht, Commissioner; Keen, Commissioner

Dated: _____

Lynn M. Ref

Lynn M. Retz Executive Director

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

20-TRAM-338-PEN

I, the undersigned, certify that a true copy of the attached Order has been served to the following by means of

first class mail/hand delivered on _____

AHSAN LATIF, LITIGATION COUNSEL KANSAS CORPORATION COMMISSION 1500 SW ARROWHEAD RD TOPEKA, KS 66604 Fax: 785-271-3354 a.latif@kcc.ks.gov RANDY BARKER, CO-OWNER REBECCA VEITH D/B/A RNR FARMS HC61BOX 22 LENAPAH, OK 74042

/S/ DeeAnn Shupe DeeAnn Shupe