The proof of the contraction of)	
JOHN C. BROOKS, COMMISSIONER)	
OF LABOR OF NORTH CAROLINA,		
)	89 DOL 0009
Complainant,		
Complantario,	,	6-14-89
	.)	0 11 00
v.)	5 10 10 00
)	Review 10-18-89
ALEX SHUGART,		
TIBBIT SITE SEETS,	í	₩
)	
)	
Respondent.)	
)	

APPEARANCES

Complainant:

Richard A. Love

Assistant Attorney General

Respondent:

Alex Shugart

BEFORE Senior Administrative Law Judge: Beecher R. Gray

This case was heard before Beecher R. Gray, administrative law judge, on March 17, 1989 in Yadkinville, North Carolina. This hearing was expedited upon joint request of the parties. Both parties waived the 15 day notice of hearing. At the conclusion of the hearing the parties asked and received additional time to file proposed findings of fact and written arguments under G.S. 150B-34(b). Respondent filed a proposed recommended decision and memorandum of law on May 19, 1989.

ISSUES

- 1. Whether [Respondent] failed to provide an adequate and convenient water supply approved by the appropriate health authority for drinking, cooking, bathing, and laundry purposes at a house owned by [Respondent] and inhabited by migrant workers on State Road 1374 in Yadkin County on September 7, 1988.
- 2. Whether [Respondent] failed to maintain fly and rodent-tight garbage containers because the containers present did not have tight fitting lids at a house owned by [Respondent] and inhabited by migrant workers on State Road 1374 in Yadkin County on September 7, 1988.

- 1. [Co responsible occupation North Cartional Saf
- 2. [R€ North Ca Carolina
- 3. [R Yadkin C agricultu located (
- 4. Or an agen conduct workers
- 5. O three (E workers
- 6. A [Respo could n Yadkin Depart cal and hand cagricul
- 7. drum Augus its lid previo repea
- 8. typhc

NER)	
NA,)	
)	89 DOL 0009
.1)	6-14-89
)	
)	Review 10-18-89
)	
)	
)	
)	
)	

t: Richard A. Love Assistant Attorney General

Alex Shugart

strative Law Judge: Beecher R. Gray

Beecher R. Gray, administrative law dkinville, North Carolina. This hearing tofthe parties. Both parties waived the conclusion of the hearing the parties me to file proposed findings of fact and ioB-34(b). Respondent filed a proposed morandum of law on May 19, 1989.

SSUES

failed to provide an adequate and ed by the appropriate health authority nd laundry purposes at a house owned d by migrant workers on State Road ember 7, 1988.

ailed to maintain fly and rodent-tight containers present did not have tight Respondent] and inhabited by migrant Yadkin County on September 7, 1988.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. [Complainant] is an agency of the State of North Cardina with responsibility and authority for insuring compliance with the federal occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) under the provisions of North Carolina General Statute Chapter 95, Article 16, the Occupational Safety and Health Act of North Carolina (OSHANC).
- 2. [Respondent] is in the business of farming in Yadkin County North Carolina. His address is P. O. Box 188 Yadkinville, North Carolina 27055.
- 3. [Respondent] grows tobacco on land he owns or controls in Yadkin County. He maintains two houses on land he farms in which agricultural workers live during the tobacco season. One house is located on State Road 1374 and one on State Road 1370.
- 4. On August 16, 1988 Safety Compliance Officer Kathleen Ragan, an agent of [Complainant], entered [Respondent's] farm land and conducted an inspection of the two houses used by the agricultural workers for compliance with OSHA standards.
- 5. On August 16, 1988 Officer Ragan observed that there were three (3) workers living in the house on State Road 1374 and five (5) workers in the house on State Road 1370.
- 6. At the house on State Road 1374, Officer Ragan found that [Respondent] had a hand-dug well as a source of water supply and could not furnish evidence of its approval as a safe water supply by the Yadkin County Health Department. The Yadkin County Health Department had taken a water sample on May 20, 1988 for bacteriological analysis but had refused to release the results because an unlined hand dug well is nonconforming to State health requirements for agricultural worker water supply.
- 7. Officer Ragan also observed that [Respondent] had a 55 gallon drum for a waste container for the house on State Road 1374. On August 16, 1988 the drum was located about 25 feet from the house and its lid was lying on the ground a few feet away. [Respondent] had previously furnished the 55 gallon drum and lid for the workers and had repeatedly instructed them to keep the lid in place on top of the drum.
- 8. An improper water supply may cause serious illnesses such as typhoid fever and infectious hepatitis.

- 9. The three workers observed at [Respondent's] house on State Road 1374 on August 16, 1988 were the same workers who had worked for [Respondent] during the 1987 tobacco season and who, in September 1987, had given Officer Ragan permanent addresses as Mexico. All three workers were dark-skinned and primarily spoke Spanish. As of August 16, 1988 these three workers had been on [Respondent's] farm for approximately six months.
- 10. [Respondent] did not charge rent to the three agricultural workers living in the house on State Road 1374 during the 1988 tobacco season but began to charge rent after the season when the workers remained in the house and became employed by a local poultry plant. [Respondent] expects these same workers to work for him during the 1989 tobacco season and intends to let them live in the house on State Road 1374 rent free during the time they work for him in tobacco farming.
- 11. There is no evidence in the record that any person has become ill because of drinking the water in the well at the house on State Road 1374. [Respondent] hired a private laboratory, Hamilton Laboratories, Inc. of Salisbury, North Carolina, to collect and analyze a water sample from the State Road 1374 well on March 15, 1989. The results of this test showed that no coliform bacteria were found.
- 12. On December 16, 1988 [Respondent] was issued three citations for six violations observed by Officer Ragan during the August 16, 1988 visit. The citations at issue in this contested case are as follows:
 - a. Citation number one, item 1, alleges a repeat serious violation of 29 CFR 1910.142(c)(1) as adopted by N.C. Admin. Code tit. 13, r. 7C.0100 through .0309, in that an adequate and convenient water supply, approved by the appropriate health authority, was not provided to employees for drinking, cooking, bathing, and laundry purposes at [Respondent's] house on State Road 1374 in Yadkin County, North Carolina. A civil penalty of \$320 was proposed for this alleged violation.
 - b. Citation number two, item 2, alleges a repeat nonserious violation of 29 CFR 1910.142(h)(1) as adopted by N.C. Admin. Code Tit. 13, r. 7C.0100 through .0309 in that a garbage container at [Respondent's] house on State Road 1374 in Yadkin County was not fly or rodent-tight because it was not covered with a tight fitting lid. A civil penalty of \$80 was proposed for this alleged violation.

- 13. The OSHA Fiel credit for:
- 14. The penalties a

Based conclusion

- 1. The Hearings.
- 2. A mi individual or other tea from his pe
- 3. At the three agric his house agricultura
- 4. On A 1910.142(h lids becaus and had ins not require proper use.
- 5. On A 1910.142(c water supp drinking, cc workers in
- 6. [Con Statute 95-for the wat

[Respondent's] house on State e the same workers who had 987 tobacco season and who, in agan permanent addresses as skinned and primarily spoke e three workers had been on y six months.

ent to the three agricultural Road 1374 during the 1988 ant after the season when the became employed by a local ese same workers to work for lintends to let them live in the ng the time they work for him

that any person has become ill il at the house on State Road atory, Hamilton Laboratories, t and analyze a water sample 15, 1989. The results of this re found.

t] was issued three citations agan during the August 16, intested case are as follows:

s a repeat serious violation y N.C. Admin. Code tit. 13, r. quate and convenient water health authority, was not oking, bathing, and laundry State Road 1374 in Yadkin of \$320 was proposed for

lopted by N.C. Admin. Code at a garbage container at 374 in Yadkin County was covered with a tight fitting for this alleged violation.

- 13. The proposed penalties were calculated in accordance with the OSHA Field Operations Manual. [Respondent] was given 40 percent credit for size, 30 percent credit for good faith and 10 percent credit for history.
- 14. The remaining alleged violations carried no proposed civil penalties and are not contested in this proceeding.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Based upon the foregoing findings of fact, I make the following conclusions of law.

- 1. The parties are properly before the Office of Administrative Hearings.
- 2. A migrant agricultural worker is defined in 29 U.S.C. 1802 as an individual who is employed in agricultural employment of a seasonal or other temporary nature, and who is required to be absent overnight from his permanent place of residence.
- 3. At the time of Officer Ragan's inspection of August 16, 1988 the three agricultural workers employed by [Respondent] and residing in his house on State Road 1374 in Yadkin County were migrant agricultural workers for purposes of OSHA and OSHANC.
- 4. On August 16, 1988 [Respondent] was not in violation of 29 CFR 1910.142(h)(1) requiring garbage containers with fly and rodent-tight lids because he had in fact furnished such equipment for the workers and had instructed them in keeping the lid on the can. [Respondent] is not required to maintain a 24 hour watch over such facilities to ensure proper use.
- 5. On August 16, 1988 [Respondent] was in violation of 29 CFR 1910.142(c)(1) in that he failed to provide an adequate and convenient water supply approved by the appropriate health authority for drinking, cooking, bathing, and laundry purposes for the three migrant workers in [Respondent's] house on State Road 1374 in Yadkin County.
- 6. [Complainant] has the authority under North Carolina General Statute 95-138 (1985) to impose a civil penalty against [Respondent] for the water supply violation.

RECOMMENDED DECISION

Based upon the foregoing findings of fact and conclusions of law, it is hereby recommended that the Safety and Health Review Board affirm the citation against [Respondent] for the water supply violation but that the Board suspend the assessment of a civil penalty in the amount of \$320 for a period of six months on the condition that [Respondent] spend a like sum on upgrading the hand-dug well at the house on State Road 1374 in Yadkin County or on obtaining a new, approved means of water supply. It is recommended that the citation assessing a civil penalty of \$80 against [Respondent] for not maintaining fly and rodent-tight garbage containers be reversed.

NOTICE

The agency that will make the final decision in this contested case is the Safety and Health Review Board.

This the 12th day of June, 1989.

Beecher R. Gray Senior Administrative Law Judge

FINAL DECISION

APPEARANCES

Complainant:

No appearance

Respondent:

No appearance

BEFORE

Review Board:

Kenneth K. Kiser, Chairman;

Hugh M. Wilson, Member

THIS CAUSE COMING ON TO BE HEARD the 22nd day of September, 1989 in Room 700, Wake County Courthouse, Raleigh, North Carolina before Kenneth K. Kiser, Chairman, and Hugh M. Wilson, Member, constituting the North Carolina Occupational Safety and Health Review Board.

FINDINGS OF

The Findir Administrative evidence and t and Conclusio mended Decisi

ORDER

The Review Recommended against [Responditioned or on upgrading t water supply.] Number Two,]

This the 18

ON

Id conclusions of law, it Health Review Board for the water supply sment of a civil penalty s on the condition that he hand-dug well at the or on obtaining a new, ended that the citation dent] for not maintain-reversed.

1 in this contested case

aw Judge

rance

cance

ζ. Kiser, Chairman; Vilson, Member

RD the 22nd day of Courthouse, Raleigh, airman, and Hugh M. 1a Occupational Safety

FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law made by the Administrative Law Judge are sufficiently supported by the admissible evidence and the Review Board hereby adopts the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law in the Administrative Law Judge's Recommended Decision.

ORDER

The Review Board hereby adopts the Administrative Law Judge's Recommended Decision affirming citation Number One, Item 1 against [Respondent] and the six month suspension of the penalty conditioned on [Respondent's] spending the penalty amount of \$320 on upgrading the well in question or obtaining an approved means of water supply. The Review Board also adopts the reversal of citation Number Two, Item 2, thereby dismissing that citation.

This the 18th day of October, 1989.

Kenneth K. Kiser, Chairman

Hugh M. Wilson, Member