

Air Pollution Violation by Superior Concrete Materials, Inc. Under the EPA (2020)

Introduction

In 2020, Superior Concrete Materials, Inc. faced an environmental enforcement action by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for an air pollution violation. The case resulted in a \$250,000 penalty paid to the EPA. The enforcement action demonstrated the federal government's role in regulating industrial air emissions and ensuring that companies comply with requirements designed to protect air quality and public health.

Background of the Company

Superior Concrete Materials, Inc. operates in the construction materials industry, producing concrete products used in commercial, residential, and infrastructure projects. The company is associated with Vulcan Materials Company, one of the largest suppliers of construction materials in the United States.

Concrete manufacturing and related industrial operations are subject to environmental regulations because they may produce air emissions from equipment, fuel combustion, material handling, and other processes. Federal and state regulations establish limits and requirements to control pollutants and reduce impacts on nearby communities.

Nature of the Violation

In 2020, Superior Concrete Materials, Inc. was cited by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for an air pollution violation. The violation was classified as an environmental compliance issue involving air quality requirements and resulted in a civil penalty of \$250,000.

Available enforcement information identifies the violation as an air pollution matter but does not provide additional public details regarding the specific pollutant involved, the facility location, the emissions source, or the exact regulatory requirement that was violated.

Air pollution violations at industrial facilities may involve issues such as exceeding permitted emission limits, failure to properly operate or maintain pollution control equipment, improper recordkeeping, or noncompliance with federal air quality standards.

Enforcement Action by the EPA

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency issued the enforcement action against Superior Concrete Materials, Inc. in 2020. As part of the resolution, the company paid a \$250,000 penalty to the EPA.

The EPA uses civil penalties as an enforcement tool to encourage compliance with environmental laws, require corrective action, and deter future violations. Penalties may consider factors such as the seriousness of the violation, environmental impact, compliance history, and the need to ensure that companies do not gain an economic advantage from noncompliance.

Importance of Air Quality Compliance

Air quality regulations are designed to reduce harmful emissions and protect public health. Industrial facilities involved in construction material production must maintain effective pollution controls, follow operating permits, and monitor emissions to ensure compliance.

Federal enforcement actions help ensure that companies meet their obligations under environmental laws. By investigating violations and imposing penalties when necessary, the EPA supports efforts to maintain cleaner air and reduce environmental risks.

Conclusion

The 2020 air pollution violation involving Superior Concrete Materials, Inc. resulted in a \$250,000 penalty issued by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Although publicly available records provide limited details about the specific circumstances of the violation, the enforcement action highlights the importance of complying with federal air quality regulations. The case demonstrates the responsibility of construction material companies to control emissions and operate in a manner that protects surrounding communities and the environment.