

Water Pollution Violation by Vulcan Materials Company in Georgia (2002)

Introduction

In 2002, Vulcan Materials Company faced an environmental enforcement action in Georgia for a water pollution violation. The case was handled by the Georgia environmental regulatory agency and resulted in a \$10,000 penalty. The enforcement action highlighted the importance of protecting water resources and ensuring that industrial facilities comply with state environmental requirements.

Background of the Company

Vulcan Materials Company is one of the largest suppliers of construction materials in the United States. The company produces and distributes materials such as aggregates, asphalt, and other products used in construction and infrastructure development.

Construction material facilities often involve activities such as mining, material processing, storage, and transportation. These operations are regulated because they may create potential environmental impacts, including stormwater runoff, sediment movement, and other risks to nearby water resources. State and federal environmental regulations are designed to minimize these impacts and protect rivers, streams, groundwater, and surrounding ecosystems.

Nature of the Violation

In 2002, Vulcan Materials Company was cited for a water pollution violation by the Georgia environmental regulatory agency. The violation was classified as an environmental compliance matter involving water quality requirements and resulted in a \$10,000 civil penalty.

Available enforcement information identifies the violation as a water pollution matter but does not provide additional public details regarding the specific pollutant involved, the facility location, the circumstances of the violation, or the exact environmental regulation that was not met.

Water pollution violations at industrial facilities can involve issues such as improper stormwater management, unauthorized discharges, failure to maintain required controls, or other activities that may negatively affect water quality. Compliance with water protection regulations helps reduce risks to aquatic environments and communities.

Enforcement Action

The Georgia environmental regulatory agency issued the enforcement action against Vulcan Materials Company in 2002. As part of the resolution, the company paid a \$10,000 penalty to the state environmental enforcement authority.

Environmental penalties are used by regulators to encourage companies to correct violations, improve operational practices, and prevent similar issues from occurring in the future. Enforcement actions also reinforce the responsibility of industrial operators to comply with environmental permits and pollution prevention requirements.

Environmental Importance

Protecting water quality is an important part of environmental regulation because pollution can affect ecosystems, wildlife, and communities that rely on clean water resources. Industrial facilities must use appropriate controls and follow approved procedures to prevent pollutants from entering waterways.

State environmental agencies play a key role in monitoring regulated facilities, investigating potential violations, and enforcing environmental laws. Penalties provide accountability and encourage companies to maintain strong environmental compliance programs.

Conclusion

The 2002 water pollution violation involving Vulcan Materials Company in Georgia resulted in a \$10,000 penalty issued by the Georgia environmental regulatory agency. Although available records provide limited details about the specific circumstances of the violation, the case demonstrates the importance of protecting water resources and maintaining compliance with environmental regulations. The enforcement action reflects the responsibility of industrial companies to operate in a manner that reduces environmental impacts and protects surrounding communities.